

Terry J. Housh Outstanding Young Investigator Award

Personal Statement

Within 2 pages, explain why you deserve to be selected as the recipient of the 2027 Terry J. Housh Outstanding Young Investigator of the Year award. In your response, please be sure to address the following:

- a) The significance and impact of your research contributions
- b) Your leadership or innovative approaches in advancing your field
- c) Your role in mentoring and supporting the next generation of researchers
- d) Your accomplishments that reflect your independence as an investigator since completing your PhD, such as establishing a research lab, initiating and directing original research, securing funding, publishing and disseminating findings as a lead investigator, and developing a distinct line of research since the completion of your doctoral work.

Personal Statement Rubric

** The essay/personal statement may be submitted as a written statement.*

**To be reviewed by at least three members of the NSCA Awards Subcommittee*

Definitions

Excellent	• Definition: Demonstrates outstanding scholarship, independence, and mentorship that adds significant value to the field. • Example: A scientist who demonstrates consistent research productivity and leadership by consistently engaging their research team. Research is innovative and advances the field, empowers trainees to engage in the research process.
Very Good	• Definition: Shows continuous scholarship, developing independence, and some mentorship that adds value to the field. Example: A scientist who demonstrates research productivity and leadership by engaging their research team. Research is innovative and advances the field, empowers trainees to engage in the research process.
Good	• Definition: Has some scholarship productivity that was independent of doctoral work, and some mentorship that adds value to the field. Example: Someone who has several publications in the field. Research is developing a novel trajectory, and trainees are engaged the research process.
Fair	• Definition: Exhibits potential for scholarly independence, limited publications and evidence of mentorship. • Example: Someone who has published in the field, but with limited work reflecting independence since degree and provides minimal evidence of trainee engagement.
Poor	• Definition: Lacks continuous publication record or evidence of scholarly engagement. Not evidence of mentorship. • Example: Some who has limited to no publication record, no evidence of work done since degree conferral. Not trainees engaged.

	Excellent	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor
Significance and impact of research contributions (Consider scope and quality of scholarship)	5	4	3	2	1
Leadership or innovative approaches in advancing the field (Consider roles in directing research and application to the field)	5	4	3	2	1
Role in mentoring and supporting the next generation of researchers (Consider how their leadership has encouraged students' professional development or engagement with the NSCA)	5	4	3	2	1
Accomplishments that reflect independence as an investigator (Consider the lead/senior authorships, grants that support research independence, lab directorships, etc.)	5	4	3	2	1
Total					