



Center for Student Involvement

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO **BOULDER**

A SERVICE OF CU STUDENT GOVERNMENT

INVOLVEMENT AWARDS NOMINATION GUIDE

Center for Student Involvement

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Submission Criteria and Guidelines

Nominations that do not fall within the criteria below will not be considered for an award.

- Nominations should be a minimum of 200 words and may not exceed 500 words.
- Nominations should be submitted for actions and activity occurring from 7/1/2025 - 6/30/2026, although some awards may allow for a wider range of consideration.
 - Nominations submitted for actions and activity occurring **after** the Involvement Awards ceremony may require additional information.
- Submissions that are word for word duplicate or strikingly similar, will be reviewed as one submission.
- Scores will NOT be based on number of submissions but quality of nominations.
- After initial reviews, nominations that do not meet qualification standards for an award will be notified with an opportunity to change the award category.
- Only one winner will be selected for each award category, as such nominations should **not** contain multiple nominees. If you are looking to nominate more than one individual or group, please do so by submitting separate nominations.

Awarding Criteria and Guidelines

The Involvement Awards review Committee will be made up of student leaders, student staff, university partners, and CSI staff. Individuals on this committee represent different areas of campus and are asked to uphold the guidelines below.

- Grammatical and spelling errors will not count against nominees and reviewers will do their best to grasp the concept of the whole nomination. However, if such errors make the nomination incomprehensible, the reviewer may score accordingly.
- Reviewers will NOT base scores on the **number** of submissions for one nominee but the **quality** of nomination.
- Reviewers will be provided with rubrics to facilitate their grading. Winning nominations will be those with the highest score in their award categories.
- *All award nominations* will have a General Award Rubric evaluating whether the nomination met the criteria and whether the nominee exhibited Impact & Exemplary Nature.
- Additionally, each **award category** will have a specific focus they will be evaluated on.

Definitions

Student Group – A student-led organization on campus recognized through a department at CU Boulder. This includes RSO's, RSGO's, Sports Clubs, a Governing Bodies, or University Student Run Boards.

Recognized Student Organization (RSO) - any student organization that is officially registered with the Center for Student Involvement.

Recognized Social Greek Organization (RSGO) - any Greek organization that is officially registered with the Center for Student Involvement and the Fraternity and Sorority Life office.

University Student Run Board - any student-led board or entity that functions as an official part of a University Department. Examples include but are not limited to: CU GOLD, CU NightRide, Distinguished Speakers Board, Residence Hall Association.

Student - any fully enrolled, fee-paying student at CU Boulder.

Staff - non-teaching university employee

Faculty - academic/instructor/professor employee

Student Group Awards

Community Service Award:

This award recognizes a **student group** whose community service is exemplary. This student organization is actively involved in adding positive change to the CU campus, Boulder community and beyond, through specific acts of volunteerism and compassion.

Criteria	5 - Exceeds	4 – Slightly Exceeds	3 - Meets	2 – Slightly Below	1 -Does Not Meet
Community Service	<p>The organization excels at coordinating intentionally planned community service.</p> <p>The organization created a strong positive change felt by the cause(s) they supported and the members who participated.</p>	<p>The organization slightly excels at coordinating intentionally planned community service.</p> <p>The organization created a moderate change felt by the cause(s) they supported and the members who participated.</p>	<p>The organization is adequate at coordinating intentionally planned community service.</p> <p>The organization created minimal change felt by the cause(s) they supported and the members who participated.</p>	<p>The organization attempted to participate in community service. The organization does not create overwhelming change towards the cause(s) they supported and the members who participated</p>	<p>The organization failed to coordinate intentionally planned community service. Overall, the org failed to meet criteria and did not demonstrate community service.</p>
Addresses the Criteria	Exceeds criteria/addressed all areas of criteria		Meets the criteria/answered some of the question		Fails to meet any of criteria/did not answer question
Impact & Exemplary Nature	The impact exceeds expectations by being intentional and going above & beyond.	The impact slightly exceeds expectations, with room for further improvements to become exceptional.	An impact was made that met expectation	Impact was minimal and/or nomination lacks clarity to demonstrate impact.	Failed to meet criteria and/or demonstrate impact.

