

District Presidents, Chair of CDHCF, and MDA Board Members,

The Mississippi Dietetic Association needs your assistance to recognize qualified dietitians within your district, practice group and association. The following awards are available: Recognized Young Dietitian of the Year Award (RYDY); Recognized Dietetic Technician of the Year Award (RDTY), Emerging Dietetic Leader Award (EDL), and Outstanding Dietetic Leader Award (ODY). The criteria for each of the awards are attached.

One individual from each district should be selected for each award to be placed on the Mississippi Dietetic Association ballot in February. Please submit by e-mail the names and one page resume for individuals nominated for each award to bobandchristyc@comcast.net before Friday, January 16, 2009. The individuals selected will be required to complete the ADA data sheet before April 1, 2009. If you have questions please contact me at 601-271-7906.

The criteria for the Magnolia Award has also been included in the attachment. Nominations should be sent to Shelia Triggs (CPI Chair) Shetri8@yahoo.com.

Thanks for your commitment to our profession.

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Hattiesburg, MS 39402
601-271-7906
601-818-2701

Recognized Young Dietitian of the Year Award (RYDY)

The purpose of the RYDY program is to recognize the competence and activities of younger dietitians in The American Dietetic Association and to encourage their continued participation in Association affairs. This group will be an additional resource from which the leadership of The Association will develop both at the district, state, and national levels. In addition to publishing the list of RYDYs in the Journal of The American Dietetic Association, each awardee will receive a formal certificate of recognition from the President of the Association.

Criteria for Selection

1. Member of The American Dietetic Association.
2. Age limit as of April 1 deadline, 35 years or younger.
3. Active participation in the national, state, or district association.
4. Not previously selected as an RYDY.
5. Demonstrated concern for the promotion of optimal health and nutritional status of the population.
6. Demonstrated leadership, e.g., in legislation, research, education, management, etc., either in the Association or employment.

Recognized Dietetic Technician of the Year Award (RDTY)

The purpose of the of the Recognized Dietetic Technician of the Year Award is to recognize the professional contributions of dietetic technicians in the American Dietetic Association and to encourage their continued participation in Association Affairs. In addition to publishing the list of RDTYs in the Journal of The American Dietetic Association, each awardee will receive a formal certificate of recognition for the President of the Association.

Criteria for Selection

1. Active Membership in the American Dietetic Association. Please verify with candidates and include membership number.
2. Active participation in national, affiliate, or district association.
3. Not previously selected for this award.
4. Demonstrated concern for the promotion of optimal health and nutritional status of the population.
5. Demonstrated leadership, e.g., legislation, research, education, clinical dietetics, food service management, public relations, career guidance, etc., in the Association or employment.

Emerging Dietetic Leader Award (EDL)

The purpose of the Emerging Dietetic Leader Award is to recognize the competence and activities of dietitians regardless of their age, who have made distinctive contributions early in their dietetics careers to the American Dietetic Association. The award encourages their continued participation in Association affairs. This more mature/older group will be an additional resource from which the leadership of the Association will develop at the district, state, and national levels.

Criteria for Selection

1. Member of the American Dietetic Association
2. Initial practice experience not less than 5 years and not greater than 10 years. Interrupted careers or time periods not in practice, are not to be considered or rationed into the 5-10 years of professional practice experience.
3. Active participation in the national, state, or district association for at least 5 years.
4. Not previously selected as an RYDY or RDTY.
5. Demonstrated concern for the promotion of optimal health and nutritional status of the population.
6. Demonstrated leadership, e.g., in legislation, research, education, management, etc., in the Association, community or employment.

Outstanding Dietetic Leader Award (ODY)

The purpose of the Outstanding Dietetic Leader Award is to recognize the professional contributions of a Mississippi Dietitian to The Mississippi Dietetic Association and the profession of Dietetics. The ODY recipient is published in a fall issue of the *Journal of the American Dietetic Association*.

Criteria for Selection

1. Member of the American Dietetic Association
2. A registered, licensed dietitian over the age of 30.
3. Demonstrates leadership to advance the profession of Dietetics legislation, research, education, clinical dietetics, career guidance, public relations, community nutrition, management.
4. Active in the association in various aspects of leadership and service.
5. Demonstrates the Association's goals in personal and professional life.
6. One who gives "above and beyond" in service to the association's projects and duties (attend more than 50% of districts and MDA meetings).
7. Noteworthy community service in nutrition/dietetics. (Speaking engagements, articles in newspapers, trade magazines, or other current reliable publications).

Magnolia Award

Criteria for Selection

1. An individual outside the profession of dietetics that demonstrates outstanding interest, support, and contributions to the profession of dietetics.
2. One who has made significant contributions to human welfare through a profession other than that of dietetics.
3. One who demonstrates good will through notable service in furthering the advancement of the profession of dietetics.
4. One who promotes nutrition in a manner as support by scientific evidence and