

2025 NADE Awards Criteria

- 1) Each chapter is responsible for selecting and nominating their own members on the approved forms. **EXCEPTION:** Nominations for the Lewis Buckingham Award can include NADE members that are not a member of the nominating Chapter.
- 2) Nominations must be submitted by **March 31, 2025, 5:00 pm EST**, to Melvin Carr, NADE Awards Committee Chair. These should be emailed to awards@nade.org. Award nominations must be submitted electronically.
- 3) The nomination form should be typed. The nominee's identifying information should be listed on Part I the nomination form and Part II of the nomination form should explain in detail how the nominee exemplified the specific criteria of each award during the award period (**January 1, 2024, to December 31, 2024**).
- 4) **Please avoid referring to the member or chapter by name or any geographical identifying information in the nomination narrative.** This could result in disqualification of the nomination. Attach the nomination form with the name of the award and the nominee to the written narrative contained on an additional page(s).
- 5) Each chapter is limited to one nomination per award.

Thank you for your assistance with the NADE awards program. If you have any questions, please send an email to awards@nade.org.

The Frank Barclay Award

This award is presented annually in recognition of an individual who has shown exceptional ability to motivate and challenge or to develop or promote programs which motivate and challenge others toward personal and professional growth and development.

Criteria for Eligibility:

- (a) The recipient must be a member of NADE.
- (b) The recipient must be assigned to job duties specifically directed toward professional development and perform these duties on a substantial but not necessarily full-time basis. Examples of potential nominees include, but not limited to, a training officer, a Quality Assurance facilitator or an administrator of personnel programs.
- (c) The recipient must have notable accomplishments in the area of professional development, consistent with policies and objectives of our professional organization.

President's Award

(NADE Chapter of the Year)

This award is to be given annually and presented by the NADE President in recognition of an outstanding Chapter.

Criteria for Eligibility:

- (a) Any organized NADE Chapter which has demonstrated outstanding achievement by innovation of programs for improving medical and other professional community relationships. Such activities as panel presentations, speeches, publication of bulletins, newsletters, circulars, or other efforts to improve the quality of medical reporting or reporting of vocational assessments, or the use of other professional information which can be utilized for the factual and effective documentation of disability determinations.
- (b) Any chapter activities which have enhanced working relationships among its professional communities.

Lewis Buckingham Award

This professional award is to honor and recognize a leader of the National Association of Disability Examiners at the National level. **This award is generally regarded as the highest individual award presented by NADE for service to the national organization.**

Criteria for Eligibility

- (a) This person must consistently have shown outstanding achievement using initiative and humanitarian efforts to further advance the professionalism and goals of the National Association of Disability Examiners.

- (b) The recipient must have contributed at least ten (10) years of continuous service to the organization.

- (c) The recipient must have been elected or appointed to a NADE board position; this does not include committee chairs.

The Earl B. Thomas Award

(DDS Administrator/Agency Director of the Year)

This award is to be presented annually on a continuing basis in the name of a charter member of NADE totally committed to and actively supportive of all for which it stands. It is made in recognition of an administrator of a disability agency for constant contributions to the Social Security disability program that far exceed the responsibility or the position and who is actively supportive of the advancement of NADE.

Criteria for Eligibility:

- (a) The recipient must be a member of NADE.

- (b) The recipient must be the administrator of a State or Federal agency or be the top administrator of a Regional or Satellite DDS and have been so for five years.

- (c) The recipient must have contributed significantly to the program in ways consistent with the policies of NADE, beyond the normal administrative duties of his/her position.

- (d) The recipient must be an active supporter of NADE.

The Charles O. Blalock Award

The Charles O. Blalock Award is a service award to be presented annually and on a continuing basis in the name of the founder of NADE. It is presented in recognition of an individual who has made extended efforts and major contributions toward the organizational advancement of NADE. **This award is generally regarded as the second highest individual award presented by NADE for service to the national organization.**

Criteria for Eligibility:

- (a) The recipient may be any professional member of the National Association of Disability Examiners who is employed full or part-time.

- (b) The recipient shall have provided outstanding leadership in the development and substantial expansion of his/her Chapter, Regional, and/or the National Organization.

