

2025 NBPHE Joel Lee Innovation Award



The National Board of Public Health Examiners (NBPHE) is pleased to announce the 2025 Joel Lee Innovation Award. This prestigious award recognizes a certified CPH for innovative, outstanding professional performance and advocacy of the field of public health. In addition, the award promotes the contributions of the CPH in transforming public health.

The application deadline is September 15, 2025.

Award

The Joel Lee Innovation Award recipient will receive a \$1000 cash award and a plaque. The winner will present the award at the NBPHE virtual annual meeting in early 2026.

Eligibility and Decision Criteria

Candidates can be nominated by a supervisor, peer, student or others. (Nominations of previous nominees are accepted but should be updated and reconfirmed with nominees.)

Eligibility criteria:

- Hold active CPH certification for at least two years. (To confirm eligibility, search for active CPH [here](#).)

Decision criteria on which nominations will be scored:

- Demonstrate innovation in transforming public health with sustainable outcomes (20%)
- Demonstrate professional leadership through partnerships (20%)
- Serve as a role model of professional practice in public health (20%)
- Catalyze change to protect the health of all people and their communities (20%)
- Description of how holding the CPH has contributed to candidate's impact (20%)

If selected, the recipient must be available to participate during NBPHE's annual virtual meeting to accept the award and give a presentation highlighting their experiences, actions, and outcomes. Recipient will also be invited to become a [CPH ambassador](#), will be recognized on the NBPHE website, in the NBPHE quarterly newsletter and will also receive a \$1000 cash prize.

Submission Requirements

The application must include a narrative addressing each of the decision criteria along with two letters of support from individuals other than the individual submitting the application. The two letters of reference may be from individuals working in academia or practice and should describe the relationship with the CPH nominee, length of time known, and how the nominee embodies the objective of the award.

Application Deadline and Review

Applications must be submitted by **September 15, 2025**.

The application for the 2025 Joel Lee Innovation Award must include the completed application form, narrative and two letters of support. All materials must be submitted together via the online application portal.

A review panel of members of the NBPHE Awards Committee will consider all completed applications received by the deadline.

Link to application: [NBPHE Joel Lee Innovation Award Application](#)

(By submitting the application, all parties consent and authorize use of the narratives as well as future photos for promotional purposes. Excerpts from the application will be read during the award presentation. It is the responsibility of the individual submitting the application to obtain permission from the nominee prior to submitting the application.)

Questions? Contact NBPHE staff at info@nbphe.org.