

The banner features a collage of images including DNA helixes, stars, and abstract shapes in shades of blue, purple, and gold. The text "AMERICAN COUNSELING ASSOCIATION" is in white, and "2018 NATIONAL AWARDS" is in large, bold, white letters.

## AMERICAN COUNSELING ASSOCIATION 2018 NATIONAL AWARDS

### ACA RESEARCH AWARD

#### Background and Purpose

The ACA Research Award honors and recognizes high-quality, original research conducted by an ACA member (or an ACA member and other colleagues working in collaboration) in areas of interest to the counseling profession and the divisions or organizational affiliates of ACA. For the purpose of this award, research involves systematic inquiry or investigation using quantitative or qualitative techniques, that result in usable findings and recommendations for the field.

#### Criteria and Requirements

**The research must:**

- Be published between Sept. 1, 2016, and Aug. 31, 2017, in a research journal specializing in counseling, psychology, measurement, or education.
- Involve systematic inquiry or investigation using quantitative or qualitative techniques, that result in usable findings and recommendations for the field. Please restrict nominations to projects that are original research.
- Be concerned with problems of interest and significance to the counseling profession, with findings that are applicable beyond the immediate setting.
- Be in an area of interest to one or more ACA division or organizational affiliate.
- Use research procedures that are of the highest quality, including a clear definition of population, selection of appropriate sampling techniques and controls, use of appropriate research design, adequate and correct quantitative or qualitative analysis of data, and use of valid, reliable instruments.
- Show careful interpretation of results and conclusions that do not go beyond the data.
- Be scholarly in organization and presentation.

#### Nomination Guidelines

**In your nomination submission, briefly:**

- Clearly state the purpose of the study, which must be an original, systematic inquiry to discover facts or principles.
- Briefly describe how the findings of the research are important for the counseling profession and identify one or more ACA divisions or affiliates to which this research is relevant.
- Include one copy of the research article, including the publication date.

#### Nomination Checklist

- Nominee Biography
- Nomination Letter
- Supporting Materials
- Maximum of two supporting letters
- Research Overview (including one copy of the research article)

**Submit your nomination(s) online by Nov. 12, 2017.**