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January 30, 2023

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Dear State / Local Agency Directors and Executive Deputies:

On **Wednesday, May 17, 2023**, the New York State Academy for Public Administration (SAPA) will be hosting its eleventh Public Service Excellence Award Program. We are pleased to announce that this year's program will again be held both in person and remotely. The in-person program will be held at Rockefeller College, UAlbany's Downtown Campus in Milne Hall 001 and the remote program will be broadcast from this location via Zoom.

We **invite you to nominate** an individual and/or team in your state agency, local government/and/or not for profit organization for this prestigious Public Service Award.

The Public Service Excellence Award is a notable way to recognize an outstanding individual or team of individuals in your agency, local government, or not for profit who exemplify the best of public service in New York State. Each year the stature of this award program expands, and we have a remarkable alumni of previous award recipients. A full list of past awardees can be found on our website <https://stateacademy.org>.

Using **the attached nomination form**, please provide detailed information about the specific, exemplary accomplishments of the individual or team you are nominating. Descriptions of the nominees' overall enhancement of public services should address, as applicable, how they served as a model for public service; made significant improvements to their organization and/or its services; changed the ways the organization or one of its programs operates to either achieve its goals or deliver better service; and/or achieved substantial financial savings for a state, local government, or not-for-profit agency. It should be noted that elected officials are not eligible for nomination but can submit individual or team nominations for state, local government, or not for profit agencies.

Nominations and supporting statements are due by **Friday March 10, 2023**. All nominations should be submitted directly to [sapaawards@gmail.com](mailto:sapaawards@gmail.com). SAPA will acknowledge nominations upon receipt. If the evaluation committee requires clarification, it will schedule follow-up interviews with the nominator or their representative. SAPA will announce Award recipients on Wednesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, and **honor awardees on Wednesday, May 17<sup>th</sup>** at the in-person and on-line ceremony. (The Awards celebration will begin at 5:15 p.m.). Further information will be available shortly on the SAPA website <https://stateacademy.org/>.

Since 1985, as part of Public Service Recognition Week, public service organizations across the country have hosted award ceremonies to honor those who serve our nation as federal, state, and local government employees. Those who have participated in the SAPA Awards Program have time and again mentioned that the SAPA Awards Program was an inspirational event to recognize those whose exceptional public service stands out among peers.

The past several years have been extremely challenging, however it has also produced numerous extraordinary accomplishments for those engaged in public service. I strongly encourage you to take advantage of this opportunity and submit a nomination. I look forward to your participation!



Fausto Franco, Chair  
NYS Academy for Public Administration  
[sapaawards@gmail.com](mailto:sapaawards@gmail.com)

cc: Executive Directors  
HR Directors