

**The PulseStar Award for
Outstanding Achievement in PulseNet, the National Molecular Subtyping Network for
Foodborne Disease Surveillance**

The Enteric Diseases Laboratory Branch (EDLB) of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Association of Public Health Laboratories (APHL) are soliciting nominations for the PulseStar Award for Outstanding Achievement in PulseNet, the National Molecular Subtyping Network for Foodborne Disease Surveillance. The award is presented annually by EDLB/CDC and APHL to PulseNet participants that are part of state or local public health laboratories, whose efforts have contributed significantly to the advancement of PulseNet activities in public health during the previous year. Although nominees from federal agencies are not eligible to receive a PulseStar Award or cash award, they can be nominated for a PulseNet Special Recognition Award.

Details regarding the award and the procedures for placing nominations are outlined below. Nominations for the 2009 PulseStar Award should be forwarded to the PulseStar Award Committee via email or fax (see below) no later than **July 31, 2009**.

Email: PFGE@cdc.gov with the words "PulseStar Award" in the subject line
Fax: 404.718.1095 (no cover sheet necessary)

The award was initiated to recognize those individuals whose outstanding contributions to PulseNet during the previous year resulted in significant improvements to the procedures (either laboratory or computer) or communications involved with PulseNet. As many as three awards will be presented annually to those PulseNet participants who have made outstanding and significant contributions to PulseNet activities in public health. **The award consists of a plaque and a check for \$500 provided by the Association of Public Health Laboratories.**

Criteria for Selecting Candidates for the Award

1. Candidates will have shown excellence in science in public health, domestic or international, at the state, federal, or local level.
2. Candidates' work will have been associated with PulseNet. The work for which candidates are recognized may be related to laboratory, computer, or programmatic activities.
3. Candidates may be nominated by any one who is in a position to evaluate the work of the nominee and the contribution of the work towards improving public health. Supervisors, laboratory directors and epidemiologists are invited to nominate appropriate candidates. Group nominations are acceptable if a unique situation justifies the nomination of a group rather than an individual. One person may not submit more than one nomination.
4. A concise statement detailing the reason for submission of the nomination (specific act for which the nomination is made and the public health impact of the specific act) should be forwarded to the PulseStar Award Committee by the deadline date for consideration by the Awards Committee.
5. The Awards Committee will consist of representatives of EDLB/CDC; CDC personnel are ineligible to receive PulseStar awards.