Cultural Event of the Year Award:

This award celebrates a **Recognized Student Organization (RSO) or Recognized Social Greek Organization (RSGO)** who increased awareness and empathy for CU students through an event hosted on campus this year. This organization's event was inclusive to all in the Boulder community, resonating with students and serving as an impetus to continued cultural exchange and exploration.

Criteria	5 - Exceeds	4 – Slightly Exceeds	3 - Meets	2 – Slightly Below	1 -Does Not Meet
Cultural Awareness	The organization's program excels in inspiring cultural exchange and exploration. The event went above and beyond what is expected from student organizations.	The organization's program slightly excels in inspiring cultural exchange and exploration. The event went beyond what is expected from student organizations.	The organization's program adequately inspired cultural exchange and exploration. The event met what is expected from student organizations.	The organization attempted to inspire cultural exchange and exploration. The event design was slightly below what is expected from student organizations.	The organization's program failed in inspiring cultural exchange and exploration. Overall, the org failed to meet criteria and did not demonstrate cultural awareness.
Addresses the Criteria	Exceeds criteria/addressed all areas of criteria		Meets the criteria/answered some of the question		Fails to meet any of criteria/did not answer question
Impact & Exemplary Nature	The impact exceeds expectations by being intentional and going above & beyond.	The impact slightly exceeds expectations, with room for further improvements to become exceptional.	An impact was made that met expectation	Impact was minimal and/or nomination lacks clarity to demonstrate impact.	Failed to meet criteria and/or demonstrate impact.

Innovation Award:

This award recognizes an innovative **student group** who successfully created an impact on CU's campus this academic year. They challenged themselves by thinking creatively or trying something new with their operations, events, services or other areas, which had great results.

Criteria	5 - Exceeds	4 – Slightly Exceeds	3 - Meets	2 – Slightly Below	1 -Does Not Meet
Novelty & Innovation	<p>The organization excels at providing innovation and novelty, filling in a campus wide gap in the CU Community.</p> <p>The organization went above and beyond their mission and practices and serve as a strong role model for creative exploration.</p>	<p>The organization slightly excels at providing innovation and novelty, filling in a campus wide gap in the CU Community.</p> <p>The organization went beyond their mission and practices and serve as a strong role model for creative exploration.</p>	<p>The organization brought adequate innovation and novelty, making strides to fill a campus wide gap in the CU community.</p> <p>The organization met their mission and practices and serve as a potential role model for creative exploration.</p>	<p>The organization attempted to provide innovation and novelty or attempted to fill in a campus wide gap in the CU Community.</p> <p>The organization slightly met their mission and practices.</p>	<p>The organization failed at providing innovation and novelty perspective.</p> <p>The organization's mission and practices does not model or showcase creative exploration.</p>
Addresses the Criteria	Exceeds criteria/addressed all areas of criteria		Meets the criteria/answered some of the question		Fails to meet any of criteria/did not answer question
Impact & Exemplary Nature	The impact exceeds expectations by being intentional and going above & beyond.	The impact slightly exceeds expectations, with room for further improvements to become exceptional.	An impact was made that met expectation	Impact was minimal and/or nomination lacks clarity to demonstrate impact.	Failed to meet criteria and/or demonstrate impact.

New Student Organization of the Year Award:

This award is given to a Recognized Student Organization **who was established in the Fall or Spring semester with the Center for Student Involvement** during the current academic year. This new organization has contributed to campus spirit by offering fresh perspectives and including members all across the CU community.

