

NMDA Award Criteria

EMERGING DIETETIC LEADER

Purpose of Award: To recognize the competence and activities of dietitians, regardless of their age, who have made distinctive contributions early in their careers to the American Dietetic Association. The award encourages their continued participation in Association affairs. This more mature group will be an additional resource from which the leadership of the Association will develop at the district, state and local levels.

Selection Criteria: In addition to being an ADA member, and active on the national, state or district level for at least 5 years, the person must be between 5 and 10 years in their professional career. Career interruption for non-professional reasons should not be included in the 5-10-year career calculation. This person shall not have been selected previously for RYDY or RDTY, shall have demonstrated leadership in the Association, community or employment, and concern for the promotion of optimal health and nutritional status of the population.

OUTSTANDING DIETITIAN OF THE YEAR

Purpose of Award: To recognize the outstanding contributions of one member above all others. This is the highest honor a state can pay to one of its members.

Selection Criteria: The criteria for Outstanding Dietitian of the Year are set at the state level. In New Mexico this individual must be a member ADA, an active member of NMDA and have made an outstanding contribution in one or more of the following areas: 1) an NMDA officer; 2) recruitment of people into the profession, including increasing public awareness and visibility of registered dietitians and NMDA or ADA; 3) furthering the profession by having published scientific research or by interpreting nutrition information or information about the profession through the mass media.

RECOGNIZED YOUNG DIETITIAN OF THE YEAR

Purpose of Award: To recognize the competence and activities of younger dietitians in the American Dietetic Association and to encourage their continued participation in Association affairs. This group will be an additional resource from which the leadership of the Association will develop at the district, state, and local levels.

Selection Criteria: In addition to being an ADA member, this person must be less than 35 years of age on April 1 of the year and not previously selected as Recognized Young Dietitian of the Year. In addition to active participation and leadership in the organization, the award winner must have shown concern for promoting optimal health and nutritional status of the population.

OUTSTANDING DIETETIC STUDENT

Purpose of Award: To recognize the emerging leadership and achievement of students in approved and accredited dietetics education programs and encourage their participation in the American Dietetic Association. One student from each of the education programs* may be selected per state.

Selection Criteria: The students must be ADA members by January 1 of the year in which they receive the award and be enrolled in an approved program. They must have demonstrated

academic achievement, leadership and professional potential. NMDA members, but especially university faculty and preceptors who have worked with a student, may nominate students for this award.

*** New Mexico has two approved dietetic education programs: the Dietetic Internship (DI) and the Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD). Thus, a maximum of two New Mexico students may win this award.**

NEW MEXICO CHILE PEPPER AWARD

Purpose of Award: To recognize an individual not registered as a dietitian who supports registered dietitians or supports the mission of the American Dietetic Association.

Selection Criteria: Any individual who promotes the vision and mission of New Mexico dietitians in either their personal or professional lives.