

Stan and Sandy Rives Excellence in Undergraduate Education Award

Purpose of the Award

Dr. Stan Rives earned his BS and MS degrees from Illinois State University. Dr. Rives was a member of the Illinois State University faculty and served as an administrator from 1958 until 1980. The *Stan and Sandy Rives Excellence in Undergraduate Education Award* was established in honor of Stan's longtime commitment to an undergraduate program of the highest quality and for his contributions to Illinois State University as Dean of Undergraduate Instruction. The Award recognizes outstanding teaching or any significant contribution to the undergraduate experience, with special attention given to the first-year experience.

The Award

The *Stan and Sandy Rives Excellence in Undergraduate Education Award* is a cash award of \$3,000 to the recipient. The recipient will receive a commemorative plaque.

Eligibility

To be eligible to compete for the Award, the applicant must be a member of the University community (minimum of 3 years) and hold a faculty, academic professional, or civil service position at Illinois State University.

Selection Criteria

1. Demonstrated commitment to excellence in undergraduate education by enhancing the quality of the undergraduate experience, with special attention given to first-year students, through a focus on each student as an individual with unique educational needs and potential.
2. Embodies the individualized attention and commitment to fostering a small-college atmosphere for undergraduate students inherent in *Educating Illinois*, the University's strategic plan.
3. Demonstrated excellence in undergraduate education in ways readily acknowledged by peers.

Selection Committee

The selection committee is coordinated through the Office of the Provost and consists of one representative from each of the following groups:

- Past recipient of the Rives Award
- Civil Service
- Faculty
- Student
- AP staff from Division of Student Affairs
- AP staff from Division of Academic Affairs

Nomination Procedures

1. Candidates for this award must be nominated by an Illinois State University employee. Nomination forms are available [online](#).
2. In addition to the nomination form, nomination materials must include a letter of support from the nominee's immediate supervisor. (Note: If the nominator and supervisor is the same person, the nomination form will suffice.)
3. Nomination materials should also include examples (in electronic format if at all possible) of work and/or letters of support that demonstrate how the nominee meets the selection criteria.
4. **Submit nomination form and materials electronically to Christie Wissmiller (clwissm@ilstu.edu) Office of the Provost, by end of the day Friday, October 23, 2026.**

The Selection Committee will review the materials using Teams. Please contact Christie Wissmiller with any questions regarding the process.