



ASPH – Access and Collective Engagement

Graduate Student Award for Excellence in Access and Collective Engagement in Research or Practice

Purpose: This award will recognize an outstanding graduate student (doctoral or master student) who has made exceptional contributions to advancing human access and collective (ACE) engagement through Research, Practice, Community Engagement, Teaching and/or Advocacy.

Eligibility: This award is open to any graduate student within the Arnold School of Public Health - ASPH (master's or doctoral level).

Nomination Process: Graduate Students for this award must be nominated by an ASPH faculty, ASPH staff, ASPH advisor, or community partners. The nominator must provide evidence on the applicant's commitment to social justice through research or practice, and community engagement and/or teaching.

1. Nomination letter that provides evidence of research (e.g., manuscripts, abstracts, grants/funding, presentations, etc.) or practice (implementation of community programs, policy development, health education, clinical practice), and university/community engagement, teaching, and/or advocacy to support the contributions to advancing social justice.
2. Provide a current CV/Resume

Criteria: Nomination letters should describe activities in Research or Practice, and Community Engagement, Teaching, and/or Advocacy.

- **Research** – Conducting research focused on understanding and/or disrupting disparities experienced by marginalized groups (including but not limited to groups identified by race, ethnicity, national origin, language background, gender, sexual/gender identity, age, pregnancy and childbirth, religion, ability status, protected veterans, socioeconomic status, and/or immigration status). Priority will be given to multidisciplinary research that will have a positive impact on marginalized communities (e.g., building community capacity, emphasizing empowerment, developing leadership, promoting health advocacy).

OR

- **Practice** – Integrating social justice into practice (implementation of community programs, policy development, health education, clinical practice).

AND

- **Community Engagement** – Demonstrating engagement in efforts to eliminate inequities in the areas of public health or education. Efforts prioritize areas identified by community members and focus on functional, meaningful outcomes.

AND/OR

- **Teaching** – Integrating social justice into curriculum and teaching, drawing on innovative teaching methods that prioritize collaborative classroom engagement, contextualize inequality within broader contexts and systems, and/or challenge deficit perspectives and narratives that contribute to marginalization.

AND/OR

- **Advocacy** – Promotes dignity, respect, and social justice within the Arnold School, the University of South Carolina, and/or broader community.



UNIVERSITY OF
South Carolina

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Submission Process

Nomination packets must be combined into a single PDF document and submitted to dsellers@mailbox.sc.edu by **Friday April 25, 2025**. Please include the name of the nominee and “ASPH ACE Graduate Student Award” in the subject line of the email. The winner will be awarded on **May 9, 2025**. This award includes a cash prize of \$500.