

The Academy of Distinguished Teaching (ADT) at UCR, in partnership with the Division of Undergraduate Education, is soliciting nominations for the **2026 Innovative Teaching Award**. All ladder-rank Senate faculty members (including Professors of Teaching) at any level are eligible. Two or more faculty members teaching as a unit may be nominated as a single team.

The Innovative Teaching Award honors instructors for their creation and implementation of high-impact teaching methods as well as their exceptional passion for finding new and effective ways to help students learn. Note that this award focuses specifically on *innovation* in teaching, which is broadly defined as the transformation of classroom pedagogy and/or course curricula with original, inventive, and impactful approaches to instruction.

Awardee(s) will receive a one-time research stipend in the amount of \$1,500. Awardee(s) will be honored at the Celebration of Teaching reception on a Wednesday near the end of May 2026 (exact date TBD). Additionally, winners will be invited to present on their award-winning teaching at the ADT-sponsored campus-wide Symposium on Teaching Excellence and Innovation, to be held in AY 2026-2027.

Awardee(s) will be selected by members of the Academy of Distinguished Teaching. The deadline for receipt of application materials is **April 3, 2026, and awardees will be announced in Spring Quarter**.

**Instructions for assembly and submission of the nomination file:**

1. One faculty member, serving as the lead nominator, should assemble all documents (See #2 below) into a single PDF file. Requests for letters of support must be made by the person assembling the file, although these requests may be made in consultation with the nominee. The nomination file should be sent to the UCR Academy of Distinguished Teaching, using the linked Google form by **April 3, 2026**.

Nomination submission form: <https://bit.ly/ADT2026>



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2. Nominations should include the following in a single PDF file in this specific order:

- i. A nomination letter from a faculty member who is taking the lead in assembling the nomination package. Self-nominations will also be considered and should be used as the nomination letter itself.
- ii. The nominee's self-statement, not to exceed two pages, which details their teaching philosophy/approach, the innovative and transformational aspects of their teaching strategies, and data-driven evidence of impact of these approaches on student success. If the nominee's classroom instructional innovations or broader teaching-related activities address issues related to equity and/or inclusivity they are encouraged to highlight these in the statement as well.
- iii. Up to five letters of support from faculty, students, or individuals who can provide additional evidence of innovative teaching.
- iv. Representative student numerical and narrative evaluations for courses taught at UCR that provide evidence of innovative teaching.

For any questions about the award and/or nominations, please contact Kyle Ingram, Chair of the ADT Awards Committee ([kingram@ucr.edu](mailto:kingram@ucr.edu)).