

ACJS Outstanding Mentor Awards:

The deadline for nominations is September 1, 2026.

Nominations sent to: John J. Brent, John.Brent@eku.edu

Copy nomination to: Kimberly D. Dodson, dodsonk@uhcl.edu

The ACJS Outstanding Mentor Awards honor outstanding mentors who, during the course of their career, have made a significant contribution to the professional development of graduate students and junior faculty members in criminal justice. The mentors will be recognized for their excellence in the role of student/faculty mentor as evidenced by their willingness and commitment to foster the professional growth and achievement of students and faculty.

The ACJS Outstanding Mentor Awards will be limited to up to three (3) recipients; however, strong consideration will be given to those nominees who have letters submitted on their behalf which demonstrate and articulate a level of commitment, dedication, and support which go above and beyond the normal expectation of a faculty member in their job role.

1. Served as an outstanding role model in a professional capacity in teaching, ~~Eligibility criteria:~~ ~~service~~ ~~to be eligible, the outstanding mentor shall be a current member of ACJS long term and ongoing commitment to the career goals of the mentee(s).~~
2. Demonstrated long term and ongoing commitment to the career goals of the mentee(s).
3. Contributed to the professional development of the mentee(s);
4. Encouraged graduate student involvement in professional opportunities, supporting graduate students and junior faculty membership in professional organizations, and nurturing graduate students and junior faculty contributions to professional organizations.
5. Provided exemplary academic and professional service to graduate student and junior faculty members.

Nomination Requirements:

1. Nominees must be current members of ACJS.
2. Nominators do not have to be current members of ACJS.
3. Letters from nominators who may have been mentees of the nominee will be strongly considered.
4. Nominators may also be colleagues who have personal and specific knowledge of the nominee's outstanding mentoring efforts and accomplishments.
5. Self-nominations shall not be accepted.

6. Prior recipients of the ACJS Outstanding Mentor Awards are ineligible for future awards.
7. Nominations must be based on either having been mentored by the nominee or personal observation of mentoring provided to others by the nominee.
8. Nominations shall be provided by a formal letter summarizing the mentor's influence on students and colleagues. The letter should provide specific information about the deserving nature of the nominee's mentoring, which provides evidence of exceptional efforts, rather than focusing on the nominee's other professional accomplishments.
9. The nomination letter shall include the nominee's full contact information.
10. The nomination package has to include the nominee's CV.
11. Please batch nominations for the nominee from colleagues at the same institution into one nomination packet, if possible.

The Subcommittee for this Award shall examine the nomination letters against the eligibility criteria and nomination requirements, as listed above. Strong consideration will be given to those nominees who have letters submitted on their behalf which demonstrate and articulate a level of commitment, dedication, and support which go above and beyond the normal expectation of a faculty member in their job role.