

- Section 1: Items to Note and Criteria for Team Award
- Section 2: List of Individual Nominees and Submissions

Section 1: Items to Note and Criteria for I AM COD Awards

Award Amounts

Individual Awards (per semester)	Team Awards (per semester, per individual)
\$500.00	\$50.00

Criteria for I Am COD Individual Award

Nominators choose the criterion that best describes why this person is being nominated: *(multiple criteria may be selected)*

Core Values | Service Excellence | Exceptional Performance

Section 2: List of Individual Nominees

Individual (Nominee)	Nominator(s)
Andrew Luce, Grants	Anna Bakker, Outdoor Lab/Prairie Manager
Beth Holmwood, Business and Applied Technology (multiple nominations)	(1) Bridget McFarland, Business and Applied Technology (2) Joe Aranki, Automotive Technology (3) Dan Jacobson, Business and Applied Technology
Brett Kalboth, Campus Services	Maggie Ogrodny, Business Services
Crystal Keys, Admissions & Outreach	Sameena Parveen, Admissions & Outreach
Jeff Stellman, Office & Classroom Technology	Michael Mohring, Office & Classroom Technology
Joseph Latoria, Admissions & Outreach	Ana Krstic, Adult Education
Justin O'Keefe, Admissions & Outreach	Sameena Parveen, Admissions & Outreach
Kelli Kerns, Access & Accommodations	Sam Salvato, Access & Accommodations
Melissa Lachcik, Library (multiple nominations)	(1) Carol Eisinger, Library (2) Sally Grenzow, Library
Lynda Nagle, Admissions & Outreach	Sameena Parveen, Admissions & Outreach
Jennifer Matiasek, Research & Analytics	Tara Leszczewicz, Anatomy & Physiology + Testing and Proctoring Committee
Michael Mohring, Office & Classroom Technology	Nikki Scalzitti, Financial Aid
Michelle Resnick, Accounts Receivable	Lisa Krok, Accounts Receivable
Regina Wisemiller, Print Services	Nancy Jadzak, Print Services & Support Services
Robert Marek, Financial Affairs (multiple nominations)	(1) Judith Vosicky, Financial Affairs (2) Marianne Fay, Human Resources
Tamikia Charles, Financial Aid	Omar Gordon, Financial Aid

Individual (Nominee)	Nomination Submission
Andrew Luce	<p>Criteria: Core Values, Exceptional Performance</p> <p>Andrew went to a neighborhood BBQ. He was being friendly and shared the great things COD is doing for bird conservation. His neighbor, and avid birder, enjoyed his stories and let those ideas marinate in his brain after their discussion. A few days later, we received an email from Andrew's neighbor. The neighbor, Rick Roche, was interested in supporting an unfunded birding grant proposal that we submitted to honor of his late friend, Jerry Hufeldt, a fellow birder and community college employee that had passed away. The original grant valued at \$2,500 to the Illinois Ornithological Society was not selected, but Rick like it so much that he and his wife Bonnie gave \$5000 to the cause to double our efforts. Their generous donation to the COD Foundation will fund improved waterfowl habitat in our natural areas to support outdoor recreation and education for students, staff, and the community for generations to come. As part of the initiative planting and nesting boxes will be installed as early as Spring of 2025 and go into Fall of 2025. Educational signage will be created to share the importance of the these conservation efforts and honor Jerry. This may seem like a small act but their donation is almost as much as my annual budget for supplies and</p>

