

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS
Society for Social Work and Research
2025 OUTSTANDING SOCIAL WORK DOCTORAL DISSERTATION AWARD

The Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR) ***Outstanding Social Work Doctoral Dissertation Award*** recognizes dissertations exemplifying high standards in social work research and scholarship. The award's purpose is to encourage the design and conduct of quality research by doctoral-level social workers, recognize the authors of such studies, and provide these authors with a professional conference venue to present findings from their study.

No later than August 4, 2024, nominators must first contact SSWR Membership and Awards Coordinator Kristen Reamy via email at kristen@sswr.org to register (1) the name of the nominator, (2) contact information for the nominator, (3) the name of the author, (4) contact information for the nominee, (5) the name of the major professor supervising the dissertation and (6) the name of the program and university from which the dissertation originated. The awards coordinator will assign a nominator number to be used on all nomination documents to ensure a de-identified review process.

Nomination Packet includes:

1. Nominating letter (no longer than 1,350 words*);
2. Two letters of support (no longer than 1,350*);
3. Dissertation abstract – (up to 5 pages*);
4. Dissertation;
5. Nominee’s headshot (high-resolution .jpeg).

**Letters and abstract should be double space, 1-inch margin, Calibri or Times Roman 12 pt. font.*

The nominating letter should address the areas below:

1. A concise description of the dissertation topic; include a statement of possible impact to solve the problem under investigation;
2. General comments about the nominee, including overall scholarly credentials;
3. The degree of innovation, rigor, creativity, and insight shown by the author;
4. The scope and importance of the work to the department, the profession of social work, and the field;
5. Rigorous engagement/analyses of the processes of, or critical representation of, oppression, privilege, disenfranchisement or marginalization related to gender, race/ethnicity, sexuality, class/caste, and/or ability (among others) as relevant to their substantive area.
6. The effectiveness of the writing (including whether it is accessible and understandable in related disciplines).

To ensure a de-identified review process, all nominators/nominees must adhere to the following guidelines:

- Use your assigned ID number in place of all occurrences of your name. Your actual name may only be shown on the Nomination ID Number Request, i.e., if your assigned ID number is DA_2025_01, use that to identify yourself throughout your documents rather than your actual name;
- **DO NOT** reference the actual name of your institution; you may only use generic, non-identifiable names such as "My University" or "XYZ University" when referring to your institution;
- Staff and Chair names may not be mentioned in any nominating materials. Instead, they may only be referred to by their title, i.e., use 'Department Chair' instead of 'Professor Smith';
- It is very important that applications **DO NOT** reveal any aspect of the applicant's identity, affiliation, or staff name(s). If you have any questions, please contact Kristen Reamy via email at kristen@sswr.org.

Three paper dissertation model: If your institution uses the 3-paper model, you must clearly articulate the nominee's contribution to each of the 3 papers. If an introductory chapter is included with the 3-paper model, it should be articulated why the nominee has chosen their set of research questions, their guiding theory/conceptual framework for arriving there, and how that relates to the three papers.

Eligibility criteria: Eligible nominees must have successfully defended their doctoral dissertation between July 1, 2023, and July 31, 2024. The dissertation must originate from a member program of the *Group for the Advancement of Doctoral Education in Social Work*.

Only current SSWR members may submit nominations. The SSWR Board has set a policy that no sitting member of the Board may apply for this award. Nominators may only nominate one nominee for this award. Self-nominations are encouraged.

The award recipient(s) will be honored at the Awards Ceremony at the 2025 conference, January 15-19, 2025, in Seattle, WA.

Nominations should be sent electronically to:

Kristen Reamy
Membership and Awards Coordinator Society for Social Work and Research
kristen@sswr.org

Complete application packages must be received by 5:00 pm EDT, August 25, 2024.

The August 4 and 25, 2024, deadlines will be firmly adhered to.