



2023 Immunization Champion Award Program

The Association of Immunization Managers (AIM) is a nonprofit member organization that uplifts and supports the voices of leaders of state, local, and territorial immunization programs. AIM members direct the public health efforts designed to keep children and adults vaccinated and protected against disease. AIM's mission is to establish a nation free of vaccine-preventable diseases.

2023 will mark AIM's second year running the *Immunization Champion Award* program, previously known as the *CDC Childhood Immunization Champion Award*. This award is meant for all AIM members to participate and will honor up to one *Champion* from each of the 64 National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases (NCIRD) federally funded jurisdictions: 50 U.S. states, 6 major cities, and 8 territories/federated states.

Award Criteria

The *Immunization Champion Award* recognizes individuals who are doing an exemplary job or going above and beyond to promote or foster immunizations in their communities, for both children and adults. When nominating and selecting their *Champion*, immunization programs will base their nominations on meeting one or more of the following criteria:

Leadership: The candidate is considered an authority on immunization in their community, medical system, or individual practice. Activities may include acting as a spokesperson, trainer, mentor, or educator.

Collaboration: The candidate has worked to build support for and increase immunization rates in adults and/or children. Activities may include establishing or strengthening partnerships, coalitions, committees, working groups, or others.

Innovation: The candidate has used creative or innovative strategies to promote immunization or address challenges to immunization in their practice, community, state, or region. Activities may include implementing new strategies and adapting existing strategies in new ways, such as reaching under-immunized populations.

Advocacy: The candidate is active in advancing policies and best practices to support immunization in adults and/or children in their community, state, or region. The candidate cannot be involved in advocacy activities related to funding for immunizations.

Immunization Champions may include coalition members, parents, health care professionals (e.g., physicians,

pharmacists, nurses, physicians' assistants, nurse practitioners, medical assistants, etc.), community activists, nonprofit leaders, and community-based organization members.

Immunization program managers, county, state, and federal government employees paid by state or federal immunization funding, individuals who have been affiliated with and/or employed by pharmaceutical companies, and those who have already received the award are not eligible to apply (see complete eligibility checklist on page 3).

Process

Immunization programs will coordinate the nomination and review process.

Nominations will be accepted from all 50 U.S. states, six cities, and eight U.S. territories and the District of Columbia. Nomination forms should be submitted to the immunization programs of the state or territory in which the nominee resides. Self-nominations are welcome. The nomination period opens **April 17, 2023**, and closes **May 31, 2023**.

The nomination form requires a photograph and a completed nomination narrative found on page 4. These items will be used for the promotion of selected *Immunization Champions*. The packet includes an HHS consent waiver that must be printed, initialed, signed, and either emailed or mailed with the nomination packet. Additional optional supporting materials may be submitted, including program materials, publications, news clippings, and website screenshots.

Immunization programs will evaluate all nominees and recommend one individual receive the award based on the criteria listed above. Each jurisdiction will notify AIM of their selection by **June 23, 2023**. AIM will review and confirm the recommendations and issue the awards.

Award Presentation and Recognition:

- Awards will be announced in August, to celebrate National Immunization Awareness Month (NIAM).
- Each awardee will receive an Immunization Champion Award plaque.
- *Immunization Champions* and their accomplishments will be featured on the AIM and CDC websites.

Learn more online at <https://www.immunizationmanagers.org/championsaward>

1 NOTE: AIM may not confirm recommendation if the nominee does not meet award criteria and/or eligibility guidelines.

Please send nominations to the immunization program of the state or territory in which the nominee resides. Please submit a photo and the completed narrative form. The photo and responses to the narrative question may be used for promotional purposes if the nominee is selected as an *Immunization Champion*. Please contact AIM if you need help reaching out to your immunization program at champions@immunizationmanagers.org.

1) Immunization Champion Award Eligibility and Criteria Checklist

Eligibility Checklist

Each of the following statements must be true for this nominee to be considered eligible for the *Immunization Champion Award*:

- The nominee is not entitled to royalties or other compensation for a vaccine product or process patent.
- The nominee has not served as a paid litigation consultant or expert witness in litigation involving a vaccine manufacturer.
- The nominee is not a county, state, or federal government employee paid by state or federal immunization funding.
- The nominee has not been involved in introducing or passing legislation related to vaccine funding.
- The nominee has not already received the *CDC Childhood Immunization Champion Award*, *HPV is Cancer Prevention Award* or *Immunization Champion Award*.

Each of the following statements must be true for this nominee since **January 1, 2020**:

- The nominee, their spouse, or any members of their immediate family (siblings and children) have not been employed by a vaccine manufacturer.
- The nominee has not held stock in a vaccine manufacturer.
- The nominee has not served in an advisory or consulting role (paid or unpaid) to a vaccine manufacturer.
- The nominee has not accepted and/or solicited funds from vaccine manufacturers.
- The nominee has not accepted honoraria or travel reimbursement with a funding source from a vaccine manufacturer for attendance at scientific meetings.

Award Criteria Checklist

Immunization Champions should meet one or more of the following criteria:

- Leadership:** The candidate is considered an authority on immunization in their community, medical system, or individual practice. Activities may include acting as a spokesperson, trainer, mentor, or educator.
- Collaboration:** The candidate has worked to build support for and increase immunization rates in adults and/or children. Activities may include establishing or strengthening partnerships, coalitions, committees, or working groups.
- Innovation:** The candidate has used creative or innovative strategies to promote immunization or address challenges to immunization in their practice, community, state, or region. Activities may include both new strategies and adapting existing strategies in new ways, such as reaching under-immunized populations.
- Advocacy:** The candidate is active in advancing policies and best practices to support immunization in adults and/or children in their community, state, or region.

Activities may include providing legislative testimony or promoting, analyzing, or evaluating policies.

2) Nominee Information

NOMINEE INFORMATION

Nominee First and Last Name		Title
Organization		
Address		
City	State	ZIP Code
Nominee Phone Number	Nominee Email	
Nominee Degree(s)/Credentials		

NOMINATOR INFORMATION

Nominator First and Last Name		Nominator Title
Organization		
Phone Number	Email	

AWARD SHIPPING INFORMATION

The award plaque can be shipped directly to the selected award recipient or another contact at the immunization program if the program would like to present the award personally. Please provide the contact's name and the address where the award should be shipped (deliveries cannot be made to P.O. Boxes).

First and Last Name		
Organization		
Address		
City	State	ZIP Code
Phone Number		

3) Nomination Narrative Form

Please list the award criteria this nominee meets and describe concrete examples of how they meet the criteria and how they go above and beyond in their immunization work. **(Maximum 250 words)**

Please describe the impact of this nominee's work. **(Maximum 250 words)**

Please describe any specific experiences that led the nominee to become a passionate *Champion* for immunization. **(Maximum 250 words)**



Instructions for Submitting the Nomination Materials

Step 1 Complete all fields in the nomination packet electronically (preferred) or in a hard copy.

Step 2 Submit a clear color photo as a .png or .jpg.

Step 3 Send the completed nomination packet and photo to the Maine immunization program (camille.erickson@maine.gov) by **May 31, 2023**.

AIM Members: Please submit the nomination packet, HHS consent waiver, and photo of your selected *Immunization Champion* to champions@immunizationmanagers.org by **June 23, 2023**.

Please note that the Immunization Champion Award does not imply CDC endorsement of individuals' commercial activity