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	<p>land management efforts. The Natural Areas relies on grants and donation to keep our areas looking amazing. Thanks to COD's Andrew Luce and his neighbor Rick Roche, our campus will be getting a much needed upgrade this coming year. As a fellow bird, I'm sure our mascot Chappy would agree that Andrew is deserving of the "I AM COD AWARD" for giving his time and talents to our mission even when not at work and helping to make his home a better place to live.</p>
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Individual (Nominee)	Nomination Submission
Beth Holmwood	<p>Criteria: Service Excellence, Exceptional Performance</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="443 511 1984 828">(1) I'm writing to express my deep appreciation for Beth Holmwood from the Business and Applied Technology division. Her exceptional dedication and outstanding performance truly stand out. Beth's commitment to service excellence and her professionalism have really made a difference for our team. She handles multiple tasks with ease and skill, always helping us find the right solutions thanks to her deep understanding of our operations and institutional knowledge. One of Beth's most admirable qualities is her genuine warmth and hospitality. She greets everyone with a warm smile and sincere acknowledgment, fostering an environment of inclusivity and camaraderie. Her willingness to go above and beyond to help others showcases her remarkable character and dedication to service. Beth is an invaluable asset not only to our division but also to others, always ready to lend a helping hand. Her selfless attitude and collaborative spirit make her a true team player, promoting teamwork across our organization. Beth has stepped up to help other divisions fill gaps, while managing her own work. Beth excels in her role. Her contributions have greatly enhanced our team's success, and her dedication to excellence is truly inspiring. Beth is COD. <li data-bbox="443 836 1984 1055">(2) Beth Holmwood excels as our Academic Division Administrative Assistant due to her exceptional organizational skills, attention to detail, and unwavering commitment to supporting both students and staff and faculty. She consistently ensures that all administrative tasks are carried out smoothly, from managing blackboard schedules to maintaining accurate records such as advisory board member lists and minutes, which helps the department run efficiently. Beth's approachable nature and proactive communication style also make her a valuable resource for students and faculty alike, as she always goes above and beyond to address inquiries and resolve any issues that arise. Her reliability and dedication make her an indispensable part of the team, and she plays a vital role in creating a positive, well-organized learning environment. <li data-bbox="443 1063 1984 1372">(3) Beth's performance is nothing short of extraordinary, and her unwavering dedication to students goes beyond any single moment or task. As the administrative support for the Dean and Division, Beth is also the welcoming face of the TEC building, often serving as the first point of contact for anyone stepping through its doors. At peak times, I've witnessed Beth drop everything to guide a student to their classroom, connect them with the services they need, or address a request with calm efficiency. She doesn't wait to be asked—she acts instinctively, picking up on the smallest signs of confusion or hesitation. Beth's impact touches nearly every aspect of our division. She has an uncanny ability to organize the endless flow of tasks and paperwork in a way that feels seamless, making even the most complex requests seem effortless. Her remarkable foresight allows her to anticipate needs before they arise, ensuring that every event, meeting, or challenge runs smoothly. Beth's support has been invaluable to me personally and to the entire Division of Business and Applied Technology. Whether attending our many events and meetings or simply keeping everything running behind the scenes, Beth is an indispensable part of our team. Her contributions are vital to our success, and we are incredibly fortunate to have her.

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Individual (Nominee)	Nomination Submission
Brett Kalboth	<p>Criteria: Service Excellence</p> <p>Under Brett’s guidance, customer service has reached exceptional levels. His sincerity, empathy, and respect have transformed challenging situations into opportunities for positive outcomes. Brett’s efforts to strengthen relationships within his departments have cultivated a happy and motivated team, whose morale translates directly into the outstanding service they provide. Brett is a leader of innovation and action. He has tackled new and recurring challenges with creativity and a solutions-focused mindset, implementing strategies that drive results. He volunteers his expertise for special projects, serves on committees, and leads by example, mentoring peers with a supportive and encouraging approach. His initiatives have not only improved internal processes but have also reduced waste and enhanced productivity. Brett’s collaborative spirit and results-driven methodology make him a role model for his colleagues, elevating the overall effectiveness of his department. In every aspect of his work, Brett Kalboth goes above and beyond, exemplifying excellence in service, leadership, and innovation. His trans-formative impact on his team and the College community makes him a deserving recipient of the Outstanding Employee Award.</p>

Individual (Nominee)	Nomination Submission
Crystal Keys	<p>Criteria: Service Excellence</p> <p>Hello, I am nominating my colleague, Crystal Keys - Manager of Admissions Frontline for the I AM COD individual award. Crystal consistently exemplifies service excellence in her role in many ways. Even in the tensest situations, Crystal stays courteous and handles all challenges with remarkable composure. Her empathy towards visitors and students at our Admissions events as well as daily office hours is commendable as she always takes the time to understand their needs and concerns and provides support with care. Crystal has significantly enhanced services at our front desk and during all Admissions events. She improves our processes, streamlines procedures and goes above and beyond to learn new technologies and train her staff. She is committed to her role and her leadership has created a positive and supportive environment for all of us. I am so grateful to have a colleague that is outstanding in service and dedication, and I deeply appreciate her. Thank you, Crystal! You are a model of service excellence!</p>

