

2026 4CPD Award Program

Nominator Guide

Celebrating the Work That Moves Our Field Forward

Do you know someone whose professional development work deserves to be celebrated? The 4CPD Award Program honors California Community College employees who are making PD better through innovation, through equity, and through the courage to try something new. Nominating a colleague is one of the most meaningful ways you can recognize the people doing this work every day.

Deadline	September 7, 2026
Nominate at	[https://forms.gle/w2Zw7zBDGpfJ7JC36]
Recognition	Celebrated at the 4CPD Annual Conference and featured in post-conference communications
Questions	Reach out to use at info@4cpd.org , or visit 4cpd.org

Award 1 | Innovation Award

For the practitioner who tried something new — and made PD better because of it

Criteria: Originality & Creativity • Potential for Replicability • Strategic Alignment

Award 2 | Equity & Inclusion Award

For the practitioner using PD as a tool for belonging and justice

Criteria: Intentional Equity Design • Community Centering • Strategic Alignment

Who Is Eligible to Be Nominated?

- Any California Community College employee.
- The nominee has designed, led, or significantly contributed to a PD initiative in the past two academic years
- The work can be active, recently completed, or an early-stage pilot still in progress
- Previous award recipients are eligible again after two years

How Nominations Are Reviewed

A small review committee scores each nomination on three criteria using a 1–4 scale (12 points total). Reviewers are looking for authentic storytelling as much as formal data — testimonials, reflections, and observations all count.

Tips for a Strong Nomination

1	Be specific. Instead of "she improved our onboarding," try "she redesigned our new employee orientation so first-generation staff finally felt seen on day one."
2	Qualitative evidence counts. Testimonials, stories, and reflections are just as valid as survey data or attendance numbers.
3	Early-stage work is welcome. A promising pilot or a work-in-progress can absolutely be nominated.
4	Connect to the bigger picture. Help reviewers see how the nominee's work fits into CCC system priorities like Vision 2030 or Title V — equity, employee growth, student success.
5	Nominate someone who wouldn't nominate themselves. Often the people doing the most meaningful work are the quietest about it.

How to Submit a Nomination

Complete the online nomination form at: <https://forms.gle/w2Zw7zBDGpfJ7JC36>

The form has five short sections and takes about 20–30 minutes. You'll be asked to describe the nominee's work, explain why it deserves recognition, share any evidence of impact, and connect the work to the broader CCC mission. You may also attach up to two supporting materials.

Nominations are due by: **September 7, 2026**

Thank you for taking the time to recognize someone doing this work. It matters more than you know.

