

CRITERIA FOR NOMINATION OF AASWSW FELLOWS

Membership in the American Academy of Social Work and Social Welfare requires influential and sustained development and dissemination of new knowledge, practice, and policy that contributes substantially to the improvement of social work and/or social welfare in the United States by addressing our most pressing societal problems. Fellows must demonstrate a commitment to the profession (for example, by working in an academic, policy and/or service setting related to social work or social welfare, or by extending social work into other settings). Nominees shall be recognized by colleagues for leadership, professional integrity, and contributions.

Nominations of the following types of individuals are encouraged:

1. **Scholars** whose work has had a significant impact on social work and/or social welfare, and related practice through the completion of rigorous and highly regarded peer-reviewed articles, books, government publications, grants, testimony, and invited/public addresses.

Examples include:

- Theoreticians whose writings have guided major research activities and practice outcomes in the field.
- Researchers whose findings have promoted advances in social work/social welfare practice and/or policy at different levels
- Developers of evidence-based policies and practices that have gained broad recognition and use.

2. **Policy makers, administrators, and/or practitioners** whose work has made a significant impact on social work and/or social welfare theory; practice, education and/or research; or on public policy. This impact can be at one or more levels, such as large regional entities, state, national or international. Adoption of new policies or practices across units (e.g. from state to state) is good evidence of such effects.

Examples include:

- Policy makers whose ideas for advancement of the public good have been adopted and become national law, or state law, or the basis for new practice standards.
- Public administrators who have implemented innovative and effective practices resulting in a substantial change and lasting improvement in a service delivery system, with evidence of replication in other jurisdictions.
- Academic administrators who have generated influential innovations with widespread impact on the profession beyond their own department, school or program.
- Practitioners whose innovative programs improve one or more systems of care and who have had a transformative effect broadly or in other jurisdictions.

The following types of candidates would not be appropriate for nomination:

- Administrators who build excellent agencies or programs without corresponding evidence of general improvements in the profession as a whole or without impact upon major societal issues
- Candidates whose primary professional identification is outside the field of social work and social welfare.