Individual (Nominee)	Nomination Submission
Jeff Stellman	<p>Criteria: Service Excellence, Exceptional Performance</p> <p>Jeff Stellman exemplifies our core values and embodies the spirit of our organization by taking on an extraordinary task with remarkable dedication and skill. Jeff led the massive migration of our Perceptive content document management system, handling the migration of 33 areas—including merging where needed—and managing a total of 9,644,021 images. This project, typically a complex and costly endeavor managed by Softdocs, was completed internally due to Jeff’s initiative, expertise, and perseverance. Over the course of an entire year, Jeff demonstrated exceptional performance, often working independently with minimal guidance or oversight. His commitment to process improvement and his ability to tackle complex challenges have made a significant impact on our operations. His proactive approach, innovation, and dedication saved substantial resources and proved to be a tremendous benefit to the College.</p>

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Individual (Nominee)	Nomination Submission
Joseph Latoria	<p>Criteria: Service Excellence</p> <p>I am pleased to nominate Joe Latoria for the I am COD award. Joe exemplifies exceptional dedication and professionalism in his job. He always keeps me informed on admissions procedures so that I may better assist adult education students when they are ready to take credit classes. Him answering my questions has continuously fostered a culture of collaboration which embodies the values and mission of COD. Joe is very deserving of this prestigious award and I thank you for considering him.</p>

Individual (Nominee)	Nomination Submission
Justin O'Keefe	<p>Criteria: Service Excellence</p> <p>Hello, I am nominating Justin O'Keefe, Enrollment Associate for the I AM COD award in Service Excellence. Justin always demonstrates a high level of service in helping prospective students navigate the application process. He interacts with people professionally and empathetically ensuring they are supported and well informed on how to proceed with the next steps to enrollment. In addition to his primary responsibilities on the frontline of the Enrollment Center, Justin has assisted me tremendously with potential fraudulent records in our application system. His keen eye for detail and ability to follow guidance have been invaluable assets to our team. Justin is a dedicated colleague, trains his fellow coworkers very well and shares his knowledge openly. He is well organized and equips his coworkers with vital skills they need to excel in their roles. I appreciate Justin's work ethic and am honored to nominate him for this award.</p>

Individual (Nominee)	Nomination Submission
Kelli Kerns	<p>Criteria: Core Values, Service Excellence, Exceptional Performance</p> <p>I am honored to nominate Kelli for the I Am COD Award, as she truly embodies the core values of our college: integrity, honesty, respect, responsibility, and equity. Kelli has consistently demonstrated service excellence through her exceptional performance and unwavering commitment to our students. In her pivotal role leading the medical withdrawal team, Kelli has been a beacon of support for countless students who have faced significant medical challenges during their educational journeys. Her dedication to understanding each student's unique circumstances reflects her deep respect for their individual experiences and her commitment to fostering an equitable environment. Kelli approaches her work with integrity and honesty, ensuring that every decision made is in the best interest of the students. Her responsible management of sensitive situations, coupled with her ability to communicate effectively, has made a profound impact on those she serves. Kelli's compassion and willingness to go above and beyond have not only helped students navigate their challenges but have also inspired her colleagues to follow her example. Kelli's exceptional performance and dedication to the values of our college make her not only a deserving candidate for this award but also a remarkable leader within our community. Her efforts have made a lasting difference in the lives of many students, and I wholeheartedly believe she deserves this recognition. Thank you for considering Kelli for the I Am COD Award. Her commitment to excellence and her embodiment of our core values are truly commendable.</p>

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Individual (Nominee)	Nomination Submission
Melissa Lachcik	<p>Criteria: Core Values, Service Excellence, Exceptional Performance</p> <p>(1) I have witnessed first-hand Melissa's strong ability to mentor everyone in her group with compassion and knowledge. When we get a new program or database, she immediately offers assistance to any of us who need help navigating the new system. She doesn't have to do that, but she wants us all to feel comfortable with the technology, and we feel comfortable asking her for help. She has started a monthly book display program, and makes sure that all interested employees have a chance to be involved. Her outreach to new students at orientations is stellar, and she is always there to make the new students feel comfortable as they navigate the campus for the first time. Her core values of kindness and generosity are evident in the many birthday cards that she purchases for the people on her team, and she makes sure we all have the opportunity to sign them even when we work in many different areas of the library. She showed exceptional performance when we had a medical emergency with an employee, and she immediately stepped up and took control of the situation to be sure the right people were contacted and everything was under control. She exemplifies what an employee of COD should represent, and I wish there were many others like Melissa at COD.</p> <p>(2) Melissa is a newer employee in the Library and has proved her worth time and again. All of the Library staff appreciates the expertise that she brings from former public library employment and her enthusiasm for her new position here in the C.O.D. Library. Melissa supervises seven Reference Assistants and arranges scheduling and hiring. She values our work, makes us aware of new procedures and answers our questions. As needed, she subs for us when there is a shortage of staff at the Reference Desk. Her help with borrowing books from other libraries via I-Share and InterLibrary Loan is invaluable. When there are special events during the day, evenings or weekends for students, parents & staff, Melissa supplies Library information and bookmarks at a designated table. She designed a new colorful and informative Library brochure that we have available for these special events and as a handout in the Library. Monthly displays of books based on special interests and topics are gathered and arranged by her for display in four different areas. I appreciate Melissa as my Supervisor and feel she deserves this special recognition for a COD Award.</p>

