



Association of  
Immunization  
Managers

## AIM RISING STAR AWARD 2026 NOMINATION PROCESS

### RISING STAR AWARD

The AIM Rising Star Award recognizes a **new permanent** immunization program manager who demonstrates effective leadership and potential for growth within AIM. The winner will be engaged with peers and partners across the country and demonstrate a desire to have an impact on the broader immunization community.

### ELIGIBLE CANDIDATES FOR RISING STAR AWARD

The recipient will be a current **permanent** immunization program manager appointed to the permanent program manager position after July 2024, and will have no more than two cumulative years of experience actively directing **one of the 66 city, state, or territorial immunization programs directly funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases** [the 50 states, the District of Columbia, American Samoa, Guam, the Republic of Marshall Islands, Micronesia, the Northern Mariana Islands, Palau, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Chicago, Los Angeles, Maricopa County, New York City, Houston, San Antonio, and Philadelphia].

### NOMINATION PROCESS FOR RISING STAR AWARD

- Any individual or organization wishing to recognize a new permanent immunization program manager may submit a nomination using the [2026 AIM Rising Star Award Submission Form](#).
- All nominations must be submitted using the nomination submission form.
- A maximum of 2 pages can be submitted (cover page/submission form plus a 1-page nomination justification).
- Multiple nominations for the same individual will not be considered by the selection committee. If multiple nominations are received, submitters will be notified and allowed 5 business days to re-submit one combined nomination. If a revised nomination is not submitted, the first nomination received will be designated as the official nomination for consideration by the selection committee.

### SELECTION CRITERIA

Nominations will be reviewed, and a final selection will be made by members of the AIM Executive Committee.

### REVIEW PROCESS FOR RISING STAR AWARD

Rising Star award candidates will be judged based on the following (25 points each):

- **Level of AIM engagement**—individual has been instrumental in advancing the effectiveness of AIM, either through contributions to AIM leadership, AIM committees, or through representation of AIM in national policymaking initiatives.

- **Peer-to-peer activities**—individual has engaged with peers and partners across their region and the country.
- **Accomplishments and commitment**—individual has demonstrated successful achievement of programmatic activities and has shown dedication to public health and the field of immunization.
- **Leadership potential**—individual has demonstrated a willingness to try new things or take on unique challenges and shows potential to transform vision into results.

## DUE DATES

To be considered for the 2026 Rising Star Award, submissions must be received by **11:59 pm EST on Friday, August 21**.

Please email submissions to [info@immunizationmanagers.org](mailto:info@immunizationmanagers.org) and include “Rising Star Submission” in the subject line.

## NOTIFICATION

The recipient of the 2026 Rising Star Award will be named at the 2026 AIM Leadership in Action Conference in Tampa, FL, in December.