

2026 Student Award

Focus of the APBA Student Award

This award honors an individual who demonstrates a dedication to learning that goes beyond the classroom. The award is delivered at the Annual APBA Convention. In 2026, The Awards Ceremony will take place during the convention program March 12-14, 2026 in New Orleans.

The APBA Awards Committee reviews nominations and determine whether to recommend a recipient for consideration by the APBA Board of Directors. The APBA Board of Directors determines the recipient by majority vote.

Submission Requirements

Write a statement describing how the student's activities and work demonstrate excellence and a dedication to learning that goes beyond the classroom. Nominations should include specific examples of the nominee's commitment to the profession of ABA. Please refer to the eligibility criteria that follows and describe specific, concrete accomplishments by the nominee that meet the criteria. Keep the statement to a maximum of 3 single-spaced pages.

Combine your statement AND the nominee's CV into a single PDF max size of 100MG. Complete the sections in this form and upload the PDF - incomplete or late nominations will not be considered.

Eligibility Criteria

A current student who has excelled in their advanced course work (GPA at least 3.75) and who has demonstrated excellent behavior analytic skills in their practical experience in ABA may be nominated for the award.

Nominees need not be behavior analysts, certified by the BACB, nor members of APBA.

Self nominations are not accepted – nominations must be submitted by a faculty member or fieldwork supervisor familiar with the student's work.

Evidence of qualification for this award may include recognition by faculty as one who is always prepared and who seeks guidance outside of class to make connections between courses or across semesters; volunteering on clinical cases to learn new skills; participation in clinical research to better understand behavioral principles; participation in local, state, regional or national behavior analysis organizations.

Current members of the APBA Board of Directors are not eligible.

The award recipient is invited to attend the 2026 APBA Convention (March 12-14, New Orleans) to accept the award.