Individual (Nominee)	Nomination Submission
Lynda Nagle	<p>Criteria: Core Values</p> <p>Hello, I am nominating Lynda Nagle - Administrative Assistant IV, for the individual I AM COD award. Lynda consistently demonstrates a high level of integrity, honesty, respect, responsibility, and equity in all her duties and interactions. She is the backbone of the Admissions office, and she treats everyone with kindness and consideration. She ensures the office follows all necessary protocols, lends a helping hand wherever and whenever needed, and her attention to details contribute to the efficiency of our office. Lynda goes above and beyond her daily responsibilities and creates a lovely environment of inclusivity - from preparing halal and kosher food for our festive celebrations to accommodating space and resources to those in need. Lynda exemplifies COD's core values, and I am honored to collaborate with her. Thank you for all you do Lynda!</p>

Individual (Nominee)	Nomination Submission
Jennifer Matiasek	Criteria: Core Values, Service Excellence, Exceptional Performance

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	<p>Jennifer's expertise and service has been an asset and extremely valuable to the Testing and Proctoring Committee's mission. The committee values making informed recommendations to address matters based on data and research employing an inclusive approach. Jennifer has worked tirelessly putting in extensive hours of work for our committee, often with tight deadlines to keep us on a trajectory to meet committee deadlines, and she always does so with grace and enthusiasm. She has helped our committee develop and administer two faculty surveys, 7 faculty focus groups, and a student survey, often with these projects running concurrently. These projects involve significant preparatory work to develop and administer, with each having an extensive report to follow that includes quantitative and/or qualitative data, trends, and summaries. We are extremely appreciative of all the work she has done in a short time frame to ensure we have the necessary information in a swift manner, which is the direct result of her robust expertise that she lends working collaboratively with our committee, her ability to phrase questions to elicit objective and accurate data, and her ability to see perspectives through the lens of the others as she assists in developing meaningful questions to ensure we are obtaining the information that is needed. She truly embodies the core values of the College of DuPage, with her excellent customer service and exceptional performance superseding the expectations of the committee time and time again. Jennifer, is often viewed as an "honorary member" because she is with us so often as a guest. Jennifer Matiasek has played a valuable role in supporting our committee's commitment to ensure students have accessible and equitable testing and proctoring services.</p>
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Individual (Nominee)	Nomination Submission
Michael Mohring	<p>Criteria: Service Excellence, Exceptional Performance</p> <p>Michael Mohring was the lead on getting our office set up with the new Soft Docs system since April 2024 and for several months after that (as well as currently as things occasionally still come up). We have a very detailed process for our use of the imaging systems, and he worked very closely with us to make sure everything was set up to the best of the system's ability. He held several meetings with us as well as quite a few last-minute impromptu ones requested on our end to make sure he fully understood everything as well as to make sure we fully understood everything. He was great at explaining everything to us when we had any questions or had trouble understanding something. He always made the time for us, even when last-minute things came up. He also worked very diligently and expeditiously on all our requests as well as the big task of putting together our numerous E-Docs within this new system. All our E-Docs have separate skip logics involved that is unique to each document which makes the setup of this a very tedious one. He was always extremely quick with a response and fix to our constant testing of all the E-Docs he built for us. He also was and remains to be very quick with a response and fix to all other issues/changes/updates needed regarding Soft Docs permissions, usage, e-docs, and the system all together. He is very knowledgeable, and if there is something he is not sure of, he reaches out to Soft Docs or colleagues of his and does the research to make sure things are working to the best of the system's ability as well as to make sure the system is working to the best of our office's needs. He is creative in coming up with solutions and options, especially if the system may not exactly accommodate certain tasks we requested, which has happened quite a few times. He is great at thinking outside of the box. All of this has made the transition to the new system for our office and everyone that works in our office a smooth one and has allowed the office to better do our jobs which in return has made it much easier for the students. The students are now able to more easily submit their required documents to our office and have a better understanding of what is required of them on the forms. He has helped in making some of our office's responsibilities more efficient as well as helping the student's requirements in the financial aid process more efficient and lighter on the students. He remains to be extremely approachable, knowledgeable, hardworking, creative, available, dependable, resourceful and positive. I can't say enough positive things about Michael and how much his exceptional hard work and phenomenal communication has been and continues to be greatly appreciated. He always goes above and beyond. He is a great asset to the college and the IT team.</p>

