



CAHME/Baldrige Foundation Award for Leadership Excellence

1. Go to the Baldrige Foundation Award for Leadership Excellence webpage [here](#).
2. Click on the “Apply for Award Here” button (see below) which will bring you directly to the CAHME/Baldrige Foundation Award for Leadership Excellence application.

APPLY FOR AWARD HERE

3. Once you click on the “Apply Here” button, you will be brought to the login page below.

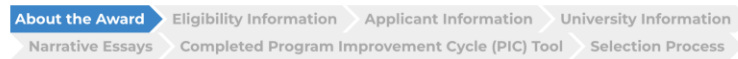
The screenshot shows the CAHME website's login and account creation interface. At the top left is the CAHME logo, and at the top right are links for "HOME" and "MY ACCOUNT". The main heading is "Login or Create an Account". Below this is a sub-heading: "The CAHME/Baldrige Foundation Award for Leadership Excellence 2026-2027". The page is divided into two columns. The left column is for "Login" and contains fields for "Email Address" and "Password", both with red asterisks indicating required fields. Below these fields are links for "lost password?" and "remember me", and a blue "Login" button. The right column is for "Create a New Account" and contains fields for "Email Address", "First Name", "Last Name", "University or Company Name", "Create a Password", and "Retype Password", all with red asterisks. The "Email Address" field in the right column is currently selected.

4. Create an Account by filling out the appropriate fields. Then, login using your information.

****Note:** Once you log in, you'll be able to save your progress and return to it anytime.

5. Read through the first tab (About the Award). Once you read it through, hit Save and Next.

The CAHME/Baldrige Foundation Award for Leadership Excellence 2026-2027



Background and Purpose

The Baldrige Foundation promotes leadership excellence by encouraging strategies that align mission, vision, and values to drive innovation and achieve sustainable results. It supports leaders through educational programs, resources, and recognition initiatives, empowering them to foster a culture of continuous improvement and resilience, ensuring their organizations can adapt and thrive in a competitive environment.

This award recognizes a program director who:

- Demonstrates exceptional leadership in advancing:
 - Program quality
 - Organizational effectiveness
 - Stakeholder value
 - Measurable outcomes through continuous quality improvement
- Has made significant strides in:
 - Improving the quality of their program
 - Advancing the quality of healthcare management education

This marks the third year of the award

6. Read through the second tab (Eligibility Information). At the bottom of the page, select Yes to confirm that you agree to the eligibility conditions. Selecting Yes is required to continue with the application. Once you have made your selection, click Save and Next.

The CAHME/Baldrige Foundation Award for Leadership Excellence 2026-2027



Nomination Process

- Eligible program directors can nominate themselves.
- The program director is responsible for preparing and submitting the complete application.

Eligibility Requirements for the Program Director

- Serves as the program director of the CAHME accredited program
- Program holds current CAHME accreditation
- Has served in the role for at least one (1) year prior to the application deadline (will need to provide the date in which you began as Program Director at your university)
- When applying, program directors must be currently working in this role when they submit the application
- Program director has successfully demonstrated that they led and implemented a CQI process with the CAHME PIC tool
- Has played a substantial leadership role in the improvement initiative submitted.
- Program is in good standing, meaning, not on probation and has no outstanding financial obligations to CAHME
- Most recent site visit does not have any unresolved "not mets" or "critical concerns"

Application Requirements

- Program Director Contact Information
- University Information
- First year of CAHME accreditation
- First year as program director of the CAHME accredited program
- Narrative (response to 4 questions) describing a significant continuous quality improvement (CQI) initiative led during their tenure as program director.
- Completed Process Improvement Cycle (PIC) tool
- Limited supporting documentation, if it adds relevant information, should be included

Award Includes

7. Read through the third tab (Applicant Information). Select from the CAHME Accredited Program Confirmation dropdown menu. Once you make your selection, hit Save and Next.

The CAHME/Baldrige Foundation Award for Leadership Excellence 2026-2027

About the Award Eligibility Information **Applicant Information** University Information
Narrative Essays Completed Program Improvement Cycle (PIC) Tool Selection Process

Application Name *

Provide a name or title for your application.

