



## Richard W. Bowling – Richard E. Erhard Orthopaedic Clinical Practice Award

### Purpose

To acknowledge an individual who has made an outstanding and lasting contribution to the clinical practice of orthopaedic physical therapy as exemplified by the professional careers of Richard W. Bowling and Richard E. Erhard.

### Eligibility

- The nominee **must be a member in good standing of the Academy of Orthopaedic Physical Therapy, APTA.**
- Engaged in extensive orthopaedic physical therapy clinical practice for at least fifteen (15) years.
- Positively and substantially affected the shape, scope, and quality of orthopaedic physical therapy practice.
- Significantly influenced other physical therapists in a manner that has increased their ability to practice orthopaedic physical therapy.
- Contributed to the overall and widespread substantiation of orthopaedic physical therapy.
- It is recommended that contributions to the AOPT are demonstrated.
- Members of the AOPT Awards Committee are excluded from eligibility during their term of office.

### Criteria for Selection

The Awards Committee will consider the following as guidelines in the selection process:

- Duration of clinical practice.
- Substantial effect on shape, scope, and quality of orthopaedic physical therapy practice.
- Effect on other physical therapists' ability to practice orthopaedic physical therapy.
- Effect on the development of evidence-based orthopaedic physical therapy practice.
- Quality and quantity of contributions to the Academy of Orthopaedic Physical Therapy will be noted, however, not required.

### Procedure for Nomination

- Any member of the Academy of Orthopaedic Physical Therapy may nominate candidates for the award.  
The complete packet, containing all materials listed in the above **Criteria for Selection** must be sent electronically and received by the AOPT office: [tfred@orthopt.org](mailto:tfred@orthopt.org) by **November 1** for consideration for the award in the following year.
- The nominator is responsible for submitting the necessary materials and

documents as a single nomination packet. The nomination packet should be submitted in the following order:

- A letter of nomination by the nominator, that specifically focuses on the strengths of the nominee in relation to the award criteria, not to exceed three (3) pages;
- Current curriculum vitae or resume of the nominee;
- Letters of support from three (3) individuals upon whom the nominee has had an impact, which specifically address one or more of the criteria for selection, not to exceed two (2) pages each.

### **Procedures for Review and Selection**

- Nomination materials shall be submitted electronically to the AOPT office. The AOPT office will retain the original set of materials and will provide the Awards Committee with copies for review.
- The Awards Committee will review the nominations and recommend a recipient to the AOPT Board of Directors.
- Any members of the Awards Committee who are closely associated with the nominee will abstain from participating in the review and selection process.
- The award will be presented only if there are qualified candidates, and one is selected.
- Nomination materials are considered the property of the Awards Committee, who will maintain their confidentiality.
- Nomination materials will not be returned. If any individual is not selected for the award in a given year, that individual may be nominated in a subsequent year.

### **Notification of the Award**

- The AOPT president will notify the recipient of the award.
- Those nominees not selected will be so informed in writing.
- The nominators of individuals not selected will receive a letter thanking them for their participation and informing them of the award recipient.
- The confidentiality of the Bowling - Erhard Orthopaedic Clinical Practice Award will be maintained until the recipient has been notified.

### **Award Presentation**

- The award will be presented at the Academy of Orthopaedic Physical Therapy Awards Ceremony at the Combined Sections Meeting.
- The AOPT will reimburse the round trip coach airfare from any site in the United States or Canada to the APTA Annual Meeting (CSM) site, one day per diem, consistent with the AOPT's current reimbursement rates and one day's conference registration.

- The award will consist of an appropriate plaque and a \$250.00 honorarium.

### **Resubmission of Award Packet**

- Nomination packets for the Bowling - Erhard Award that are considered by the Awards Committee but not selected for the award are eligible for resubmission in the following year's Awards Program. The AOPT's Awards Committee will retain the original nomination packet until October 1 of the year in which the nomination was originally considered.

Nominators should contact the AOPT's Awards Committee Chair by October 1, if interested in re-submitting the original nomination packet for consideration.