The Dallas Herring Achievement Award

Guidelines and Criteria 2027

The Dallas Herring Achievement Award is established by the North Carolina Community College System to honor the late Dr. Dallas Herring, whose philosophy of "taking people where they are and carrying them as far as they can go" is the guiding principle of the System. The award is given annually to a current or former community college student who best embodies Dr. Herring's philosophy.

Nomination Criteria

- Each college may nominate one student or alumnus.
- The nominee can be a current or former student at a North Carolina community college who meets the following criteria:
    - **If currently enrolled:** Is in good academic standing.
    - **If not currently enrolled:** Was a student during the past two years and left either through graduation or in good academic standing.
- Nominees can come from curriculum, continuing education, or literacy programs.

Selection Process

The selection process will be conducted by a Selection Committee of the Student Development Administrators Association (SDAA). The committee will:

- Screen nominations by committee-determined criteria.
- Hold interviews if the committee deems it necessary and appropriate.
- Make a final selection.

Notification

The award winner will be selected and announced in April 2027, in time to honor the student during the 2027 spring semester at their respective college. The award recipient will receive a trophy and monetary award.

Deadline for Nominations: 5:00 p.m. on Friday, December 4, 2026.

For questions, contact:

Ashley Croom
Executive Assistant, Academic & Student Services
crooma@nccommunitycolleges.edu

Nomination Form

An asterisk (*) indicates a required field.

College Information

Name of College:

College Contact Person:

Contact Phone:

Contact Email Address:

Nominee Information

Student's Full Name:

Student's Mailing Address:

Student's Phone Number:

Student's Email Address:

Required Attachments

Required Nomination Materials:

Each college nomination should include an essay on the following topic:

The Dallas Herring Philosophy: Describe, in 500 words or less, why your college's nominee embodies Dr. Herring's belief that community colleges should "take people where they are and carry them as far as they can go" and how the college impacted their academic and/or career journey, including why the nominee should be the recipient of this award.

Required File Naming Format:

[NameOfCollege]_[NameOfStudent]_DallasHerring2027

Award Information
The winning student receives an $8k cash prize and a trophy, and the winner's respective community college foundation receives a $2k cash prize - all compliments of the NC Community Colleges Foundation.