

★ 2026 Rookie Counselor of the Year ★

It's time to celebrate our newest KDP stars! This award honors counselors who have made an incredible impact in their first two years. Let's cheer for fresh energy, innovative ideas, and passionate leadership! 🎉

⭐ Eligibility

Is your counselor ready to shine? To be eligible:

- ★ In the role of counselor or associate counselor for **less than 2 years**
- ★ Cannot have been in the counselor role at another institution prior to their current role (unless it was for less than one year and/or it was more than 5 years ago)
- ★ Chapter held **at least 4 events** during the year (events include chapter meetings)

🏆 What Makes a Winning Nominee?

Share your counselor's amazing story! Your nomination narrative should paint a picture of excellence in the following areas:

🤝 Membership Recruitment & Retention Efforts

How has your counselor energized membership growth? Share creative strategies and impressive results for recruiting new members and keeping members beyond graduation.

👑 Leadership

Showcase how your counselor inspires, guides, and empowers chapter members to reach new heights.

🤝 Involvement with Chapter Membership

Tell us how your counselor connects with students, faculty, and alumni to build a vibrant KDP community.

💼 Career Mentoring

Highlight mentoring moments that have shaped members' professional journeys and career success.

🌟 Display of KDP Mission and Values

Show us how your counselor embodies Community, Belonging, Leadership, and Celebration every day.

🏛️ Legacy

What lasting impact has your counselor created? Share the traditions, initiatives, and changes that will endure.

🚀 Impact

Celebrate the measurable difference your counselor has made—lives changed, goals achieved, and dreams realized.

Bonus Point Opportunities!

Earn up to 6 bonus points! KDP National will verify the following essential items are completed by May 1, 2026, to be a top chapter:

- ★ Counselor signed the **affiliation agreement** in the current year.
- ★ Officers were entered into your **Chapter Dashboard** for the current year.
- ★ Participated in **New Counselor Orientation** with KDP National staff member.
- ★ Chapter **met or exceeded recruitment goal** for the year.
- ★ Demonstrate your chapter's use of the current KDP logo and identity as the *premier National Professional Association and Honor Society for Educators*

Be Recognized and Applauded!

This is your counselor's chance to be celebrated for outstanding dedication and incredible impact in their first years with KDP. Submit your nomination and show us how they're already making waves—because rookie excellence deserves recognition! 