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Individual (Nominee)	Nomination Submission
Michelle Resnick	<p>Criteria: Core Values, Service Excellence, Exceptional Performance</p> <p>A student came into the finance office extremely upset today because she is homeless and thinking about checking herself into a hospital just for shelter and felt that COD as a whole was not helping her the way she should be helped. The student first approached two accountants and as the student became increasingly aggravated with her situation she was directed to Mrs. Resnick. Michelle took the time to have the student sit in her office and she listened to this student's story. She listened to the hardships this student is currently experiencing and finally found a solution to the student's issue. Even though the student's situation had nothing to do with the accounts receivable office the student just needed to be heard. One of the student's concerns was an appeal that she felt was not being taken seriously. Michelle made the extra efforts to review the student's account and let her know what steps were still needed to file the appeal and then reached out to the proper department to communicate with them what was happening. The student left Michelle's office with a completely different attitude than she came in with. The student felt heard, she felt helped, and most importantly she felt supported. Michelle made her feel like all of her concerns were completely validated. This is so important that we give our student's respect and empathy even when they are tense and unable to express their feelings in a positive way. More people need to take the time and help each other in this school and in this world and Michelle is the perfect example of someone who does that. Even a situation that isn't something she can fix immediately because it has nothing to do with her department. Instead of giving the student the "run around" she truly made this student feel good and gave her the faith she needs to move forward with her college experience. Michelle shows this same respect and empathy to the people she works with and she even thanked the accountants for how they dealt with the situation once the student had left the office. This office wouldn't be the office it is without Michelle and people wouldn't be showing each other the amount of kindness they do without her here. We would not be able to survive in this office without her. Whether it be supporting a colleague who recently lost a family member or celebrating along side a colleague who just accomplished something she is the glue that holds the finance department together.</p>

Individual (Nominee)	Nomination Submission
Regina Wisemiller	<p>Criteria: Service Excellence</p> <p>Gina has been at COD for 23 years. In her role as Digital Print Operator, she provides high quality service to faculty and staff while carefully fulfilling their print orders. She truly cares about her work and goes out of her way to ensure our customers' orders are correct and delivered on time. Gina recognizes and personally knows many of the College staff, including all their unique ordering preferences. She provides unique services such as enlarging and binding books for individuals' special needs. This is a manual process that takes a lot of time, patience and accuracy. Gina assists new faculty members in helping them understand Campus Services processes. She provides engaging tours of the print shop for COACH program students who are interested in learning about her job and how printing equipment works. Gina takes great pride in knowing that her work ultimately contributes to the success of our students. I am excited to nominate Gina Wisemiller for the I Am COD Individual Award because I believe her dedication to excellence deserves this recognition.</p>

Individual (Nominee)	Nomination Submission
Robert Marek	Criteria: Core Values, Service Excellence, Exceptional Performance

