



Environmental Health Officer Professional Advisory Committee Annual Awards



The Environmental Health Officer Professional Advisory Committee (EHOPAC) Awards & Recognition Subcommittee was formed to assist in the recognition of Environmental Health Officers (EHOs) of the U.S. Public Health Service (USPHS) Commissioned Corps and to highlight the achievements of officers.

The current awards presented by the EHOPAC annually are:

- **John C. Eason Award** recognizes the accomplishments of a talented newcomer to the field of environmental health and acknowledges the promise the EHO holds for the future of the USPHS. The award is limited to EHOs who have served 5 years or less with any USPHS duty station and who are at the rank of O-3 and below.
- **Edward (Ted) Moran Award** recognizes an outstanding EHO at the O-4 or O-5 rank who consistently achieves high standards in the practice of environmental health, occupational health and safety, industrial hygiene, or radiological health.
- **John G. Todd Award** is the highest honor given by the EHOPAC. The award recognizes an exemplary EHO at the O-6 rank or above for significant career contributions in achieving the USPHS mission of improving the Nation's health through the practice of environmental health.
- **Thomas E. Crow Mentor Award** recognizes significant contributions by an EHO who has enhanced professional growth and career development of environmental health professionals working in the USPHS by serving in a mentoring capacity.
- **EHO Responder of the Year Award** recognizes individual EHO contributions while deployed to national or international public health threats during each calendar year. The EHO must have conducted their duties outside of their regular job responsibilities. Special emphasis is placed on officers who practiced environmental health during emergency preparedness or disaster response deployments and the impact of their contributions.
- ***New in 2024*** Kelly M. Taylor Health Equity Award recognizes an outstanding EHO who promotes health equity and addresses health disparities to improve health outcomes for underserved populations in a community or society at large.

Beginning in 2024, **all EHOPAC awards** will follow the same timeline. A call for nominations and award packets will be distributed via the EHOPAC listserv typically during ***the first week of February*** with award nominations due back to the subcommittee chair during ***the first week of March***.

Environmental Health Officer John C. Eason Award Nomination Criteria and Procedures

Purpose

Every year the Environmental Health Officer Professional Advisory Committee (EHOPAC) recognizes outstanding Environmental Health Officers (EHOs) in the category. The purpose of the John C. Eason Award is to recognize the accomplishments of a talented junior EHO to the field of environmental health.

Eligibility

Nominees must be active duty members of the U.S. Public Health Service (USPHS) Commissioned Corps at the O-3 rank and below and must be in the EHO category for the entire period of the award. The nominee must be engaged in the practice of environmental health, occupational health and safety, industrial hygiene, or radiological health to be eligible for this award. The rank of the nominee is determined at the time the nomination is submitted. EHOs subsequently promoted will not be precluded from eligibility. EHOPAC award recipients shall not have actionable Administrative Action Flags per CCI211.07 section 6.6.

Selection Criteria - Award criteria are based on:

- One or more notable and commendable contributions toward the advancement of environmental health to the benefit of a localized or broad population.
- Impact of the nominee's contributions toward the advancement of environmental health.
- The degree of innovation of the nominee's contributions (i.e. identifying and addressing a previously unknown problem or issue).

Nomination Process

The nomination should consist of a narrative that does not exceed 2 pages. The narrative should address the EHO's contributions to environmental health as described in the Selection Criteria. The nomination should only cover the time period the officer served in the USPHS. The narrative should provide specific information describing the role the nominee played in each accomplishment noted, a clear and concise description of how each accomplishment impacted public health, and why the nominator believes such outstanding accomplishments will continue in the future. **In addition, to ensure a more equitable process, do not include the nominated officer's name or pronouns in the narrative; instead, only state rank.**

Selection Process

The EHOPAC Voting Members will review all nominations and score them according to the award criteria to select the award recipient.

Environmental Health Officer Thomas E. Crow Mentor Award Nomination Criteria and Procedures

Purpose

Every year the Environmental Health Officer Professional Advisory Committee (EHOPAC) recognizes outstanding Environmental Health Officers (EHOs) in the category. The purpose of the Thomas E. Crow Mentor Award is to recognize significant contributions by an EHO who has enhanced professional growth and career development of environmental health professionals by serving in a mentoring capacity.

Eligibility

Nominees must be active duty members of the U.S. Public Health Service (USPHS) Commissioned Corps at the O-4 rank and above and must be in the EHO category for the entire period of the award. The nominee must be engaged in the practice of environmental health, occupational health and safety, industrial hygiene, or radiological health to be eligible for this award. The rank of the nominee is determined at the time the nomination is submitted. EHOPAC award recipients shall not have actionable Administrative Action Flags per CCI211.07 section 6.6.

Potential nominees must have served as a mentor. Examples of mentoring may include:

- As a part of the EHOPAC Mentoring & Orientation program
- As part of other agency-sponsored mentoring programs
- As a JRCOSTEP preceptor
- As an advisor to a graduate or fellowship student
- As an unofficial mentor of an environmental health professional

Selection Criteria - Award criteria are based on:

- Fostering esprit de corps of the USPHS during the mentoring process.
- Demonstrating the impact the mentor had on the protégé by furthering or influencing junior officer or junior environmental health professionals' career development.
- The extent of the nominee's mentorship throughout the USPHS.

Nomination Process

The nomination should consist of a narrative that does not exceed 2 pages. The narrative should address the EHO's contributions to environmental health as described in the Selection Criteria. The nomination should only cover the time period the officer served in the USPHS. The narrative should provide specific information describing the role the nominee played in each accomplishment noted and a clear and concise description of how each accomplishment impacted public health, the USPHS, and/or the EHO category. **In addition, to ensure a more equitable process, do not include the nominated officer's name or pronouns in the narrative; instead, only state rank.**

Selection Process

The EHOPAC Voting Members will review all nominations and score them according to the award criteria to select the award recipient.

Environmental Health Officer Edward (Ted) Moran Award Nomination Criteria and Procedures

Purpose

Every year the Environmental Health Officer Professional Advisory Committee (EHOPAC) recognizes outstanding Environmental Health Officers (EHOs) in the category. The purpose of the Edward (Ted) Moran Award is to recognize an outstanding mid-level EHO who consistently achieves high standards in the practice of environmental health, occupational health and safety, industrial hygiene, or radiological health.

Eligibility

Nominees must be active duty members of the U.S. Public Health Service (USPHS) Commissioned Corps at the O-4/O-5 rank and must be in the EHO category for the entire period of the award. The nominee must be engaged in the practice of environmental health, occupational health and safety, industrial hygiene, or radiological health to be eligible for this award. The rank of the nominee is determined at the time the nomination is submitted. EHOs subsequently promoted will not be precluded from eligibility. EHOPAC award recipients shall not have actionable Administrative Action Flags per CCI211.07 section 6.6.

Selection Criteria - Award criteria are based on:

- Achievement of at least one significant environmental health accomplishment characterized by initiative, innovation, or impact on public health.
- The development of, or a major improvement in, a procedure, policy, or regulation which increased efficiency, reduced cost, saved time, or otherwise contributed notably to the accomplishment of an important environmental health objective.
- Superior performance in the accomplishment of assigned duties over a defined period of time which resulted in work that exceeded expected measurable objectives.

Nomination Process

The nomination should consist of a narrative that does not exceed 2 pages. The narrative should address the EHO's contributions to environmental health as described in the Selection Criteria. The nomination should only cover the time period the officer served in the USPHS. The narrative should provide specific information describing the role the nominee played in each accomplishment noted and a clear and concise description of how each accomplishment impacted public health, the USPHS, and/or the EHO category. **In addition, to ensure a more equitable process, do not include the nominated officer's name or pronouns in the narrative; instead, only state rank.**

Selection Process

The EHOPAC Voting Members will review all nominations and score them according to the award criteria to select the award recipient.

Environmental Health Officer John G. Todd Award Nomination Criteria and Procedures

Purpose

Every year the Environmental Health Officer Professional Advisory Committee (EHOPAC) recognizes outstanding Environmental Health Officers (EHOs) in the category. The John G. Todd Award is the highest honor given by the EHOPAC. The award recognizes an exemplary senior-level EHO for significant career contributions in achieving the U.S. Public Health Service (USPHS) Commissioned Corps mission of improving the Nation's health through the practice of environmental health.

Eligibility

Nominees must be active duty members of the USPHS Commissioned Corps at the O-6 rank or above and must be in the EHO category for the entire period of the award. The nominee must be engaged in the practice of environmental health, occupational health and safety, industrial hygiene, or radiological health and have extensive work experience in these professional fields. The rank of the nominee is determined at the time the nomination is submitted. EHOPAC award recipients shall not have actionable Administrative Action Flags per CCI211.07 section 6.6.

Selection Criteria - Award criteria are based on:

- Management and leadership of a major environmental health program component.
- A highly significant achievement in environmental health research or program direction, administration, or implementation.
- Superior series of significant environmental health contributions that have resulted in a major impact on public health, the USPHS, and/or the EHO category.

Nomination Process

The nomination should consist of a narrative that does not exceed 2 pages. The narrative should address the EHO's contributions to environmental health as described in the Selection Criteria. The nomination should only cover the time period the officer served in the USPHS. The narrative should provide specific information describing the role the nominee played in each accomplishment noted and a clear and concise description of how each accomplishment impacted public health, the USPHS, and/or the EHO category. **In addition, to ensure a more equitable process, do not include the nominated officer's name or pronouns in the narrative; instead, only state rank.**

Selection Process

The EHOPAC Voting Members will review all nominations and score them according to the award criteria to select the award recipient.

Environmental Health Officer Responder of the Year Award Nomination Criteria and Procedures

Purpose

Every year the Environmental Health Officer Professional Advisory Committee (EHOPAC) recognizes outstanding Environmental Health Officers (EHOs) in the category. The purpose of the Responder of the Year Award is to recognize an exceptional EHO who was deployed for national or international public health threats during the calendar year to further the U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps (USPHS) mission. Special emphasis is placed on officers who practiced environmental health during emergency preparedness or disaster response deployments and the impact of their contributions.

Eligibility

Nominees must be active-duty members of the USPHS at any rank and must be in the Environmental Health Officer (EHO) category for the entire period of the award (January-December). For 2024, the award period will include October 2022 to December 2023. The nominee must be engaged in the practice of environmental health, occupational health and safety, industrial hygiene or radiological health, *while deployed away from their routine duties or home program*. EHOPAC award recipients shall not have actionable Administrative Action Flags per CCI211.07 section 6.6.

Selection Criteria - Award criteria are based on:

- Nominee's role and subsequent accomplishments and impacts during deployment, such as impact on team performance, public health outcomes, response capacity building, preparedness, workforce development, or other significant achievements as a result of their deployment.
- Application of the nominee's environmental health background to the response.
- Extent to which the nominee's activities increased the visibility of the USPHS.

Nomination Process

The nomination should consist of a narrative that does not exceed 2 pages. The narrative should address the EHO's contributions to environmental health as described in the Selection Criteria. The nomination should only cover the time period the officer served in the USPHS. The narrative should provide specific information describing the role the nominee played in each accomplishment noted, a clear and concise description of how each accomplishment impacted public health, and why the nominator believes such outstanding accomplishments will continue in the future. **In addition, to ensure a more equitable process, do not include the nominated officer's name or pronouns in the narrative; instead, only state rank.**

Selection Process

The EHOPAC Voting Members will review all nominations and score them according to the award criteria to select the award recipient.

***NEW for 2024* Environmental Health Officer Kelly M. Taylor Health Equity Award Nomination Criteria and Procedures**

Purpose

The purpose of the Kelly M. Taylor Health Equity Award is to recognize an outstanding Environmental Health Officer who promotes health equity and addresses health disparities to improve health outcomes for underserved populations in a community or society at large.

Background - Health equity is a fundamental principle of ensuring that everyone has an equal opportunity to achieve optimal health outcomes, regardless of their social, economic, or demographic background or circumstances. Health equity recognizes that social determinants such as income, education, race, and geography significantly influence health disparities. Achieving health equity requires addressing these underlying factors and removing barriers that hinder opportunities through policy changes and targeted interventions. By addressing these determinants and promoting policies that eliminate preventable health disparities and avoidable inequalities, health equity seeks to foster a society where everyone can prioritize their physical and mental health to improve overall population health and where everyone can have the same chance to fulfil their talents and reach their true potential.

Eligibility

Nominees must be active-duty members of the U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps (USPHS) at any rank and must be in the Environmental Health Officer (EHO) category for the entire period of the award. The nominee must be able to demonstrate outstanding contributions to improve health equity at the national, state, tribal, territorial, or international levels. EHOPAC award recipients shall not have actionable Administrative Action Flags per CCI211.07 section 6.6.

Selection Criteria - Award criteria are based on:

- Specific initiatives or actions that addressed health disparities and promoted health equity.
- Specific examples to demonstrate how the individual empowered underserved populations to improve health outcomes.
- Specific outcomes that impacted the community or society at large.

Nomination Process

The nomination should consist of a narrative that does not exceed 2 pages. The narrative should address the EHO's contributions to environmental health as described in the Selection Criteria. The nomination should only cover the time period the officer served in the USPHS. The narrative should provide specific information describing the role the nominee played in each accomplishment noted, a clear and concise description of how each accomplishment impacted public health, and why the nominator believes such outstanding accomplishments will continue in the future. **In addition, to ensure a more equitable process, do not include the nominated officer's name or pronouns in the narrative; instead, only state rank.**

Selection Process

The EHOPAC Voting Members will review all nominations and score them according to the award criteria to select the award recipient.