2025–2026 Cognella Future Innovators in CJ Education Award

Deadline: September 15, 2025

Nominations sent to: Mark Rubin markrubin@alc.edu

Copy nomination to: Jason Williams, williamsjas@montclair.edu

The Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, in partnership with Cognella, Inc., is accepting nominations for the 1st Annual Cognella Future Innovators in CJ Education Award. This award honors recently tenured faculty in Criminology/Criminal Justice who demonstrate exceptional promise as future leaders in the discipline. The recipient will receive a $1,500 cash award, $250 in Cognella book credits, a commemorative plaque, complimentary one-year ACJS membership, and recognition on the Cognella and ACJS websites, as well as in the Annual Meeting program.

This award supports educators who show a strong commitment to teaching, scholarship, and mentoring — individuals who model innovation, inspire students, and shape the future of the field.

Nominations shall include:

- A personal essay (500 words or fewer) describing how the nominee meets the award's selection criteria.
- One letter of reference each from:
    - A colleague,
    - A former or current student,
    - An administrator or supervisor.
  (All letters must directly support the nominee's qualifications and contributions.)
- Documentation of tenure conferred within the last 1–3 years.
- Evidence of having taught at least three CJ/Criminology courses in the 12 months preceding the nomination deadline.
- Confirmation of current ACJS membership.
- Completed application form (available on the ACJS and Cognella websites).

The award recipient will be announced as part of the ACJS Awards program and recognized at the Annual Meeting in March 2026. All award decisions will be made by the ACJS Cognella Future Innovators in CJ Education Award Subcommittee and approved by the ACJS Executive Board, in accordance with Policy 301.01.