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	<p>(1) Recently, Robert (Bobby) Marek went above and beyond his position to provide his excellent analytical skills to the MAC ticket box office staff to help them reconcile their Ticket.com transactions and ensure proper posting the the general ledger. He worked with them to easily automate their NARD deposit forms by using ticket.com reports and also agreed to do monthly general ledger entries for adjustments that are needed due to credits that are in the the ticket.com system. These credits are mainly gift card outstanding balances and other credits given for unused tickets. In the mist of this special project, Bobby discovered that there is an outstanding credit report from ticket.com that list outs all of the patron names and outstanding credit balances. Previously, the Financial Affairs Office had manually tracked these credit balances on an excel spreadsheet that took numerous hours to reconcile on a monthly basis. Now as an audit trail, we can easily and quickly rely on this recently discovered ticket.com report to reconcile these credits back to the general ledger. Bobby's dedication to the College and service excellence to help out a fellow College department ended up helping his own department by automating our tracking of MAC Credits! Bobby helps out many areas of the College regularly and the College is lucky to have him!</p> <p>(2) I nominate Bobby Marek as a great example of empowering others through training, his positive attitude and taking time out of his busy schedule to help. His willingness and generosity to share his knowledge with others is incredibly beneficial. Bobby is always someone that I can turn to when I have questions about budgets and financial information. He has taken time since I started at COD to help me understand and clean up our department's budget when my manager and I were both new to COD. Most recently, I needed to provide my manager with financial data for a particular general ledger account over a three-year period. I turned to Bobby for help. He provided me with the information, and when I asked if he could tell me how to do it, he didn't hesitate to set up a training with me. Bobby's training on Financial Data Extraction is extremely valuable in my position, especially since I work with a lot of databases. He is such a great example of wanting others to succeed. After training with Bobby, I asked if he would be willing to provide this to others in a larger platform through the EDC, since I thought others would benefit from this training. Bobby didn't hesitate and is open to helping others at COD. This is another example of his dedication. Bobby Marek is COD!</p>
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Individual (Nominee)	Nomination Submission
Tamikia Charles	<p>Criteria: Core Values, Service Excellence, Exceptional Performance</p> <p>Working with Tamikia for the past 1 1/2 has been an experience of a lifetime. She trained me from day one and was big on me becoming the financial aid assistant that I have become. I owe all and any future success in my roles at COD to her. She is excellent with every student providing precise and complete answers to the student. She is always upbeat and willing to do more than what her job requires. Always tries to find new ways for things to work for her team and always has the student's best interest first. I am proud to be a co-worker and glad that I was able to learn and continue learning from her.</p>

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Section 1: Items to Note and Criteria for Team Award

Award Amounts

Individual Awards (per semester)	Team Awards (per semester, per individual)
\$500.00	\$50.00

Criteria for I Am COD Team Award

Nominators choose the criterion that best describes why this team is being nominated: *(multiple criteria may be selected)*

Core Values | Service Excellence | Exceptional Performance

Section 2: List of Team Nominees

Team (Nominee)	Team Members	Nominator(s)
Academic Deans	Janice Kaushal Jennifer Cumpston Sonia Watson Jennifer McIntosh Robyn Schiffman Brian Carlson Mark Rudisill Anna Campbell Rachel Anderson	Lisa Stock, Academic Affairs
Access & Accommodations	Mark Garstka Tonia Metoyer Sheryl Ebersold Rochelle Favale Kelli Kerns Maureen Kies Daniel Rische	Sam Salvato, Access & Accommodations
Admissions & Outreach Operations Team (Multiple Nominations)	Robyn Abend Joseph Latoria Jason Sanchez Sameena Parveen	(1) Angela Nackovic, Admissions & Outreach (2) Edward Ortega, Admissions & Outreach (3) Sameena Parveen, Admissions & Outreach
Tuition Rate System Team	Jon Hetelle Juan Zayas Eugene Refakes	Michelle Resnick, Finance
Information Systems	Michael Berna Audrey Schlifke Susan Sutherland Craig Heavens	Sameen Parveen, Admissions & Outreach
Support Services	Brian Smith Karyin Boulom Samina Khan Nancy Jadzak Lisa Tejeda	Lisa Tejeda, Support Services

Section 3: Nomination Submissions

When was the team formed and/or what was/is the main purpose of this team? Describe the project/process/initiative that this team collaborated on. Describe the impact on students/employees/community.

Team	Nomination Submission Text
Academic Deans	<p>Criteria: Core Values</p> <p>The Academic Deans Team personifies the Core Values of College of DuPage. This team works together with honesty, respect, responsibility and a desire for equity to provide guidance to all academic divisions enabling them to deliver high quality programming to our students. Specifically, this team has led the charge on such initiatives as implementation of the Guided Pathways Model, support of the Student Completion Plan and a renewed focus on the use of data in the improvement of student success rates. While this team has focused on these crucial college wide initiatives, they have simultaneously worked with faculty in their divisions to support the College Mission by assisting disciplines in obtaining the faculty and resources they need to continue their innovative and workforce responsive certificates and degrees. The impact to students is profound. COD on an annual basis plans and schedules close to 7000 sections of classes and supports over 180 certificate and 82 degree programs. Through collaboration with faculty, Deans oversee and shape these offerings and the resources that support them. This support includes coordination and professional development opportunities for adjunct instructors who teach over 65% of our sections through the offices of Adjunct Faculty Support, directed by the Dean of AFS. Also notable is the support of the OER classroom materials project led by a faculty librarian and supported by the Associate Dean of the Library. This project has saved students over 7 million dollars in the past 5 years. All of these efforts and plans are supported by the planning and documentation done by administrative assistant to the Asst. Provost of Instruction.</p>

