

# **RISE Above Student Organization Award**

## **Award Guidelines**

### **Description:**

Integrity is a fundamental part of the culture. The Smeal Honor Code, started by students, is a pledge that holds the community accountable for integrity and ethical behavior. It reads: “We, the Smeal College of Business community, aspire to the highest ethical standards and will hold each other accountable to them. We will not engage in any action that is improper or that creates the appearance of impropriety in our academic lives, and we intend to hold to this standard in our future careers.”

The RISE Above Award recognizes a Smeal student organization that demonstrates an on-going commitment to integrity and ethical behavior. The organization shows ethical awareness and ethical decision-making, and identifies formal and/or informal opportunities to promote integrity and ethical behavior across their general body membership. The organizational membership also encourages others within the Smeal community to aspire to the highest ethical standards.

### **Number of Awards:**

One award is given each year to a Smeal student organization, assuming the nominee is approved by the selection committee and the Dean.

### **Eligibility:**

All Smeal student organizations.

### **Nominations:**

Nominations are solicited from members and advisors of Smeal student organizations. Self-nominations are acceptable. Applicants must complete the application, available through the Smeal College of Business Career and Corporate Connections office.

### **Selection Committee and Process:**

The selection committee includes, but is not limited to, members(s) of the Smeal College of Business Career and Corporate Connections office, including the Student Organizations Manager (committee chair), and student volunteers selected from the a standing committee or the Presidential Council of the Smeal Student Council. NOTE: Should a student organization member serve on the selection committee, their student organization(s) is not eligible.

After the committee selects the organization, the chair of the committee shares the organization name with the Director of the Office of Honor & Integrity.

### **Timeline:**

Nominations are typically sought beginning in mid-March and due in mid-April each academic year. A certificate and financial award of up to \$500 is presented to the organization at an annual awards program, organized by the Career and Corporate Connections office, in the spring. Financial awards are subject to change.

### **Contact:**

Integrity@smeal.psu.edu