Criteria	5 - Exceeds	4 – Slightly Exceeds	3 - Meets	2 – Slightly Below	1 -Does Not Meet
Novelty & Innovation	The organization excels at providing innovation and novelty, filling in a campus wide gap in the CU Community. The organization went above and beyond their mission and practices and serve as a strong role model for creative exploration.	The organization slightly excels at providing innovation and novelty, filling in a campus wide gap in the CU Community. The organization went beyond their mission and practices and serve as a strong role model for creative exploration.	The organization brought adequate innovation and novelty, making strides to fill a campus wide gap in the CU community. The organization met their mission and practices and serve as a potential role model for creative exploration.	The organization attempted to provide innovation and novelty or attempted to fill in a campus wide gap in the CU Community. The organization slightly met their mission and practices.	The organization failed at providing innovation and novelty perspective. The organization's mission and practices does not model or showcase creative exploration.
Addresses the Criteria	Exceeds criteria/addressed all areas of criteria		Meets the criteria/answered some of the question		Fails to meet any of criteria/did not answer question
Impact & Exemplary Nature	The impact exceeds expectations by being intentional and going above & beyond.	The impact slightly exceeds expectations, with room for further improvements to become exceptional.	An impact was made that met expectation	Impact was minimal and/or nomination lacks clarity to demonstrate impact.	Failed to meet criteria and/or demonstrate impact.

Student Organization of the Year Award:

This award is presented to a **Recognized Student Organization** who is registered with the Center for Student Involvement and who has demonstrated outstanding leadership on campus. This organization has shown active involvement, encouraged positive change and has made a difference on campus.

Criteria	5 - Exceeds	4 – Slightly Exceeds	3 - Meets	2 – Slightly Below	1 -Does Not Meet
Accountability & Contribution	It is clearly evident this organization challenges its members to grow as leaders and serves as strong role models for other students and organizations. The organization has gone above and beyond to cultivate a strong community that contributes to the greater CU Community.	It is slightly evident this organization challenges its members to grow as leaders and serves as strong role models for other students and organizations. The organization has gone beyond cultivating a strong community that contributes to the greater CU Community.	This organization adequately challenges its members to grow as leaders and serves as role models for other students and organizations. The organization has adequately cultivated a community that contributes to the greater CU Community.	This organization attempted to challenge its members to grow as leaders and serves as role models for other students and organizations. The organization has attempted to cultivate a community that contributes to the greater CU Community.	The organization fails to challenge its members to grow as leaders and serves as role models for other students and organizations. The organization does not cultivate a community that contributes to the greater CU Community.
Addresses the Criteria	Exceeds criteria/addressed all areas of criteria.		Meets the criteria/answered some of the question.		Fails to meet any of criteria/did not answer question.
Impact & Exemplary Nature	The impact exceeds expectations by being intentional and going above & beyond.	The impact slightly exceeds expectations, with room for further improvements to become exceptional.	An impact was made that met expectation.	Impact was minimal and/or nomination lacks clarity to demonstrate impact.	Failed to meet criteria and/or demonstrate impact.

Student Organization Event of the Year:

This award is presented to one event that was organized by a **Recognized Student Organization (RSO)** or **Recognized Social Greek Organization (RSGO)** during the current academic year. This event was hosted on campus, enhanced the campus community, built connections between students, and left a significant impact on attendees.

Criteria	5 - Exceeds	4 – Slightly Exceeds	3 - Meets	2 – Slightly Below	1 -Does Not Meet
Accountability & Contribution	It is clearly evident this organization/event challenges its members to grow as leaders and serves as strong role models for other students and organizations. The organization/event has gone above and beyond to cultivate a strong community that contributes to the greater CU Community.	It is slightly evident this organization/event challenges its members to grow as leaders and serves as strong role models for other students and organizations. The organization/event has gone beyond cultivating a strong community that contributes to the greater CU Community.	This organization/event adequately challenges its members to grow as leaders and serves as role models for other students and organizations. The organization/event has adequately cultivated a community that contributes to the greater CU Community.	This organization/event attempted to challenge its members to grow as leaders and serves as role models for other students and organizations. The organization/event has attempted to cultivate a community that contributes to the greater CU Community.	The organization/event fails to challenge its members to grow as leaders and serves as role models for other students and organizations. The organization/event does not cultivate a community that contributes to the greater CU Community.
Addresses the Criteria	Exceeds criteria/addressed all areas of criteria		Meets the criteria/answered some of the question		Fails to meet any of criteria/did not answer question
Impact & Exemplary Nature	The impact exceeds expectations by being intentional and going above & beyond.	The impact slightly exceeds expectations, with room for further improvements to become exceptional.	An impact was made that met expectation	Impact was minimal and/or nomination lacks clarity to demonstrate impact.	Failed to meet criteria and/or demonstrate impact.