Team	Nomination Submission Text
Access & Accommodations	<p>Criteria: Core Values, Service Excellence, Exceptional Performance</p> <p>I am thrilled to nominate the CAA Team for the I Am COD Team Award, as they exemplify the core values of our college. Their unwavering dedication to service excellence and exceptional performance stands as a testament to their commitment to our student community, significantly impacting the lives of countless individuals facing chronic or temporary health conditions all while supporting faculty in navigating unfamiliar or sensitive territory. The CAA Team has shown remarkable resilience and adaptability, successfully managing a 14% increase in the number of students served this year. This impressive feat, which includes seeing 8-10 students per day during peak times, showcases their unparalleled work ethic and commitment to supporting students in their times of need. What's truly commendable is their ability to provide individualized and interactive care, ensuring that each student receives the attention and support they deserve, even amidst a busy schedule. This level of personalized care speaks volumes about the respect they have for each student's unique circumstances and challenges. Operating with the highest standards of integrity and honesty, the CAA Team fosters an environment of trust and transparency. They approach each interaction with sincerity, ensuring that students feel valued and heard. Their responsibility extends beyond mere care; they actively advocate for the health and well-being of each student, demonstrating a profound sense of duty that is inspiring to all who work alongside them. Equity is at the heart of the CAA Team's mission. They are dedicated to ensuring that all students, regardless of their backgrounds or situations, receive the support they need to thrive academically and personally. Their commitment to creating an inclusive</p>

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	<p>environment where every student feels welcomed and supported is truly remarkable. One of the most impressive aspects of the CAA Team is how they support each other. In a fast-paced and demanding environment, the team members consistently lift one another up, sharing their knowledge, skills, and experiences. This culture of collaboration allows them to efficiently manage their workload while ensuring no one feels overwhelmed. They engage in regular team meetings to discuss challenges, celebrate successes, and brainstorm solutions together, fostering a strong sense of camaraderie. This mutual support not only enhances their effectiveness in serving students but also creates a positive and motivating workplace culture where everyone feels empowered to contribute. The CAA Team's dedication to our college's core values and their exceptional service to students make them incredibly deserving of the I Am COD Team Award. Their impact on the lives of those they serve is profound, and their commitment to excellence sets a shining example for the entire college community. Recognizing the CAA Team with this award will honor their hard work and inspire others to follow in their footsteps. Thank you for considering this nomination for such an outstanding team.</p>
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Team	Nomination Submission Text
Admissions & Outreach	<p>Criteria: Service Excellence, Exceptional Performance</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="380 768 1950 1125">(1) The enrollment operations team in the admissions and outreach office is an essential part of our team as they process the thousands of general admissions applications from students wanting to attend COD. Not only do they help new students but also redirect former COD students that want to come back but may need to reapply to access the student portal and other student services. Our enrollment operations team also helps our admissions representatives (my teammates and me) with generating alternative ID's for students, troubleshoot why students are unable to get back into the application portal and manually checks records to prevent fraudulent applications. For example, I was hosting an application day at Metea Valley High School for seniors in October 2024 and had over 45 students apply at this event. Our enrollment team has to review all of these applications coming in along with others applying at the same time. I also had to request alternative ID's for 9 of the students I was assisting as they did not have a SSN. Our enrollment ops team promptly processed my request so these students could complete the general admissions application. Whenever I need help with a student application or have questions, Robyn, Joe and Jason always make time for my questions and help me. They are a great team and most deserving of the I AM COD Award. <li data-bbox="380 1125 1950 1446">(2) I am honored to nominate the Admissions Operations team for the esteemed I AM COD Award in recognition of their unwavering dedication and invaluable contributions to the College of DuPage community. This team's commitment to excellence, student success, and inclusivity has made a significant and lasting impact on the college's admissions process and student experience. The Admissions Operations team has played an integral role in ensuring that applications are cleared, processed, and submitted in a timely and efficient manner. Their meticulous attention to detail and streamlined procedures have not only enhanced the efficiency of the admissions process but have also created a supportive environment where every student feels valued and seen. The team's collaborative approach and quick response times have significantly reduced processing delays, enabling prospective students to transition seamlessly into their academic journeys. A particularly noteworthy achievement of the Admissions Operations team is their dedication to supporting undocumented students. Understanding the unique challenges faced by this group, the team has been instrumental in implementing and managing the process of creating ALT IDs. This practice ensures that undocumented students can access the resources and opportunities

