

November 10, 2020

Dear Extension and Outreach Community,

On October 30 President Wintersteen announced the COVID-19 Exceptional Effort Awards Program. It is open to all faculty, staff, and graduate students and nominations are encouraged from across the entire institution. There is an Extension Impact Award and I hope to see many nominations in this category.

The President's Extension Impact Award is only one category and will only scratch the surface on the exceptional efforts that you all have done in response to COVID-19. To complement her award, I am announcing the Vice President's COVID-19 Exceptional Effort Awards Program to acknowledge and celebrate individuals and teams of our colleagues who have gone above and beyond to educate and inform Iowans during the pandemic. Individual and team awardees will receive a certificate and formal public recognition, and their stories and great ideas will be shared across our system. One winner in each category will also receive a program award of \$250 for an individual or \$500 for a team that will be placed into an ISU account and can be spent through the normal ISU financial process.

We will use the same nomination process as the President's award, but we will have a different [online form](#) and review committee. Nominations to the President's award are encouraged to be submitted to the Vice President's award also. Nominations are limited to 500 words and must describe clearly why the nominee(s) merits recognition. No supplementary materials or letters of support are needed. Nominations will be evaluated by a central review committee that will seek to balance recognition across ISU Extension and Outreach.

The award categories are intentionally broad with the goal of recognizing individuals, teams, units, and collaborative efforts:

- Excellence in Innovative Program Delivery Award
- Excellence in Remote Instruction Award
- Excellence in Community Response to COVID-19 Award
- Exemplary Team or Unit Effort Award
- Exemplary Support for Staff or Colleagues Award
- Exemplary Support for Partner Organization Award
- Extension Pivot Award
- Extension Impact Award

December 11 deadline. The deadline for submission of nominations is Friday, December 11, 2020. Winners will be announced in January.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John D. Lawrence". The signature is written in a dark ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

John D. Lawrence
Vice President for Extension and Outreach