



Direct Support Professionals Association of Tennessee (DSPAT)

Direct Support Professional Awards **Nomination Criteria and Form for Monthly and Quarterly Awards**

The Direct Support Professionals (DSP) Recognition Program is a joint effort between DSPAT and the State of Tennessee, Division of Mental Retardation Services (DMRS). It is funded by DMRS. The purpose of this program is to acknowledge the efforts of DSPs from across the state who “go the extra mile” in their support of people with disabilities, and to encourage others to strive for excellence in the profession. There are three monthly and one quarterly awards available per region of the State.

Awards are solely based upon the information provided via the nomination form. The criteria used in the award process come directly from the nine values as outlined in the DSP **Code of Ethics**. Every nominee must have clear examples of at least two values to be considered for a monthly award. Quarterly awards are selected *from monthly award winners* who have demonstrated at least four of the core values.

While nominations may be submitted at any time, only those received by the 5th of each month will be reviewed by the selection committee. (Any nominations received after the 5th will be held over for consideration the following month.) Nominations not selected for award must be re-submitted for future consideration.

If you need help to complete this form, call 1-800-835-7077 and ask for Steve or Peggy. Please submit completed nomination forms:

Fax: 615-248-5879

Email: efox@dspat.org

Mail: DSPAT, 151 Athens Way, Ste 100, Nashville, TN 37228

DSP Code of Ethics

- **PERSON-CENTERED SUPPORTS:** As a DSP, my first allegiance is to the person I support; all other activities and functions I perform flow from this allegiance.
- **PROMOTING PHYSICAL and EMOTIONAL WELL BEING:** As a DSP, I am responsible for supporting the emotional, physical and personal well-being of the individuals receiving support while being attentive and energetic in reducing their risk of harm.
- **INTEGRITY and RESPONSIBILITY:** As a DSP, I will support the mission and vitality of my profession to assist people in leading self-directed lives and to foster a spirit of partnership with the people I support, other professionals and the community.
- **CONFIDENTIALITY:** As a DSP, I will safeguard and respect the confidentiality and privacy of the people I support.
- **JUSTICE, FAIRNESS, and EQUITY:** AS a DSP, I will promote and practice justice, fairness, and equity for the people I support and the community as a whole. I will affirm the human and civil rights and responsibilities of the people support.
- **RESPECT:** As a DSP, I will respect the human dignity and uniqueness of the people I support. I will recognize each person I support as valuable and help others understand their value.
- **RELATIONSHIPS:** As a DSP, I will assist the people I support to develop and maintain relationships.
- **SELF-DETERMINATION:** As a DSP, I will assist the people I support to direct the course of their own lives.
- **ADVOCACY:** As a DSP, I will advocate with the people I support for justice, inclusion, and full community participation.

Direct Support Professional Award Nomination Form

(for Monthly and Quarterly Awards)

Nominee Information:

Nominated by (if we need to contact you):

<i>Name of DSP</i>	<i>Your Name</i>
<i>DSP's Position/Job Title*</i>	<i>Relationship to Nominee</i>
<i>DSP's Street Address, City, State, Zip Code</i>	<i>Your Street Address, City, State, Zip code</i>
<i>DSP's Phone Number</i>	<i>Your Phone Number</i>
<i>DSP's Email</i>	<i>Your Email</i>
<i>DSP's Employer and Supervisor</i>	<i>Employer's Street Address, City, State, Zip Code</i>
<p><i>Why do you feel this person deserves to be recognized with a DSPAT award? Awards are solely based upon the criteria from the DSP Code of Ethics. Please provide specific examples. Feel free to use additional paper if needed. You do NOT have to give an example in every category; minimum of two for monthly awards, at least four are needed for consideration for a quarterly award. You may include supporting documentation.</i></p>	
PERSON-CENTERED SUPPORTS -	
PROMOTING PHYSICAL and EMOTIONAL WELL BEING -	
INTEGRITY and RESPONSIBILITY -	
CONFIDENTIALITY -	
JUSTICE, FAIRNESS, and EQUITY -	
RESPECT -	
RELATIONSHIPS -	
SELF-DETERMINATION -	
ADVOCACY -	

Please answer to the best of your ability:

1. How many individuals does the nominee support on a regular basis? _____
2. How long has the individual been in her/his current position? _____
3. To the best of your knowledge, how many years has the nominee worked in the field? _____
4. Please give one specific example of what makes this person *outstanding and worthy of recognition?*

5. To the best of your knowledge, has this person EVER had a "substantiated" case of abuse or neglect?
 Yes No Don't know

**Titles change from agency to agency. Be sure the person you are nominating provides direct support to people with disabilities.*

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