



**ICSW**

iowa commission on the status of women

## Iowa Women's Hall of Fame Nomination Form

Many outstanding women helped shape Iowa and many strong female leaders continue to contribute their talents and skills to improve the quality of life in this state. To recognize and honor these achievers and to provide visible examples for tomorrow's female leaders, the Iowa Commission on the Status of Women established the Iowa Women's Hall of Fame in 1975.

Among those honored as members of the Iowa Women's Hall of Fame are past legislators, political and social activists, scientists, educators, writers and spiritual and community leaders. They represent the women who have helped shape Iowa, the United States and the world. Their induction into the Iowa Women's Hall of Fame enhances the visibility of their contributions to their work, communities, and the status of women. The members of the Iowa Women's Hall of Fame can be found on the Iowa Department of Human Rights' Office on the Status of Women's website at: <https://humanrights.iowa.gov/cas/icsw/events-recognition/iowa-womens-hall-fame>.

The Iowa Women's Hall of Fame inducts contemporary (living) or historical (deceased) women who have been born in Iowa, achieved prominence within the state, or been a resident of Iowa for an extended period after achieving prominence elsewhere and have:

- Made significant and enduring contributions to their field of endeavor, professional or otherwise.
- Impacted the social, cultural, economic or political well-being of the community, state or nation.
- Elevated the status of women and positively impacted women and girls.
- Helped open new frontiers for women and for society in general.
- Inspired others by their example.

### Selection Process

Each year, the commission approves the selection of four women by a committee composed of three commissioners and two public citizens. Inductees will be recognized at a special Iowa Women's Hall of Fame ceremony in late August, on or close to Women's Equality Day, August 26—the day women won the right to vote in the United States. The commission asks that all nominators of historical inductees and all new contemporary inductees appear at the ceremony, if physically able.

### Nomination Form

To nominate an outstanding Iowa woman, please fill out the form below. All entries must be typed and submitted electronically by April 1 of each year. Any person or group may submit a nomination.

Incomplete forms or a single form nominating more than one person cannot be considered. Complete contact information including at least an address and telephone number (indicating whether it is a home or work address) is required for both the nominee and the nominator. An email for contemporary nominees and for all nominators is also preferred for ease in contacting parties.

Please note that no materials can be returned to the nominator, so do not submit any irreplaceable documents. If your candidate is chosen as an inductee, be aware that a portrait photo will be requested of you (for historical nominees) or the contemporary inductee at the time of selection.

Nominations remain current for three years and may then be resubmitted. Until the nomination is no longer current, it is advised that nominators add new and/or current information to the nomination packet each year.

### **Nomination Criteria**

Nominees may be contemporary (living) or historical (deceased) and will be selected on merit, not endorsement.

The women inducted into the Hall of Fame have made a major impact on the lives of others and helped to elevate the status of women in our state, our nation, and, in some case, around the world.

When choosing someone to honor, consider the following questions:

- What enduring contributions have been made by the nominee?
- How has the nominee positively impacted women and girls?
- Is the community and/or state better for the contributions of the nominee?
- Are people in general better because of the accomplishments of the nominee?
- Are women in Iowa, the region, and/or the United States better, has their status improved, or have opportunities increased for women because of the life and contributions of the nominee? and/or
- Is the nation, world or particular discipline, profession, or field better because of the contributions of the nominee?

Of special significance in the criteria for the award is the phrase "enduring contributions" and "impact on women and girls." Regardless of whether the candidate is living or deceased, there should be a sense that the accomplishments and/or contributions evidenced are of such special significance as likely to be thought outstanding when reflected upon from the perspective of future generations.

### **Tips for Completing the Nomination Form**

Make your answers (especially on questions III and I) as specific as possible. ("She was the only working mother on the block" is commendable and remarkable, but it doesn't explain how she helped open new frontiers or elevated the status of women.)

Quality is more important than quantity. Please do not attach a copy of every award the nominee ever received; a list of awards is sufficient. Awards that were not self-submitted by the nominee or her staff/employees carry more weight.

