

Community College Innovation Award

Scope and Importance of the Award

The award for Innovation is given to a community college that has introduced a unique idea, project, process, or procedure that the college's Board of Trustees has approved and supported, which has resulted in significant measurable improvements in student success or college effectiveness. Boards may nominate their own colleges or another college that has been an inspiration to them.

Criteria - Community College Innovation Award

The threshold criteria for the award recognizes extraordinary and creative groundbreaking action by a SUNY community college designed to improve student success or college effectiveness in any area, from access and enrollment through academic achievement and completion.

Ideally, the innovation will:

- Be supported by documentation from the college's institutional research or other evaluation criteria to establish the success of the innovation
- Have been shared with and inspired other community colleges

Only one award for Innovation will be presented in any given year, although the awards committee has the discretion to provide honorable mention for up to two additional colleges in any given year.

Background

This award was established in 2022 based on the confluence of numerous factors, especially: an increased focus on ensuring our students succeed; the devastating impact on our students and colleges due to the global COVID pandemic; national, state and local events that highlighted our need for improved diversity, equity and inclusion; and the serious concern for the sustainability of our community colleges. The goal is to highlight and encourage innovation among our community colleges across New York State.