



## Awards, Criteria and Nomination Process

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### VATA Hall of Fame

The VATA Hall of Fame Award is the highest honor any member of VATA can achieve. The purpose of this award is to recognize those members who have given outstanding service and dedication to the Athletic Training Profession and VATA. The Hall of Fame Award will be presented at the VATA Honors and Awards Banquet. This award does not have to be awarded annually.

#### Nominations

- Nomination must be made by any active member in good standing of VATA during the nomination period.
- Nominee must fill out an application after accepting nomination by the application deadline of award year.

#### Eligibility

- Minimum 25 years of service as an athletic trainer in the Rio Grande Valley
- Must be a current VATA member in good standing
- Must have made contributions to the Athletic Training Profession that has brought distinction to VATA or be recognized as having given significant service to the VATA
- Must have served in a leadership capacity for VATA. This may include serving as a board member, committee chair or committee member
- Must be nominated and have an application submitted to the VATA Honors and Awards Committee.

#### Special Considerations

- Deceased VATA members who have not met 25 year length of Service requirement, may be considered if they had, while working in the Rio Grande Valley, brought distinction to the Rio Grande Valley through their own achievements, contributions and service to the Athletic Training Profession and the VATA.
- A VATA member who has not met the 25+ year requirement of working in the Rio Grande Valley, but has served on the VATA board or committee and had brought outstanding service to VATA and has met the 25+ years of service requirement.
- Any unsuccessful nomination will be retained and considered for one additional year after the original nomination.

The VATA Honors and Awards Committee will annually consider VATA Hall of Fame nominations that are submitted by the general membership of VATA. The Honors and Awards Chairperson will screen member biographical information and eligibility requirements, to develop a list of eligible candidates for evaluation and selection for induction by the Hall of Fame Committee.

## VATA Honorary Membership Award

This award recognizes an individual who is not an Athletic Trainer, but has made significant contributions to the improvement and progression of Athletic Training in the Rio Grande Valley and/or VATA. Individuals who may be eligible for this award include, but are not limited to: physicians, other allied health professionals, athletic directors, coaches, academic administrators such as principals, secretaries, department chairs, school deans, chief academic officers, and presidents of organizations that support Athletic Trainers and the Athletic Training profession in the Rio Grande Valley.

### Nominations

- Nomination must be made by any active member in good standing of VATA during the nomination period.
- Nominee must fill out an application after accepting nomination by the application deadline of award year.

### Eligibility

- Nominees need not be VATA members.
- Athletic trainers are not eligible for this award.
- No minimum years of service to VATA are required.
- Nominees must have made significant contributions to the profession of athletic training in the Rio Grande Valley

## Bob Aparicio, Jr. Dedicated Service Award

This award, named in honor of Mr. Bob Aparicio, Jr., has been created to recognize an athletic trainer in the Rio Grande Valley that has made significant contributions to the athletic training profession in the Rio Grande Valley.

### Nominations

- Nomination must be made by any active member in good standing of VATA during the nomination period.
- Nominee must fill out an application after accepting nomination by the application deadline of award year.

### Eligibility

- Minimum of 10 years of service as an athletic trainer in the Rio Grande Valley
- Must be a current VATA member in good standing
- Must have made contributions to the Athletic Training Profession that has brought distinction to VATA or be recognized as having given significant service to VATA
- Must be nominated and an application submitted to the VATA Honors and Awards Committee.
- Possess an NPI number
- VATA Hall of Fame inductees are not eligible for this award.

## **VATA Outstanding Young Professional Award**

This award was created to honor and recognize a young professional athletic trainer that has made significant contributions to the athletic training profession in the Rio Grande Valley.

### **Nominations**

- Nomination must be made by any active member in good standing of VATA during the nomination period.
- Nominee must fill out an application after accepting nomination by the application deadline of award year.

### **Eligibility**

- Less than 5 years of service as a licensed athletic trainer in the Rio Grande Valley
- Must be a current VATA member in good standing
- Must have made contributions to the Athletic Training Profession that has brought distinction to VATA or be recognized as having given significant service to VATA
- Must be nominated and an application submitted to the VATA Honors and Awards Committee.
- Possess an NPI number