



Carolyn E. Boone Equity of Care Awards

Background & Directions

The American Hospital Association's (AHA) Institute for Diversity and Health Equity (IFDHE) is pleased to announce a revision to the criteria for the prestigious **Carolyn E. Boone Equity of Care Award**.

To provide more equitable opportunities for various types of hospitals and health systems to be recognized for advancing health equity, IFDHE has redesigned the awards so that hospitals and health systems can apply to the category that best represents their progress on the health equity journey. The categories are described below. **(1) the Transforming Award, (2) the Emerging Award, and (3) the Small/Rural Hospital Excellence Award.**

The Equity of Care Award: **Transforming** - Recognizes a hospital system that is implementing strategies to influence equity in the surrounding community ecosystem.

The Equity of Care Award: **Emerging** – Recognizes a hospital that is leveraging the Health Equity Roadmap resources to dismantle structural barriers in their care delivery system and the communities they serve.

The Equity of Care Award: **Small/Rural Hospital Excellence** – recognizes a hospital or system that has demonstrated excellence in advancing health equity in rural or small communities.

In order to apply for an award, a hospital or health system:

1. Must be an AHA member in good standing, and
2. Must have registered for the [Health Equity Roadmap](#) and completed the [Health Equity Transformation Assessment](#) by the time of application.

To apply for an award:

1. Applicants will choose one (1) award category that best describes their organization.
2. Applicants will **submit information on their progress for all 6 levers of transformation** (see detailed information on the six levers on www.equity.aha.org).
3. Applicants will have the opportunity to submit information for an additional 'Innovation' category. The purpose of this category is to demonstrate how the organization is utilizing innovation to transform health equity. These initiatives should showcase how organizations are going above and beyond to design health equity/DEI initiatives that are tailored to meet the specialized needs of the patients/community.

Please note: The AHA recognizes that organizations are in different places in their journey towards advancing health equity. As such, the information provided for each lever may vary in detail and implementation. We encourage you to provide information that demonstrates your progress and/or plans towards your goals for each lever of transformation.

The ‘Innovation’ category is your opportunity to demonstrate any health equity efforts that were not captured by the 6 levers of transformation. Applicants should share something new and exciting the organization is progressing towards and/or has achieved, as well as learnings from the process.

Responses to each question are limited to 500 words. We encourage applicants to submit supplemental materials, such as dashboards and score cards. Brief reports, no longer than two pages in length, may also be submitted. Supplemental documents must be limited to **15** total pages. All supplemental materials should be uploaded with this online application by **Friday, November 17, 2023 at 5 p.m. ET.**

Submission Deadline:

Please submit your online application and supplements by **Friday, November 17, 2023** at 5 p.m. ET.

Questions can be directed to equityofcare@aha.org.

**AHA Health Equity Roadmap
Levers of Transformation and Innovation**

| The Six Levers of Transformation | | | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|---|--|---|
| Culturally Appropriate Care | Equitable and Inclusive Organizational Policy | Collection and Use of Data | Diverse Representation in Leadership and Governance | Community Collaboration for Solutions | Systemic and Shared Accountability | Innovation |
| Practicing cultural humility and activities that improve culturally appropriate care, such as language access and health literacy. | Applying a DEI lens to organizational policies and supporting an equitable and inclusive climate and culture. | Using quantitative and qualitative data to inform, design, and evaluate improvement strategies. | Creating pathways that lead to diversifying leadership ranks to reflect the populations and communities served. | Advancing health equity and fostering healthy communities by investing in strong hospital-community partnerships. | Creating infrastructure to maintain accountability to sustain DEI work across departments and service lines. | Applicants have an opportunity to demonstrate how they have created and/or revised policies, practices, and/or initiatives to advance equity in their system and community. |

*1. Please provide your organization's contact information.

- Organization Name _____
- City and State _____
- Contact Name _____
- Title _____
- Email _____
- Telephone _____

*2. Has your hospital or health system submitted an application for the EOC Award in previous years?

- Yes
- No

*If yes, which years?

*3. Please indicate the award for which you are applying.

- The Transforming Award
- The Emerging Award
- The Small/Rural Hospital Excellence Award

Level 1: Culturally Appropriate Patient Care

Provide an overview and examples of programs/policies that demonstrate progress and implementation. Applicants are encouraged to provide promising practices and examples that include measurable and actionable results. If implementation programs/policies are not already in place, applicants should include information on future plans to address this lever.

Please limit responses to 500 words.

Level 2: Equitable and Inclusive Organizational Policies

Provide an overview and examples of programs/policies that demonstrate progress and implementation. Applicants are encouraged to provide promising practices and examples that include measurable and actionable results. If implementation programs/policies are not already in place, applicants should include information on future plans to address this lever.

Please limit responses to 500 words.

Level 3: Collection and Use of Data to Drive Action

Provide an overview and examples of programs/policies that demonstrate progress and implementation. Applicants are encouraged to provide promising practices and examples that include measurable and actionable results. If implementation programs/policies are not already in place, applicants should include information on future plans to address this lever.

Please limit responses to 500 words.

Lever 4: Diverse Representation in Leadership and Governance

Provide an overview and examples of programs/policies that demonstrate progress and implementation. Applicants are encouraged to provide promising practices and examples that include measurable and actionable results. If implementation programs/policies are not already in place, applicants should include information on future plans to address this lever.

Please limit responses to 500 words.

Lever 5: Community Collaboration for Solutions

Provide an overview and examples of programs/policies that demonstrate progress and implementation. Applicants are encouraged to provide promising practices and examples that include measurable and actionable results. If implementation programs/policies are not already in place, applicants should include information on future plans to address this lever.

Please limit responses to 500 words.

Lever 6: Systemic and Shared Accountability

Provide an overview and examples of programs/policies that demonstrate progress and implementation. Applicants are encouraged to provide promising practices and examples that include measurable and actionable results. If implementation programs/policies are not already in place, applicants should include information on future plans to address this lever.

Please limit responses to 500 words.

Innovation

The 'Innovation' category is your opportunity to demonstrate any health equity efforts that were not captured by the six levers of transformation. Applicants should share something new and exciting the organization is progressing towards and/or has achieved, as well as learnings from the process.

Please limit responses to 500 words.

We encourage applicants to submit supplemental materials that would enhance your organization's demonstration of health equity initiatives and innovation, such as dashboards and score cards. Please limit supplemental materials to five submissions in total.