

About the Award

This award, overseen by the AACTE Holmes Programmatic Advisory Committee, recognizes Holmes Program institutions that demonstrate exemplary and innovative practices in supporting graduate students of color resulting in increased productivity of its scholars. The award-winning institution will receive special recognition at AACTE's 2026 Annual Meeting in New Orleans, LA.

Eligibility and Selection Criteria

Only institutions who have an active Holmes Program will be considered. Additionally, the award-winning institution must:

- Have more than one active Holmes Program participant
- Evidence of direct support from Holmes Coordinator through intentional organization to bolster the academic master's, doctoral, and/or post-doctoral students
- Provide high-quality programming including on-campus professional development and mentorship to Holmes Program participants
- Demonstrate evidence of scholars' accomplishments, including but not limited to research and service completed by Holmes Scholars
- Implement program evaluation to assess impact, including use of data sources such as scholar satisfaction surveys and workshop evaluations
- Show significant contributions to diversifying the field by producing alumni who are in teaching, research and/or leadership roles within and outside of the academy
- Competitive preference will be given to submissions that align with [AACTE's strategic priority](#) related to Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion.

Submission Requirements

Any AACTE member may submit a nomination, including Holmes Scholars, alumni, program coordinators and Deans. Entries must articulate the specific exemplary and innovative practices that the institution has implemented, and the outcomes that they've produced.

[Click here for nomination form](#)

For more information about this award, contact
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Entry Deadline: September 25, 2026