



**TO:** Chief Executive Officers  
Chief Business Officers  
Chief Instructional Officers  
Facilities Directors

**FROM:** Hoang Nguyen, Director of Facilities  
Facilities Planning and Utilization Unit  
College Finance and Facilities Planning Division

**RE:** Annual Board of Governors Energy and Sustainability Awards

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The Board of Governors has been a bold proponent of climate action, energy conservation, and other sustainability measures and has had established policies since 2013. In 2021, the Board of Governors built off this important work by adopting the [Climate Action and Sustainability Framework](#). The Climate Action and Sustainability Framework aims to create environmental, social, and educational benefits for the communities we serve. The framework is designed to serve as a tool to prompt local discussion around ways California Community Colleges can leverage their expansive footprint by incorporating sustainability principles and climate science in their local practices.

With Vision 2030, the climate action work advances community college engagement with the four fields of climate practice: facilities and operations, workforce and curriculum community engagements and benefits, and resource development. With this comprehensive approach, the goal is to leverage both colleges' physical and social impact footprint.

### **Board of Governors Energy and Sustainability Awards**

The Chancellor's Office, on behalf of the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges and in partnership with the Energy Resource and Sustainability Partnership (ERSP), is pleased to announce that nominations are being accepted for the annual Energy and Sustainability Awards Program which recognizes leaders and excellence in energy efficiency and sustainability efforts in alignment with the Climate Action and Sustainability Framework at California Community Colleges throughout the state.

The Excellence in Energy and Sustainability Awards will be presented by the Board of Governors at a regularly scheduled meeting to ensure high-level recognition of the recipients and promote the ongoing efforts of community colleges on the path toward sustainability.

### **Nomination Submittals**

Nominations will be accepted in four categories: Climate Action Leadership, Sustainability Champion, Innovative Project, and Faculty/Student Initiative. Each award category is described below.

The nomination deadline has been extended. Email your nominations on the attached nomination form by August 9, 2024, to Hoang Nguyen in the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office at [hnguyen@cccco.edu](mailto:hnguyen@cccco.edu).

Previous award or honorable mention award winners are not eligible for consideration this year, however previous submittals that did not win an award are eligible for resubmittal.

### **Excellence in Energy & Sustainability – Climate Action Leadership**

The Board of Governors will select an individual who has demonstrated exceptional leadership and achievement in energy efficiency and sustainability efforts in the past year. Leadership can be demonstrated in climate action policy, workforce initiatives, or robust sustainability partnerships. Nominations for the Excellence in Climate Action Leadership Award should include the name of the individual being nominated and the reason for the nomination.

### **Excellence in Energy & Sustainability – Sustainability Champion**

The Board of Governors will select an individual who has demonstrated exceptional leadership and achievement in energy efficiency and sustainability efforts at the campus or district level in the past year. Nominations for Sustainability Champion should include the name of the individual being nominated and detailed reasons for the nomination.

### **Excellence in Energy & Sustainability – Innovative Project**

This category considers innovative projects by district type. Districts will submit their innovative project on the attached nomination form which will detail the use and implementation of innovative technologies and progressive practices within their project. The following awards will be given in this category:

- Best Innovative Project – Large District
- Best Innovative Project – Medium District
- Best Innovative Project – Small District

### **Excellence in Energy & Sustainability – Faculty/Student Initiatives**

The Excellence in Energy and Sustainability - Faculty/Student Initiatives award recognizes faculty and/or students who have excelled in developing sustainability initiatives for their college. The criterion for this award includes the creation of an innovative initiative that institutionalizes sustainability by integrating the initiative into campus operations and student learning or curriculum, engages the community in implementing the initiative, and has measurable results to demonstrate success. Faculty and student collaboration in the creation and implementation of sustainability plans are also eligible for this award.

The attached nomination form for the Faculty/Student Initiatives contains the detailed requirements and instructions for submitting these nominations. All nominated initiatives should

be either in the implementation phase or completed. Nominations will be reviewed against the criteria to determine an award winner.

### **Judging and Selection of Awards**

Award nominations for the Climate Action Leadership, Sustainability Champion, Faculty/Student Initiative, and the Innovative Project in each category will be presented to the ERSP to review the proposed awards and make recommendations to the Chancellor's Office for final selection. The Chancellor's Office will review the nominations, scores, and ERSP recommendations and will make the final determination of award recipients.

### **Award timelines**

- **August 9, 2024:** Deadline to submit nominations for Climate Action Leadership, Sustainability Champion, Innovative Project, or Faculty/Student Initiatives
- **November 2024:** Awards presented at the Board of Governors meeting

Please share this information with any interested parties who may wish to make a nomination. We thank you in advance for your participation in the annual Board of Governors Energy and Sustainability Awards! For any additional information, please visit the Climate Action and Sustainability [webpage](#). For any questions you may have, please contact Hoang Nguyen at (916) 327-5363, or [hnguyen@cccoco.edu](mailto:hnguyen@cccoco.edu) or Ronnie Slimp at (916) 327-4415, or [rslimp@cccoco.edu](mailto:rslimp@cccoco.edu).

cc: Wrenna Finche, Vice Chancellor of College Finance and Facilities  
Ronnie Slimp, Director of Student Housing