About: The UAT Award for Excellence in Academic Program Assessment is presented each December at the University Awards Convocation to recognize individuals or faculty teams that demonstrate innovation and excellence in the planning, implementation, and/or utilization of program assessment for an academic degree. Six awards will be presented each year, one for each of six academic colleges: CAS, CASNR, CEAT, CoHS, EHA, and SSB. In the event a worthy program cannot be identified in a given year, no award will be presented.

Eligibility: All degree programs are eligible to be recognized if:

- they are from the aforementioned colleges (CASNR, CAS, SSB, CEAT, EHA, and CoHS)
- a fall assessment report was completed and submitted on or before the September deadline
- the program’s plan is up-to-date
- the program’s report aligns with the program’s plan
- the program has submitted a report for at least three consecutive years

Once recognized with an award, a degree may not be selected again for three calendar years. The award may be bestowed on a single faculty member or a faculty team.

Award Criteria: The UAT Award for Excellence in Academic Program Assessment recognizes innovation and creativity in assessment planning and implementation. In evaluating eligibility for the award, consideration will be given to how assessment data is gathered, analyzed, interpreted, and utilized to advance student learning or the achievement of learning outcomes through program improvement.

The Process: The UAT Award for Excellence in Academic Program Assessment Selection Committee is comprised by the Director of UAT, the Assistant Director of Assessment and Analysis at UAT, and a subcommittee of four members of the Assessment and Academic Improvement Council (AAIC). UAT will review and nominate candidates and then, together with the AAIC subcommittee, will make the final decision. Since all programs for which a report has been filed during the previous year will be considered, there is no nomination process. Prior to an award being made, the head or director of programs selected for an award will be contacted to verify contributions by program assessment coordinators. Each college winner will receive a certificate, a plaque, and an award of $500. Program assessment coordinators, department heads, or program directors will be responsible for allocating prize money among team members based on each member’s contributions.