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	<p>necessary for their educational success. Through their actions, the Admissions Operations team has exemplified the college’s mission to foster an inclusive and equitable environment for all students, regardless of background or status. Their compassionate approach to student support, coupled with their commitment to innovative solutions, has made the Admissions Operations team a pillar of the College of DuPage’s admissions process. Their work not only reflects technical proficiency and reliability but also a deep understanding of the importance of inclusivity and student empowerment. I wholeheartedly believe that the Admissions Operations team embodies the spirit of the I AM COD Award. Their dedication, resilience, and commitment to student success make them highly deserving of this recognition</p> <p>(3) Hello. I am nominating the Admissions Operations team for their exceptional performance. I am so thrilled to recognize Robyn Abend, Joseph Latoria and Jason Sanchez for their outstanding performance and dedication to student services. Robyn, Joe, and Jason consistently work together using positive collaboration techniques and a result driven approach to combat technical challenges students face in completion and integration of their college application. Beyond their daily responsibilities of clearing application errors, importing test scores, reconciling duplicate records, tackling invalid data, and processing permits and waivers - Robyn, Joe and Jason go above and beyond volunteering on committees such as the Emergency Action Committee and training their colleagues in all things Recruit CRM. They are analytic thinkers and have developed enhancements to our Operations processes by documenting new processes and updating existing Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs). Their commitment to improve all processes and mentor our fellow colleagues is proof of their strong dedication to students and fellow colleagues. I am so grateful for their exemplary service and contributions and their efforts are deeply appreciated by all. Go Ops!!</p>
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Team	Nomination Submission Text
Tuition Rate System Team	<p>Criteria: Service Excellence, Exceptional Performance</p> <p>I would like to nominate Jon Hetelle, Juan Zayas, and Eugene Refakes for the I Am COD Team Award in recognition of their outstanding work on the Tuition Rate System - Access Database. This trio went above and beyond to create an invaluable tool for the Accounts Receivable team. The tuition rate tables, which drive how students are billed based on factors like residency, student type, and class choices, involve countless rules and constant updates. It can be challenging to keep everything clear and avoid unintended complications. Jon, Juan, and Eugene stepped in to make this process simpler by designing a database that lays out all the rules in a user-friendly way. This simple but powerful solution allows us to visualize the rules and ensure that any updates we make don’t cause issues with other rate rules. Their work has streamlined a complex process and given us more confidence that we’re doing things right for our students. Their dedication to making sure we have a tool that works seamlessly with our tuition rate structure truly stands out. They deserve this recognition for their service excellence and exceptional performance.</p>

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Team	Nomination Submission Text
Information Systems	<p>Criteria: Service Excellence</p> <p>Hello, I am nominating the Information Systems team - Michael Berna, Susan Sutherland, Audrey Schlifke and Craig Heavens for the I AM COD team award in Service Excellence. These amazing colleagues of mine form a powerhouse team that truly exemplify COD's spirit of service. They collectively enhance our systems and tackle technical problems and initiatives with quality, dedication and efficiency. Their combined technical and analytical skills have helped all of us streamline our office and system processes to make serving our students easier. Thank you for all you do for us in Admissions, especially with tweaking, updating and fixing our CRM. We could not do what we do in Operations without your relentless efforts and collaboration. You guys rock!</p>

Team	Nomination Submission Text
Support Services	<p>Criteria: Service Excellence</p> <p>Support Services are a behind the scenes team. They work with the staff to get out business cards, letterheads , and envelopes on same day ordering time span. They work with Athletics and staff to make sure the vehicles are ready for their important events they schedule. We do whatever it takes to make sure we fit them in because we know the importance of the event they need to go to. Support services help with callers to get them to the right department and take the time to help since we are in some cases the first people they talk to at the campus. Besides these everyday tasks we have made relationships with professors that come back every semester to help with their documents. We have made strong connections to help and support in any way we can. The team not only supports the campus we support each other to make sure we are on the same page and are all informed with the daily task on hand. Detailed oriented, welcoming, and trustworthy are us mighty 4 plus our supervisor.</p>