Student Program of the Year:

This award recognizes a **student-led board or organization that is considered a University Sponsored Program funded by university funds or departments**. They create lasting impact on campus through their activities including but not limited to leadership development, community engagement, mission-driven planning and have a direct influence on the quality of life for students on campus. Please note Recognized Student Organizations (RSOs) and Recognized Social Greek Organizations (RSGOs) are **not** eligible for this award.

Criteria	5 - Exceeds	4 – Slightly Exceeds	3 - Meets	2 – Slightly Below	1 -Does Not Meet
Advocacy & Support	The program excels at supporting CU Boulder students by going above and beyond normal expectations and cultivates a welcoming, vibrant campus and inspires student leaders.	The program slightly excels at supporting CU Boulder students by moderately cultivating a welcoming, vibrant campus and inspiring student leaders.	The program is adequate at supporting CU Boulder students. There is a minimal impact in the areas of cultivating a welcoming, vibrant campus and inspiring student leaders.	The program attempts to support CU Boulder students. While not overwhelming impact , the program does show attempts to enhance the campus community.	The program failed to advocate for or support CU Boulder students. Overall, the program does not meet criteria and did not demonstrate the impact their work has on enhancing the campus community.
Addresses the Criteria	Exceeds criteria/addressed all areas of criteria		Meets the criteria/answered some of the question		Fails to meet any of criteria/did not answer question
Impact & Exemplary Nature	The impact exceeds expectations by being intentional and going above & beyond.	The impact slightly exceeds expectations, with room for further improvements to become exceptional	An impact was made that met expectations.	Impact was minimal and/or nomination lacks clarity to demonstrate impact.	Failed to meet criteria and/or demonstrate impact.

Student Individual Awards

Graduate Student Leader of the Year Award:

This award honors a **currently enrolled graduate student** who serves as an outstanding leader in the CU campus community. This student exemplifies what it means to be a graduate student leader through their efforts to make a positive impact at CU and beyond. Examples of ways in which this student models leadership may include activism, community service, on-campus involvement, or showing initiative in creating or spearheading efforts to make the campus a welcoming place for all graduate students.

Criteria	5 - Exceeds	4 – Slightly Exceeds	3 - Meets	2 – Slightly Below	1 -Does Not Meet
Moral Character	The student excels in their exhibition of strong moral character, which is clearly evident in the way they carry themselves. They serve as a strong role model for fellow students to look to.	The student slightly excels in their exhibition of strong moral character, which is relatively evident in the way they carry themselves. They serve as a moderate role model for fellow students to look to.	The student adequately exhibits or develops moral character, which is somewhat evident in the way they carry themselves. They serve as a minor role model for fellow students to look to.	The student attempted to exhibit or develop moral character, which is rarely evident in the way they carry themselves. It's unclear if they serve as a role model for fellow students to look to.	Overall, the individual failed to meet criteria and did not demonstrate moral character.
Addresses the Criteria	Exceeds criteria/addressed all areas of criteria		Meets the criteria/answered some of the question		Fails to meet any of criteria/did not answer question
Impact & Exemplary Nature	The impact exceeds expectations by being intentional and going above & beyond.	The impact slightly exceeds expectations, with room for further improvements to become exceptional.	An impact was made that met expectations	Impact was minimal and/or nomination lacks clarity to demonstrate impact.	Failed to meet criteria and/or demonstrate impact.

