

ASBMB Policy: Application of ASBMB Code of Conduct to Award Nominees

Through its awards, ASBMB honors excellence and affirms many desired attributes of its community. Being named an ASBMB awardee is expected to be a lifetime honor and bestows the Society's determination of the individual's exemplary role in the field and fitness to be affiliated with ASBMB on an ongoing basis. ASBMB considers awards an honor, not a right, and has the sole discretion to choose a candidate it thinks best reflects the Society's primary mission, expectations and community standards. These include ASBMB's expectations regarding professional conduct as outlined in its code of conduct.

In service to these goals, the Society reserves the right to decide that credible and substantial information about conduct inconsistent with ASBMB's current standards may be a prudent reason not to confer an award on an individual, even if there has not yet been a definitive determination establishing misconduct.

ASBMB has established the following procedures to guide decisions related to the suitability of bestowing an award.

Procedures

1. In award nominations, nominators will be asked to state whether, *to their current knowledge*, the individual they are nominating has behaved consistently with the standards articulated in the current ASBMB Code of Conduct. Nominators are not asked to independently investigate or make determinations but rather to attest to their own knowledge of the candidate.
2. Prior to award bestowment, nominees will be asked to state, confidentially and in writing, whether they are now, or have been, subject to an allegation, inquiry, action or decision regarding alleged professional misconduct as outlined in the ASBMB Code of Conduct, or whether they have engaged in conduct that could reasonably give rise to such a claim. Nominees will also be given the opportunity to decline the nomination, with no imputation of any inappropriate conduct.
3. The nominee's statement will be maintained confidentially by a Council Professional Conduct Working Group. Based on the nominee's response, ASBMB may ask the candidate for additional information and will determine, at its sole discretion, whether it will bestow the award. Disclosure of this information will not automatically disqualify a nominee from consideration, but it will allow the Society to make an informed decision with the benefit of any context provided by the nominee.