



National Capital Area Branch (NCAB) Award Guidelines - 2024

FAQs:

- The NCAB offers six awards during the annual seminar meeting
- Deadline for nominations is **August 15th, 2024**
- Nominees must be an NCAB or National AALAS member
- Winners from previous years may not be nominated for the same award so verify this as well as the below eligibility requirements to avoid unnecessary delays in processing your nomination!
- For nomination details and forms see the NCAB Awards Page. In short, a completed packet requires:
 - A nomination form – see the NCAB website
 - One signed letter of nomination
 - Two signed letters of support (one can be from the nominator)
 - Applicant's resume/CV

Charles G. Durbin Award (Animal Caretaker)

Description: The NCAB Durbin Award recognizes an individual for their outstanding performance in providing animal husbandry care to enrich, enhance or improve the lives of laboratory animals.

Background: The NCAB Animal Caretaker Award is named after Dr. Charles G. Durbin. This award was established in 1970 to recognize animal care personnel within NCAB and was named after the first NCAB President, Charles G. Durbin. In 1961, Dr. Durbin was elected to serve as the first President of the newly formed National Chapter Area Branch (NCAB) of the Animal Care Panel (ACP which would later be named AALAS in 1967). Dr. Durbin was a prominent veterinarian who served as Director of the Veterinary Medical Division of the Food and Drug Administration from 1963-1966 and Director of the Division of Veterinary Research of the Food and Drug Administration from 1966 until his death in 1969.

The following award qualifications will be considered in the final selection:

1. Daily contact with animals of one or more species in the form of handling, feeding, watering, and changing bedding, etc.
2. Demonstrated positive attitude toward the welfare of animals
3. Has reduced or eliminated distress or created other benefits for the animals in their care
4. Demonstration of outstanding individual work performance, positive attitude, and teamwork
5. Number of years as a member of NCAB
6. Number of years of experience in the laboratory animal field
7. AALAS certification level
8. Individual accomplishment (e.g., projects, presentations, posters, volunteerism, memberships, etc.)

Award Details: An honorarium of \$350 and a plaque will be presented to the recipient of this award.

Curtis A. Black Award (Veterinary/Animal Health Technicians)

Description: The NCAB Black Award recognizes an individual for their outstanding accomplishments in the delivery of veterinary and technical services to enhance the health and well-being of laboratory animals.

Background: The NCAB Veterinary/Animal Health Technician Award was established in 2015 and is named after Curtis A. Black. Mr. Black is a successful, dedicated technician who has held animal technician positions for a number of companies in the national capital region. He has worked with a wide variety of animal species and has served as a mentor to hundreds of technicians over the years. His enthusiasm for the field and dedication to the animals he works with is exceptional; he is an excellent example of what a dedicated research animal technician should be. He has been an active member of NCAB AALAS for over 30 years and has served as Education Committee Chair, Nomination Committee Chair, President and District 3 Trustee. Very importantly, Curtis uses his enthusiasm for the branch to bring new members to meetings and get them involved in the NCAB AALAS organization.

The following award qualifications will be considered in the final selection:

1. Daily contact with animals of one or more species in the form of veterinary care and technical services.
2. Contribution to the laboratory animal field at the institutional level through identification and implementation of new or improved techniques in the care of animals
3. Demonstration of outstanding individual work performance, positive attitude, and teamwork
4. Ability to provide innovative approaches to animal care problems
5. Number of years as a member of NCAB
6. Number of years of experience in the laboratory animal field
7. AALAS certification level
8. Individual accomplishments (e.g., projects, presentations, posters, volunteerism, memberships)

Award Details: An honorarium of \$450 and a plaque will be presented to the recipient of this award.

Richard L. Pierson Award (Manager or Supervisor)

Description: The NCAB Pierson Award recognizes an individual for their outstanding accomplishments in management and administration, management, or direct support of programs relating to the care, quality, or humane treatment of animals used in biomedical research.

Background: The NCAB Manger/Supervisor Award is named after Mr. Richard L. Pierson. The original award was established in 1963 and was renamed in 1985 to the Richard L. Pierson award. Mr. Pierson served in the Marine Corps during World War II and received the Purple Heart and the Bronze Star. He then went on to work at NIH first as an animal husbandry provider, then as Assistant Chief of the VRB's Animal Production Section and finally as the Chief of the ordering and contracting unit of VRB's Small Animal Section before retiring after 30 years in government service. He was active in NCAB and served as president, secretary-

treasurer, and historian. Mr. Pierson made great contributions to the training of animal care staff and in increasing the overall quality of the care provided to research animals.

The following award qualifications will be considered in the final selection:

1. Demonstrated managerial or supervisory leadership that directly contributed to the improvement of animal welfare
2. Demonstrated managerial or administrative leadership that inspired employees to improve their job performance
3. Demonstrated specific achievements that have otherwise benefited their workplace, NCAB or AALAS
4. Demonstrated positive attitude toward the welfare of animals
5. Ability to provide innovative approaches to animal care problems
6. Number of years as a member of NCAB
7. Number of years of experience in the laboratory animal field
8. AALAS certification level
9. Individual accomplishment (e.g., projects, presentations, posters, volunteerism, memberships)

Award Details: An honorarium of \$500 and a plaque will be presented to the recipient of this award.

William I. Gay Award (Trainer)

Description: The NCAB Gay Award recognizes an individual for their outstanding contributions to the field of laboratory animal training and education.

