



## **Call for nominations SAAHE Distinguished Educator 2026**

The annual SAAHE Distinguished Educator Award recognises an individual in health professions education (HPE) who has made a significant contribution to teaching in the health professions and who has contributed to the development of scholarship in the field of HPE. The award seeks to recognise excellence at a national, and even international level, and to create an awareness of what constitutes excellence in HPE. As such, this is the premier award of its kind in Southern Africa.

The winner of the award will receive a certificate and will deliver the “Distinguished Educator’s address” in a plenary session at the SAAHE conference in the year of receiving the award. The award also covers the cost of travel, accommodation and registration for the conference that year.

### **Eligibility**

Any SAAHE member who has been involved in educational scholarship and leadership, the teaching of a health professions discipline or in the development and administration of the discipline of HPE in a public higher education institution where there is a SAAHE chapter established is eligible for this award. A person may only receive the award once.

### **Criteria**

The criteria by which nominations will be evaluated are attached.

### **Procedures**

**The closing date for nominations is Monday 1 April 2026.**

- Nominations must be submitted to [awards@saahe.org.za](mailto:awards@saahe.org.za) (and copy [pillayp@ac.za](mailto:pillayp@ac.za) and [rmaart@uwc.ac.za](mailto:rmaart@uwc.ac.za)).

- Potential candidates must be nominated by a SAAHE member.
- The nomination must include the following:
  - A completed nomination form (see below) indicating the name and affiliation of the person being nominated, as well as the name and contact details of the nominator.
  - A critical overview (of not more than 1 000 words) of the nominee’s contribution, as relevant to the criteria of the award (see below).
  - A recent CV of the nominee.
  - A portfolio of evidence (not exceeding 30 pages) relevant to the criteria for the award. The portfolio must include the teaching philosophy of the nominee.
- A panel of reviewers, as stipulated in the Award Guidelines document, nominated by the SAAHE Regional Council will assess each application and make a recommendation for ratification by SAAHE Council.
  
- The successful nominee must be available to deliver the “Distinguished Educator’s address” at the SAAHE conference in the year of receiving the award and will be notified of the outcome at least six weeks before the conference.
- Unsuccessful nominees are encouraged to apply again.

**SAAHE Distinguished Educator 2026  
Nomination form**

<b>Name of nominee:</b>	
<b>Institutional affiliation:</b>	
<b>Name and contact details of nominator:</b>	
Critical evaluation of the nominee's contribution, as relevant to the criteria of the award (maximum 1 000 words)	
I accept this nomination and if successful I am prepared to deliver the "Distinguished Educator's address" at the SAAHE conference in 2025	
Signature (Nominee):	Date:
Signature (Nominated by):	Date:

## SAAHE Distinguished Educator Award 2026

### Criteria

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Evidence of promoting dialogue; exchange of ideas; of disseminating information about developments and research in the education of healthcare workers / professionals e.g., face to face or using social media platforms	Little or none	Moderate	Strong	Awe-inspiring
Evidence of promoting excellence and effectiveness in HPE i.e., providing, supporting, promoting activities which support health educationalists in their teaching tasks e.g., training workshops and short and long courses	Little or none	Moderate	Strong	Awe-inspiring
Evidence of contributing to the development of other HPE practitioners, researchers and/or administrators e.g., through mentorship	Little or none	Moderate	Strong	Awe-inspiring
Evidence of contributing to the body of knowledge in the field of HPE	Little or none	Moderate	Strong	Awe-inspiring
Evidence of a contribution to supporting, encouraging and promoting research into matters concerning the education of healthcare workers / professionals	Little or none	Moderate	Strong	Awe-inspiring
Evidence of playing a leadership role in HPE	Little or none	Moderate	Strong	Awe-inspiring
Evidence of a contribution to SAAHE structures regionally and/or in a chapter and/or in special interest groups	Little or none	Moderate	Strong	Awe-inspiring
Evidence of influence and/or fostering cooperation and collaboration with local, national and international stakeholders in the HPE environment (particularly in Africa)	Own institution	Local region	Nationally	Internationally
Evidence of contributing to the discourse relating to the delivery of adequately prepared healthcare workers / professionals e.g., by generating reflections and evidence-based recommendations based on reading the landscape of Southern African HPE and health service delivery	Own institution	Local region	Nationally	Internationally
Evidence of contributing to the creation of an environment that acknowledges and rewards excellence in health professions education; and to the development of scholarly career paths for health professions educators	Own institution	Local region	Nationally	Internationally