



## CPA CLINICAL EDUCATION AWARD

*\*The CPA awards program runs on a biennial basis, aligning with CPA Congress (even years). Only the Helen Saarinen Rahikka Student Leadership Award will be open for nominations during non-Congress (odd) years.*

### Philosophy

Physiotherapists facilitating a high standard of clinical education are highly valued contributors to the entry-level programs in physiotherapy. Instructors in the clinical setting provide students with the essential role models of professional behaviours and practice.

It is the responsibility of all physiotherapy clinicians to support the education of future generations of professionals by providing positive clinical experiences for students and by willingly accepting student supervision as a part of that responsibility.

Individuals who excel as clinical instructors or preceptors have developed a set of specialized skills in delivery of education experiences, performance evaluation, mentorship and meeting individual learner needs.

### Purpose

The Clinical Education Award:

- Recognizes the importance of education within a wide variety of practice settings (e.g. clinical, administrative, industry or business);
- Recognizes outstanding contributions made by clinical instructors to the education of entry-level students through innovative teaching and/or administration practices, research and publication.
- Recognizes that clinical education instruction and preceptorship are unique professional roles requiring distinct skills.

### History

The National Clinical Education Award was established in 1999. In 2012 the award was renamed the Clinical Education Award to acknowledge the local nature of clinical placements. The criteria were developed jointly by CPA and the National Association for Clinical Education in Physiotherapy (NACEP). Selection of candidates and award recipients is also done jointly.



### Criteria for Selection

A candidate must be recognized by peers and/or students as being committed to excellence in clinical teaching within an agency (*Agency is a term used for institution, organization, private business or industry providing clinical learning opportunities for students.*)

For example, the tutor may have demonstrated a willingness to try innovative models of education or supervision, or shown initiative in seeking out their own learning experiences to improve teaching knowledge and skills. Innovation in delivery is a key criterion for selection.

Other activities that will also be considered include:

- Participation of the individual in educational programs. For example, the nominee participates in program strategic planning, lectures or academic courses or is part of curriculum or fieldwork advisory committees.
- Demonstration of commitment to a mutual process of communication and collaboration between the university and affiliated fieldwork agencies. For example, the nominee organizes and plans the clinical education program at an approved fieldwork site, proactively identifies potential new clinical education opportunities within the agency, increases the number of student placements offered by an agency, or promotes attendance at clinical education workshops and seminars.
- Motivation toward, and promotion of, clinical education as a distinct set of skills through pursuit of knowledge in clinical education processes, championing clinical education participation, and supporting new instructors and preceptors.
- Participation in clinical education research or the development of innovative models of education and/or dissemination of information or research results through publications or presentations.

### Eligibility

Recipients must be physiotherapist members of the CPA. Current members of NACEP are excluded.

### Selection of Candidate(s)

The CPA Awards Committee and a NACEP representative will select the award recipient(s). This award has up to 5 recipients.



## Presentation

The award will be presented biennially at Congress.

## Form of Award

- Recognition at Congress
- A framed certificate signed by the CPA President and CPA Awards Committee Chair
- \$200 towards Congress registration

## Nomination Procedure

Nominations must be made by either a CPA member or CPA Component (CPA Branch, CPA Division, or CPA Assembly). All nominations are confidential between the nominator(s) and the CPA Awards Committee.

The nomination must include:

1. At least three but not more than four letters of recommendation, at least one of which is from a student, one from a peer and one from a university faculty member who is involved with an entry level PT program. The letters must outline the unique contribution of the individual and how she/he meets the criteria for the award. The letter from the faculty member must outline academic involvement and should incorporate feedback from students. None of the letters shall exceed four pages.
2. One of the nominators must be identified as the primary nominator. The primary nominator must be a CPA member.
3. Curriculum Vitae of the candidate.
4. Teaching Dossier of the candidate. This document outlines the present and past teaching responsibilities (academic and/or clinical) of the candidate.

## Nomination Process

The call for nominations typically launches at the end of the year (December), through a CPA member e-blast. Nominations must be submitted online, typically by the end of February the following year. Award winners and primary nominators will be notified in April.