

ACE/Fidelity Investments Award for Institutional Transformation

General Information

The American Council on Education/Fidelity Investments Award for Institutional Transformation recognizes a college or university which, in a period of great change in higher education, has responded to challenges in innovative and creative ways that allows the institution to thrive. The award will be split into two categories: **Category 1** –Large Institutions (FTEs above 5K) and **Category 2** –Smaller Institutions (FTEs below 5K).

The ACE/Fidelity Investments Award for Institutional Transformation will be presented to the current president/chancellor of the selected institutions during the ACE Annual Meeting in Philadelphia, PA.

Criteria for Award

The Award for Institutional Transformation recognizes a college or university that raised, rallied or repurposed its resources to achieve dramatic and successful changes that allowed it to fulfill its mission over a relatively brief period of time. This institutional transformation could involve academic, cultural, financial, teaching/learning, or other changes undertaken to address either threats to the institution's viability or opportunities to attain a new level of excellence. The intent is not simply to acknowledge the completion of a capital campaign, modification of a core curriculum, or the accomplishments of a particular unit of an institution, however significant; it is, rather, to recognize the evolution of a college or university.

Applicants for the award must address a specific period of institutional transformation; while the transformation may still be underway, in general, the expectation is that this period will have occurred during the past five years, and that significant, demonstrable results have already been achieved. Applicants should submit as much qualitative and quantitative data as possible to demonstrate the transformation. *Copies of the 2017-2018 [category 1](#) and [category 2](#) winning applications have been provided as a guide to assist you during the application process.*

Entry Guidelines

Applicants should submit the following through the award website:

1. A completed submission form (*This page will be completed online via the application portal*).
2. Application cover page (*this page will not be included as part of the 8-page narrative maximum*).
3. A description with supporting evidence of the threat or opportunity that the institution faced and the actions that have positioned the institution to thrive. The description should not exceed 8 pages (including qualitative data) and should be prepared in size 12 font.

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Selection Process

ACE invites nominations for this award and also encourages institutions that meet the criteria for eligibility to apply directly for the award without nomination.

Nominators are asked to provide contact information and a brief description of the threat or opportunity that the institution faced and the actions that has positioned the institution to thrive. Institutions may also submit an application directly without nomination. If nominated, ACE will contact promptly the president/chancellor of the institution and encourage submission of an application.

Any U.S. college or university that is eligible for ACE membership – including all two-year and four-year, public and private, accredited, degree-granting institutions – is eligible to apply for this award. All applications must be submitted by the Office of the President/Chancellor.

ACE will convene a panel of judges, consisting of highly regarded, retired college/university leaders, representing all segments of higher education. The panel will review qualified applications, evaluate them against the stated criteria, and make a recommendation to the senior leadership of ACE.

The president/chancellor of the winning institutions will be informed in January 2019. Public announcement of the award will occur in early 2019, with the formal presentations of the award made in March at ACE2019, ACE's 101st Annual Meeting in Philadelphia, PA.

Award

Each winning institution will receive a cash award in the amount of \$10,000, which may be used at the discretion of the president/chancellor.

Stipulations

1. The president/chancellors of the winning institutions must be present at the ACE Annual Meeting on **Sunday, March 10, 2019, in Philadelphia, PA**, to receive this award in person. Travel expenses up to \$600 will be provided to the president/chancellors of the winning institutions. Conference fees and one night's lodging for ACE2019 will be covered for one or two person(s).
2. The name of the institutions selected to receive the award will be made public on the day of the award presentation. Unless otherwise specified, the winning applications will be made available online after ACE2019.

How to Apply

Nominees should submit the following materials for consideration (see details in Frequently Asked Questions, below).

1. Online Submission Form. (*This page will be completed online via the application portal*).

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2. Application cover page (*this page will not be included as part of the 8 page narrative maximum*).
3. Award Narrative (8 pages, double spaced): A description of the transformation of your institution. All supporting evidence should be provided in the narrative; no appendices will be accepted.

Nominations

Nominations must be received by September 15, 2018. A simple email providing contact information and a brief description of the threat or opportunity that the institution faced and the actions taken that has positioned the institution to thrive is sufficient. Please send via email to: transformationaward@acenet.edu. **Institutions may apply directly for the award without nomination.**

Deadline for Submission

Completed applications must be received by Friday, October 12, 2018, 5pm (PST). All materials should be submitted as a single PDF document via the online application portal at [ACE/Fidelity Transformation Award](#). Please select the category that best fits your institution.

Questions

Please read our Frequently Asked Questions. If you have questions or need clarification about the award process, please contact:

Hadja Bangura
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202-939-9349

Sponsor

ACE is grateful to Fidelity for its support of this award. The American Council on Education and Fidelity Investments® are independent entities and are not legally affiliated. The recipient of the American Council on Education/Fidelity Investments Award for Institutional Transformation is selected solely by ACE. Fidelity employees are not involved in any way in determining, selecting, or approving the recipient of any award.