TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
Education &
Human Development

College of Education and Human Development (CEHD)
Early Career Research Excellence Award
(Last Revised: April 2026)

Purpose of award:

This award recognizes CEHD faculty members who are in the early stages of their career (no later than 10 years after receipt of the doctoral degree), and who have made significant contributions to research in their field. The award is designed to acknowledge a body of research rather than a single study.

Awards:

- **Two** awards will be granted each year.
- Each recipient will receive $2,000 in professional development funds and a certificate.
- The recipients will be recognized at the fall CEHD Convocation.

Nominations:

- The call for nominations will be coordinated by the Office of Faculty Affairs.
- Any CEHD faculty or administrators can nominate someone for this award.

Preparation and submission of nominations: (self-nominations are <u>not</u> accepted)

- Nomination packets should include:
    - A recent curriculum vita.
    - A nomination letter providing concrete information that outlines the reasons the nominee is particularly qualified for this award (LIMIT: 2 pages).
    - Cover letter: Statement from the nominee that provides an overview of their research and the work's relationship to the mission and priorities of the CEHD. The statement should address: (a) the quality of their work, (b) the scope of influence of the nominee's work nationally and internationally, and (c) the contribution of the work to the advancement of the discipline (LIMIT: 3 pages).
    - Two letters of support/endorsement: Letters of support provide reviewers with helpful insights about the contributions of the research accomplishments to the discipline. In addition, these letters should address the significance and impact of the

nominee's accomplishments. The letters should come from individuals with expertise in the nominee's research areas (At least one of the letters must be external; no letters from former advisors will be considered. As a matter of good professional practice, letters from co-authors should be avoided (Limit: 2 pages).

- One publication that is representative of the nominee's most significant research contribution (the nominee must be first author; publication within last five years).

- Completed packets should be submitted to the CEHD Office of Faculty Affairs; incomplete packages will not be considered.

Eligibility:

- All CEHD tenured/tenure-track faculty members are eligible.
- Previous recipients of this award are ineligible.
- Nominee must have a minimum of three academic years of employment at Texas A&M University before nomination.
- Faculty members who serve as deans or in other administrative positions at the college or university level are not eligible.

Criteria for Evaluation:

The criteria for evaluation consider the quality and significance of the nominee's research; focusing particularly on their sustained research.

- The research direction should be indicative of innovation which has the potential to encourage further research, either by the faculty member or others in the field.

- The faculty member should have a history of publications and a record indicative of high standing in their field.

Research Award Committee

- The research award committee will evaluate and select winners. This committee is appointed by the Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs.

- During the review, the committee may request supporting materials from nominees or individuals to further support the nominations.

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Timetable for CEHD Early Career Research Excellence Award

April	Call for Nominations released
May 8	Award nominations Submitted to the Office of Faculty Affairs
May 11	Award packages checked by Office of Faculty Affairs for adherence to the guidelines and those that meet the guidelines are passed to award committee for review
By July	Award committee notifies Office of Faculty Affairs of their selection of the award Office of Faculty Affairs notifies award recipients and their department head, as well as CEHD MarCom
August	The recipients will be recognized at the fall CEHD Convocation