Background: The NCAB Trainer Award was established in 2009 and is named after Dr. William I. Gay. Dr. Gay was a Diplomate of the American College of Laboratory Animal Medicine (DACLAM) and was the Director of the National Institutes of Health Division of Research Resources' Animal Resources Program prior to his retirement in 1988. Dr. Gay began his veterinary career as a private practitioner in upstate New York before joining the Walter Reed Army Medical Center and then the National Institutes of Health. During his career at NIH, Dr. Gay was involved in the early stages of the NIAID's HIV/AIDS research program as well as provided administrated oversight of the NIH's Regional Primate Research Centers. Dr. Gay served as President of both the NCAB chapter of AALAS as well as the National AALAS organization. He also chaired the Animal Care Panel on Ethical Considerations of the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals, which led to the preparation of first version of the seminal regulatory document, The Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals, in 1963. In 1971, he was awarded the AALAS Griffin Award in recognition of his outstanding accomplishments in the improvement of the quality of care of animals used in biomedical research.

The following award qualifications will be considered in the final selection:

1. Dedicated to the promotion and advancement in the field of laboratory animal science through training and education
2. Demonstrated participation in developing, improving, implementing or providing training and education programs
3. Ability to provide effective up to date training information and techniques
4. Ability to train diversified groups of people

5. Involvement in the generation and/or training of standard operating procedures
6. Demonstrated promotion of technician and management certifications
7. Participation in other organizations such as LAWTE, AALAS, or ATD
8. Number of years as a member of NCAB
9. Years of experience as a trainer
10. Years of years of experience in the laboratory animal field
11. AALAS certification level
12. Ability to provide innovative approaches to animal care problems
13. Recognition by peers and co-workers
 - *NOTE: At least one letter of support must come from a person who has received training from the nominee.*
10. Individual accomplishment (e.g., projects, presentations, posters, volunteerism, memberships)

Award Details: An honorarium of \$450 and a plaque will be presented to the recipient of this award.

Joe R. Held Award (Clinical/Facility Laboratory Animal Veterinarian)

Description: The NCAB Held Award recognizes a Clinical or Facility Laboratory Animal Veterinarian that has demonstrated superior clinical performance, achieved recognition for a single accomplishment or contribution, or provided exemplary service to the NCAB branch. The award specifically excludes directors of animal programs.

Background: The NCAB Veterinarian Award was established in 2007 and is named after Dr. Joe R. Held. Dr. Held was a prominent veterinarian and an officer in the Commissioned Corps of the U.S. Public Health Service (PHS). He served as the Director of the Division of Research Services at the NIH and in 1975 was promoted to Assistant Surgeon General, the first time a veterinarian had risen to this rank. After retiring from the PHS, he went onto serve with the Pan American Health Organization. He was a Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Preventative Medicine (DACVPM) and an honorary Diplomate of the American College of Laboratory Animal Medicine (DACLAM).

The following award qualifications will be considered in the final selection:

1. Daily contact with laboratory animals of one or more species in the performance of clinical veterinary medicine
2. Participation in organizations devoted to laboratory animal medicine and science, such as AALAS, American College of Laboratory Animal Medicine (ACLAM), Association of Primate Veterinarians (APV), American Society of Laboratory Animal Practitioners (ASLAP), etc.
3. Participation in training/teaching for animal care and/or technical staff that is *above and beyond* that required for their position; participation in public education or outreach groups or programs
4. Accomplishments, contributions and innovations in the field of laboratory animal care and medicine
5. Educational background such as internship, residency, post graduate degree, board certification, etc.
6. Number of years as a member of NCAB
7. Years of experience working as a clinical veterinarian
8. Years of experience in the laboratory animal field
9. Demonstrated positive attitude toward the welfare of research animals

10. AALAS certification level
11. Ability to provide innovative approaches to animal care challenges
12. Recognition by peers and co-workers
13. Individual accomplishment (e.g., projects, presentations, posters, volunteerism, memberships)

Award Details: An honorarium of \$500 and a plaque will be presented to the recipient of this award.

Betty R. Fatzie Award (Volunteer- Council or Committee Member)

Description: The NCAB Fatzie Award recognizes an individual who has shown dedication and service to the National Capital Area Branch through their volunteer efforts, in terms of commitment of time and overall community/industry impact.

Background: The NCAB Volunteer Service Award was established in 2017 and is named after Betty R. Fatzie. Ms. Fatzie has been a strong voice for NCAB, and her volunteer efforts include NCAB council positions (President, Trustee, Seminar Chair, Education Chair, and Awards Chair), serving on various committees including Finance and Local Arrangements for the AALAS National meeting in Baltimore, and serving as an Ad Hoc member for Special Projects. In 2013, she was awarded Lifetime Membership to NCAB for all the work she has done for the branch. As the President of Laboratory Products, she has also shown participation and dedication to the advancement of laboratory animal science through the sponsorship of the Laboratory Products Technician Award which provides a member from each AALAS District, who would not normally be able to attend a national meeting. Ms. Fatzie has always been enthusiastic about the NCAB community and has been available to fill a gap whenever there has been a need for her services.

The following award qualifications will be considered in the final selection:

1. Have been engaged in NCAB volunteer activities for a **minimum of five years**
2. Individual participation
 - i.e.: Council member, committee chair, committee member, trustee, speaker, facilitator, etc.
3. Degree to which their services/actions have made a meaningful contribution
4. Current member of NCAB
5. Number of years as a member of NCAB
6. Volunteer efforts with AALAS and/or AALAS Foundation
7. Volunteer efforts with other AALAS affiliate organizations
8. Previous **NCAB Volunteer Service Award** recipients from within the past 7 years are ineligible

Award Details: An honorarium of \$250 and a plaque will be presented to the recipient of this award.