- (c) The recipient shall have shown consistent efforts over a period of at least three years toward the organizational advancement of NADE.

The NADE Award

(Disability Professional of the Year)

This award is to honor and recognize the DISABILITY PROFESSIONAL of the year who has made outstanding contributions not, only to the service of the claimant in accordance with his/her expertise but has contributed substantially of his/her time and talent to promote harmonious and more effective working relationships among his/her immediate professional community. The award shall be presented annually at the National Conference.

Criteria for Eligibility:

- (a) Anyone who is professionally identified as a DISABILITY PROFESSIONAL, employed full or part-time.

- (b) Any NADE member engaged as a professional in any capacity, i.e., Medical Consultant, Adjudicator, Vocational Evaluation Consultant, Supervisor, etc.

- (c) Anyone who has consistently shown outstanding achievement by the use of initiative and humanitarian efforts and ability to effectively assist in the Social Security disability process.

The John Gordon Award

(Supervisor of the Year)

This award is presented in the name of John R. Gordon and is made to honor and recognize superior performance of a supervisor.

Criteria for Eligibility

- (a) Any supervisor who is professionally identified as a NADE member.

- (b) Any supervisor who by his/her initiative and resourcefulness promotes cohesiveness in his/her work group.

- (c) Any supervisor who provides further incentive for personal growth and professionalism among the individuals he/she supervises.

- (d) Any supervisor who acts in his/her executive capacity in the promotion and maintenance of morale.

- (e) Any supervisor who exceeds the requirements of his/her role in facilitating the work loads of his/her Agency.

The Marty Blum Award

(Rookie of the Year)

This award is given annually to honor and recognize a disability professional who has made a significant contribution on a local, regional and/or national level to the National Association of Disability Examiners

Criteria for Eligibility

- (a) The recipient must have been a member of NADE for less than two years at the time of nomination, regardless of the number of years of service in a DDS.

- (b) The recipient must have made a significant contribution to their local, regional, and/or national level of NADE.

Consultant Award

The Consultant Award is to honor and recognize a Medical or Psychological Consultant who has made outstanding contributions not only to the service of the claimant in accordance with his/her expertise but has contributed substantially of his/her time and talent to promote harmonious and more effective working relationships among their immediate professional community.

Criteria for Eligibility:

- (a) Any NADE member who is professionally identified as a MEDICAL OR PSYCHOLOGICAL CONSULTANT, employed full or part-time.
- (b) The recipient must have contributed significantly to the program in ways consistent with the policies of NADE, and who exceeds the requirements of their role in facilitating the workloads of the State Agency(s), and who, by his/her initiative and resourcefulness, promotes cohesiveness in the DDS State Agency work groups, and
- (c) Who has consistently shown outstanding achievement, using initiative and humanitarian efforts and ability to effectively assist in the Social Security disability process (i.e. providing articles, training, lectures to fellow disability professionals).

DIRECTORS AWARD

(Support Staff Professional of the Year)

This award is to honor and recognize an outstanding member of the support staff who demonstrates work performance efficiency and characteristics which contribute to the efficient operation of the unit and the morale of coworkers. The recipient shall:

- (a) Be any clerical or paraprofessional employee who is employed either full or part-time and is a member of NADE.

- (b) Have shown outstanding leadership and work performance among his/her peer group.

NADE AWARDS NOMINATION FORM (Part I)

Instructions: Please type or print legibly.

DO NOT refer to the nominee's name, chapter, or geographical location in Part II of the NADE Awards Nomination Form. Part I will be separated from Part II before any voting by the Awards Committee. Any nominations that refer to the nominee by name or chapter in Part II of the NADE Awards Nomination Form may be disqualified.

Award Name:

Nominee Name:

NADE Member since:

DDS Employee since:

Current Job Title:

NADE AWARDS NOMINATION FORM (Part II)

Chapter Activities (include elected and appointed positions held with dates and other participation and service to the local chapter)

Regional Activities (include regional elected and appointed positions held with dates and other participation and service to region)

National Activities (include national elected and appointed positions held with dates and other participation and service at the national level)

Leadership (include specific examples of the impact of the nominee's contributions to the advancement of NADE during the span of their membership)

Nomination Narrative: