

2012 award nominations due September 28!

Sure, we know it seems like a long way off—but now is the time to start looking around for people or organizations worthy of a Texas EMS and trauma award. If you've been nominated or done the nominating, you know just how exciting it is when the awards are announced at Texas EMS Conference.

Each category honors a person or organization that exemplifies the best that EMS/trauma system has to offer. It's quite an honor to be nominated and to win. The categories and the explanations are listed below. Once you've chosen the correct category, the rest is pretty easy.

How can I nominate a person or a service for an award?

Go to our website (www.dshs.state.tx.us/emtraumasystems) and click on Texas EMS Conference. We're making the process easier than ever this year – all you have to do is click on the link and it will take you directly to a page where you fill out the nomination form. No need to save and email a form to us. Once you've finished, a page will come up that allows you to print the nomination for your records. No need to submit after that – once you close the page, it will be routed to us. Best of all, you will get an email letting you know we received it.

When filling out the nomination, please include written explanations of why this person or organization should win. Please be specific, using examples when possible. Keep in mind that the people who review the nominations most likely won't be as familiar with your nominee as you are. Nominations will be accepted until **September 28, 2012**. They are then given to programs in the Office of EMS and Trauma Systems Coordination and are sent to each EMS zone office. Each program and zone ranks the nominations for each category and returns the information to the Office, where scores are tallied. Scores are kept confidential from all except those who tally the scores. Winners are announced at the Awards Luncheon at Texas EMS Conference.

Award Categories 2012

EMS Educator Award honors a state-certified EMS instructor or course coordinator who advances EMS education in Texas through innovation, collaboration and a commitment to students.

EMS Medical Director Award honors a physician who has served as a medical director, on-line or off-line, for an EMS organization, and who continually demonstrates a commitment to excellent patient care.

EMS Administrator Award honors an administrator, researcher or manager at the local, city, county, regional or state level who has made a positive contribution to EMS and is committed to building a strong team able to respond effectively.

Public Information/Injury Prevention Award honors an EMS group or individual for outstanding achievement in public education or injury prevention.

Citizen Award honors a private citizen for a heroic lifesaving act or unique advocacy of EMS.

Private/Public Provider Award honors a ground or air organization that demonstrated leadership in EMS in patient care, public access, medical control, disaster preparedness, public education or training.

Volunteer Provider Award honors an organization staffed by volunteers that demonstrated leadership in EMS in patient care, public access, medical control, disaster preparedness, public education or training.

First Responder Award honors a first responder organization that demonstrated leadership in EMS in patient care, public access, medical control, disaster preparedness, public education or training.

Air Medical Service Award honors a public or private air medical service in Texas that has demonstrated the highest standards in providing patient care, leading the way in innovation and commitment to patient care.

Outstanding EMS Person of the Year honors an EMS-certified/licensed person who has demonstrated uncommon leadership and courage in providing emergency medical service to the citizens of Texas.

Telecommunicator of the Year honors a person or team who handled a call or system event with a level of professionalism and efficiency that allowed the first responders on the scene to give the patients the best care possible. An individual or a team is eligible for the award.

Trauma Center Award honors a designated trauma facility in Texas that has demonstrated leadership and high standards in implementing injury prevention programs and providing trauma patient care to the citizens and visitors of Texas.

Regional Advisory Council Award honors a regional advisory council in Texas that has demonstrated leadership and high standards in improving emergency medical service and improving the Texas EMS/Trauma System.