Lasting Legacy Award: This award is in collaboration with the [Senior Class Council](#), and honors a graduating student in the current academic year Fall or Spring (undergraduate or graduate) who has left their mark at CU. This person is someone who has demonstrated outstanding leadership, spearheaded a cause on campus, and whose impact will be seen for years to come.

Criteria	5 - Exceeds	4 – Slightly Exceeds	3 - Meets	2 – Slightly Below	1 -Does Not Meet
Moral Character	The student excels in their exhibition of strong moral character, which is clearly evident in the way they carry themselves. They serve as a strong role model for fellow students to look to.	The student slightly excels in their exhibition of strong moral character, which is relatively evident in the way they carry themselves. They serve as a moderate role model for fellow students to look to.	The student adequately exhibits or develops moral character, which is somewhat evident in the way they carry themselves. They serve as a minor role model for fellow students to look to.	The student attempted to exhibit or develop moral character, which is rarely evident in the way they carry themselves. It's unclear if they serve as a role model for fellow students to look to.	Overall, the individual failed to meet criteria and did not demonstrate moral character.
Addresses the Criteria	Exceeds criteria/addressed all areas of criteria		Meets the criteria/answered some of the question		Fails to meet any of criteria/did not answer question
Impact & Exemplary Nature	The impact exceeds expectations by being intentional and going above & beyond.	The impact slightly exceeds expectations, with room for further improvements to become exceptional.	An impact was made that met expectations	Impact was minimal and/or nomination lacks clarity to demonstrate impact.	Failed to meet criteria and/or demonstrate impact.

Leigh Wyman Family Award: This award recognizes a **student** whose contribution to campus exemplifies the ways to live the [Colorado Creed](#) (Act, Honor, Integrity, Accountability, Respect and Contribute), whether it is in the classroom or in extracurricular activities. The winner must hold high moral character and consistently work to enhance the culture at CU.

Criteria	5 - Exceeds	4 – Slightly Exceeds	3 - Meets	2 – Slightly Below	1 -Does Not Meet
Moral Character	The student excels in their exhibition of strong moral character, which is clearly evident in the way they carry themselves. They serve as a strong role model for fellow students to look to.	The student slightly excels in their exhibition of strong moral character, which is relatively evident in the way they carry themselves. They serve as a moderate role model for fellow students to look to.	The student adequately exhibits or develops moral character, which is somewhat evident in the way they carry themselves. They serve as a minor role model for fellow students to look to.	The student attempted to exhibit or develop moral character, which is rarely evident in the way they carry themselves. It's unclear if they serve as a role model for fellow students to look to.	Overall, the individual failed to meet criteria and did not demonstrate moral character.
Addresses the Criteria	Exceeds criteria/addressed all areas of criteria		Meets the criteria/answered some of the question		Fails to meet any of criteria/did not answer question
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Ripple Award: This award is in collaboration with the Dennis Small Cultural Center and honors a **student** who seeks to enhance cross-cultural awareness and a greater appreciation for diversity and inclusion. This individual has gone above and beyond in advocating for and facilitating cultural programming. This person has had an impact far beyond the original source.

Criteria	5 - Exceeds	4 – Slightly Exceeds	3 - Meets	2 – Slightly Below	1 -Does Not Meet
Cultural Awareness	The student excels in inspiring cultural exchange and exploration. They went above and beyond what is expected from an individual.	The student slightly excels in inspiring cultural exchange and exploration. They went beyond what is expected from an individual.	The student adequately inspired cultural exchange and exploration. They met what is expected from an individual.	The student attempted to inspire cultural exchange and exploration. They were slightly below what is expected from an individual.	The student failed in inspiring cultural exchange and exploration. Overall, they failed to meet criteria and did not demonstrate cultural awareness.
Addresses the Criteria	Exceeds criteria/addressed all areas of criteria		Meets the criteria/answered some of the question		Fails to meet any of criteria/did not answer question
Impact & Exemplary Nature	The impact exceeds expectations by being intentional and going above & beyond.	The impact slightly exceeds expectations, with room for further improvements to become exceptional.	An impact was made that met expectations	Impact was minimal and/or nomination lacks clarity to demonstrate impact.	Failed to meet criteria and/or demonstrate impact.

