

AFMC – May Cohen Equity, Diversity and Gender Award

Overview

The AFMC – May Cohen Award in Equity, Diversity and Gender award was established as a national award in 2003. This award recognizes the outstanding effort or achievements of an individual(s), program(s), department(s) or faculty in improving the equity diversity, gender and inclusivity environment in academic medicine in Canada. Named after May Cohen, the award is to exemplify the characteristics that she represents.

A pioneer for positive change in women's health, May Cohen graduated at the top of her class in 1955 at a time when fewer than seven percent of medical students in Canada were women. Following a twenty-year career as a family physician in Toronto, Dr. Cohen joined the department of family medicine at McMaster University in 1977 and served as associate dean of health services from 1991 to 1996. She co-founded the first faculty of medicine Women's Health Office in 1991, triggering several medical schools to follow suit, which led to the creation of the Women's Health Inter School Curriculum Committee for Ontario's medical schools. May Cohen is an inductee in the Canadian Medical Hall of Fame and an Officer of the Order of Canada.

Selection Criteria

Nominations must include:

- Evidence of the nominee's achievements in improving equity, diversity, gender and inclusivity environments in their faculty of medicine or beyond their faculty of medicine on a provincial and national level;
- Evidence of scholarship in the area of equity, diversity, gender and inclusivity issues;
- Leadership in leading change with demonstrated impact in improving equity, diversity, gender and inclusivity issues in academic medicine;
- Participation in committees and or other activities on the topic of equity, diversity, gender and inclusivity;
- Personal characteristics that are embodiment of the values that support equity, diversity, gender and inclusivity in academic medicine.

The award and an associated \$ 1,500 honorarium will be presented at the annual AFMC Presidential Address and Award Ceremony at the CCME. Honoraria or monetary awards are only provided in the name of the award recipient.

Nominating Procedure

The nomination must be made by a letter of nomination by the Dean of the Faculty of Medicine of the nominee's school. Each Faculty may nominate two nominees.

Nominations must be accompanied by an abbreviated CV, two supporting letters; one of which is from outside the nominee's Faculty of Medicine and which details the impact of the nominee's work on the public, as well as other relevant documentation as required to meet the criteria above. Please do not submit an extensive CV or additional documents unless required by the nomination criteria for the

individual award. Any supporting documents should be limited to summaries of relevant work and included in the nomination package.

Please ensure that the nomination package is collated into **one PDF** file with documents in the order as specified and that **all pages in package are sequentially numbered**.

Submit the package [here](#).

Packages that are incomplete, do not meet the criteria or lack the required documentation **will not be considered**.

The deadline for all nominations to be submitted is **October 15, 2021**. Submissions after this deadline will not be accepted.

General

The annual AFMC award cycle begins with the call for nominations which is issued in September each year.

The deadline for all nominations to be submitted is **October 15, 2021**. Submissions after this deadline will not be accepted.

Announcements of award recipients are made first in confidence to the recipient and the Dean of their medical school, and then publicly at a later date. All awards are presented at the annual AFMC Presidential Address and Award Ceremony at the annual Canadian Conference on Medical Education (CCME); [click here](#) for CCME dates and location.

All award recipients receive **one complimentary registration to the CCME**. Award recipients will have reserved seating at the Award Ceremony and official photographs will be taken for publication. Award recipients who are unable to attend the ceremony will receive their award via courier. Proxy award acceptances are allowed only on an exceptional basis.

Award recipients are generally invited to bring **two guests** to the Award Ceremony. They are asked to provide the names of the guests in advance. If attending the CCME, the guests are required to register for the conference. If guests are attending the Awards Ceremony only, their names will be required in advance to facilitate access to the convention site.