If the nominee's field is the same as the one for a current Hall of Fame member, be sure to explain how this nominee's contributions differ from those of the current member and make her stand out.

Whatever the nominee's field, make sure to differentiate her from all the other practitioners of that field. For example, if she is a contemporary physician, how do her contributions differ from those of every other physician today? What makes her stand out from the rest? What impact has she had on women and girls?

### **Questions**

If you have any questions, contact the Office on the Status of Women at 515-281-4470, 800/558-4427, or [women@iowa.gov](mailto:women@iowa.gov).

To view the members of the Iowa Women's Hall of Fame, visit <https://humanrights.iowa.gov/cas/icsw/events-recognition/iowa-womens-hall-fame>.

# INDUCTION NOMINATION FORM

**Please provide the following information.**

Name of nominee (*Indicate full name, and include birth name if different.*):

Residence of nominee (*Give Address if Possible*):

Phone numbers: (Home)

(Office)

E-mail:

Birthdate:

Birth place:

Years nominee resided in Iowa:

If the nominee is no longer living, complete the following:

Date of death:

Age at time of death:

Place of death:

Name, address, phone, and familial relationship of a family contact person, if known:

Name of person(s) submitting nomination:

Residence of nominator:

Phone numbers: (Home)

(Office)

E-mail:

Has this nomination form been reviewed by the nominee or a member of the nominee's family?

Yes  No

**Include the following (separated by the following sections):**

## **1. Summary Statement**

Provide a summary statement (25 words or less) of the nominee that demonstrates her outstanding accomplishments and contributions.

## **2. Biographical Sketch**

Please attach a brief biography (limited to one page) of the nominee that includes her major achievements and contributions to her community. Essential biographical information includes education/training, professional/work history, major accomplishments and/or contributions, and honors and awards received.

Include a description of the nominee’s connection to Iowa (examples: born and raised in the state, educated here, most notable achievements in the state, etc.)

### 3. Descriptions of Qualifications

In a narrative summary of not more than five single-spaced, 12-point typed pages, please identify and expand upon the nominee’s achievements and contributions. In your own words, state what the nominee accomplished during her lifetime either for the improvement of life for women and all citizens of Iowa. Among the topics the narrative statement should address are:

- Describe how the **nominee has made significant and enduring contributions to her field(s) of endeavor.**
- Describe the specific ways in which the **nominee has elevated the status of women.**
- Describe the specific ways in which the **nominee helped open new frontiers for women or for society in general.**
- Describe how the **nominee has inspired others by her example.**
- Explain which of the nominee’s **accomplishments are most and least well-known.**
- Provide **any other information** you would like the selection committee to know about the nominee.

### 4. Letters of Support (no more than five)

Nomination committee will read no more than five letters—no more than two pages long each. These letters should do more than repeat the nominee’s resume. All letters should include a return address.

### 5. Additional Supporting Materials that would justify consideration

Supporting materials should justify consideration of the nominee and could include, but are not limited to, pertinent newspaper and magazine articles, primary works, etc. Please include only essential supporting documents that communicate the nominee’s accomplishments as concisely and directly as possible. These items must also be submitted electronically.

**Be aware that no materials will be returned to nominator, so please do not submit irreplaceable originals of any document. Keep a copy for your records.**

**DEADLINE: April 1**

No late or incomplete nominations will be accepted.

### NOMINATOR CERTIFICATION

I hereby affirm that to the best of my knowledge my nominee is/was a person of great integrity and has/had made those positive contributions befitting induction into the Iowa Women’s Hall of Fame.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Nominator’s Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**The original nomination packet (this form and all of the above materials) should be electronically submitted to [women@iowa.gov](mailto:women@iowa.gov).** If you need assistance, please contact the Office on the Status of Women at (515) 281-4470, (800) 558-4427, or [women@iowa.gov](mailto:women@iowa.gov).