Rising Star Award: This award recognizes a first or second-year undergraduate student who is an emerging leader on campus and who has shown the potential to greatly impact the campus community in the future. This leader is someone who has worked hard and already made a difference during their time at CU.

Criteria	5 - Exceeds	4 – Slightly Exceeds	3 - Meets	2 – Slightly Below	1 -Does Not Meet
Moral Character	The student excels in their exhibition of strong moral character, which is clearly evident in the way they carry themselves. They serve as a strong role model for fellow students to look to.	The student slightly excels in their exhibition of strong moral character, which is relatively evident in the way they carry themselves. They serve as a moderate role model for fellow students to look to.	The student adequately exhibits or develops moral character, which is somewhat evident in the way they carry themselves. They serve as a minor role model for fellow students to look to.	The student attempted to exhibit or develop moral character, which is rarely evident in the way they carry themselves. It's unclear if they serve as a role model for fellow students to look to.	Overall, the individual failed to meet criteria and did not demonstrate moral character.
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Faculty & Staff Awards

Student Organization Advisor of the Year Award: This award honors a **faculty/staff advisor** to a Recognized Student Organization (RSO) or Recognized Social Greek Organization (RSGO) who exemplifies commitment to helping and supporting student organization leaders. The Advisor of the Year utilizes institutional knowledge coupled with an understanding of student and group development in a demonstrated commitment to working with students beyond the classroom and helping student organization leaders be successful.

Criteria	5 - Exceeds	4 – Slightly Exceeds	3 - Meets	2 – Slightly Below	1 -Does Not Meet
Advocacy & Support	The nominee excels at supporting CU Boulder students by going above and beyond normal expectations and cultivates a welcoming, vibrant campus and inspires student leaders.	The nominee slightly excels at supporting CU Boulder students by moderately cultivating a welcoming, vibrant campus and inspiring student leaders.	The nominee is adequate at supporting CU Boulder students. There is a minimal impact in the areas of cultivating a welcoming, vibrant campus and inspiring student leaders.	The nominee attempts to support CU Boulder students. While not overwhelming impact , the program does show attempts to enhance the campus community.	The nominee failed to advocate for or support CU Boulder students. Overall, the program does not meet criteria and did not demonstrate the impact their work has on enhancing the campus community.
Addresses the Criteria	Exceeds criteria/addressed all areas of criteria		Meets the criteria/answered some of the question		Fails to meet any of criteria/did not answer question
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Supportive Staff Member of the Year Award: This award is presented to a staff member who recognizably helps and supports students across campus. This staff member is committed to helping their students become as successful as possible by going above and beyond their job title.

Criteria	5 - Exceeds	4 – Slightly Exceeds	3 - Meets	2 – Slightly Below	1 -Does Not Meet
Advocacy & Support	The nominee excels at supporting CU Boulder students by going above and beyond normal expectations and cultivates a welcoming, vibrant campus and inspires student leaders.	The nominee slightly excels at supporting CU Boulder students by moderately cultivating a welcoming, vibrant campus and inspiring student leaders.	The nominee is adequate at supporting CU Boulder students. There is a minimal impact in the areas of cultivating a welcoming, vibrant campus and inspiring student leaders.	The nominee attempts to support CU Boulder students. While not overwhelming impact , the program does show attempts to enhance the campus community.	The nominee failed to advocate for or support CU Boulder students. Overall, the program does not meet criteria and did not demonstrate the impact their work has on enhancing the campus community.
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