



Bright Star Award: **Exemplary Professional**

Application Deadline: September 1, 2025

Each year the Wyoming Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities is proud to bestow our "Bright Star Awards". These awards celebrate and acknowledge the achievements and contributions that individuals make in their community, as well as recognize individuals within the state who have contributed to the disability sector.

The Bright Star Exemplary Professional Award recognizes Individuals whose contributions are largely unheralded yet worthy of the spotlight and who are identified by their peers and community as having consistently excelled in the field of disabilities. This person demonstrates integrity and a strong commitment to the mission and values of their organization.

Eligibility:

The award is given to individuals making remarkable, evident and specific contributions in the disability community, and proactively supports people with developmental disabilities and their families at the local, state, or national level. **Please note: Award winners from previous year(s) are ineligible.**

This award is limited to persons who have worked in the field at least two (2) years and have a noteworthy and outstanding achievement in the field.

This person must demonstrate **at least one** of the following:

- Excellence in public awareness and education
- Excellence in public policy/legislation
- Championing a cause
- Litigation
- Deserving of recognition for merit
- Excellence in service; innovative services
- Ingenuity



The Nomination Process:

Award winners will be selected by the Bright Star Awards Committee. **Winners will be notified around September 15, 2025. Awards will be presented on October 9, 2025, during the Wyoming Developmental Disabilities Conference Annual Bright Star Awards Banquet.**

Required Documentation to be submitted for consideration:

- ☐ Nomination form
- ☐ Application
- ☐ Any necessary documents that provide evidence of the nominee's excellence, such as:
 - o Historical qualifications
 - o Other awards received
 - o Memberships, councils, boards, commissions, affiliations etc.

Please email completed forms to wgcdd.wyo.gov. Excerpts from the nomination forms will be used in recognition of the nominee.

Criteria:

Bright Star Award recipients will have made a significant impact in the disability community through outstanding dedication, exceptional performance, excellent service, and ingenuity.

Evaluating and Scoring will be based on the following:

- Advocacy efforts
- Leadership
- Service
- Impact and contributions
- Innovative and unique efforts
- Involvement within their local community, region, and/or the state.



Bright Star Award Nomination Form: **Exemplary Professional**

Application Deadline: **September 1, 2025**

Please email completed forms to wgcdd.wyo.gov.

NOMINATED BY:

Name: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

CONTACT INFORMATION FOR NOMINEE:

Nominee's Name: _____

Nominee's Contact Person (if applicable): _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____

Brief Biography (1-3 paragraphs) of Nominee:



Answer the following questions using specific examples. Bullet points can be used.

1. How has the nominee empowered/supported other self-advocates to speak out for themselves or others?
2. What are the results and/or impacts of the nominee's efforts?