THIS FORM IS COLLECTING CONTACT INFORMATION, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO NAMES, ADDRESSES, PHONE NUMBERS, AND EMAIL ADDRESSES, FOR THE PURPOSE OF COMMUNICATION AND CORRESPONDENCE RELATED TO THE AWARD. BY SUBMITTING THIS INFORMATION, YOU CONSENT TO ITS COLLECTION AND USE FOR THE SPECIFIED PURPOSE. THIS INFORMATION WILL BE HANDLED IN ACCORDANCE WITH APPLICABLE DATA PROTECTION LAWS AND WILL NOT BE SHARED WITH THIRD PARTIES EXCEPT AS REQUIRED BY LAW OR WITH YOUR EXPLICIT CONSENT. ADDITIONALLY, BY PROVIDING YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION, YOU CONSENT TO ITS USE FOR THE PURPOSES OF THE SCHOLARSHIP/AWARD COLLECTION, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO PROJECT UPDATES, NOTIFICATIONS, AND OTHER RELEVANT COMMUNICATIONS ABOUT CAHME. YOU RESERVE THE OPTION TO OPT OUT OF SUCH COMMUNICATION FOLLOWING THE SELECTION OF THE CANDIDATE. TO OPT OUT OF FUTURE COMMUNICATION FOLLOWING THE SELECTION OF A CANDIDATE, SEND AN EMAIL TO INFO@CAHME.ORG, OR BY CLICKING UNSUBSCRIBE ON THE EMAIL COMMUNICATION.

CAHME Accredited Program Confirmation *

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Save

Save and Next

8. Read through the fourth tab (University Information). Once you fill out your information, hit Save and Next.

The CAHME/Baldrige Foundation Award for Leadership Excellence 2026-2027

About the Award Eligibility Information Applicant Information **University Information**
Narrative Essays Completed Program Improvement Cycle (PIC) Tool Selection Process

University *

University Address *

Street Address

Line 2

City

Country

State / Province

Zip / Postal Code

Program Name *

9. Read through the fifth tab (Narrative Essays). In this section, provide a written response to each question. After completing all of your responses, click Save and Next to continue.

****Note:** Feel free to write out your responses in a different document (ex. Word) and copy & paste them when complete.

The CAHME/Baldrige Foundation Award for Leadership Excellence 2026-2027

About the Award > Eligibility Information > Applicant Information > University Information
Narrative Essays > Completed Program Improvement Cycle (PIC) Tool > Selection Process

Narrative Instructions

- The narrative will be complementary, not duplicating the information contained in the PIC Tool.
- Reviewers will use the PIC Tool to evaluate the CQI process and evidence of improvement.
- The narrative should explain the leadership, decision-making, organizational context, and broader significance of the initiative.
- Instructions for Completing the Narrative:
 - Please answer each question in the online application.
 - Use concise, evidence-informed responses.
 - Refer to the PIC Tool where appropriate, but do not repeat data tables, measures, timelines, or action plans already documented there.
 - Max response length: 200 words per question.

Essay 1 (200 word limit) *

Strategic Importance of the Initiative: Describe why this improvement initiative was selected and why it was strategically important to your program.

Applicants should address:

- Why was this the right initiative at this point in your program's development?
- What organizational or external factors influenced its selection?

10. Read through the sixth tab (Completed Program Improvement Cycle – PIC – Tool). Upload your PIC tool. If you wish to upload additional documentation, feel free to do so. Once you have uploaded everything, hit Save and Next.

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About the Award > Eligibility Information > Applicant Information > University Information
Narrative Essays > Completed Program Improvement Cycle (PIC) Tool > Selection Process

The PIC Tool will serve as the primary source of evidence for the CQI process, implementation, results, and monitoring.

Required PIC Tool *

Choose File No file chosen

Additional documentation, if it adds relevant information, should be included.

Optional Additional Documentation #1

Choose File No file chosen

Optional Additional Documentation #2

Choose File No file chosen

Optional Additional Documentation #3

Choose File No file chosen

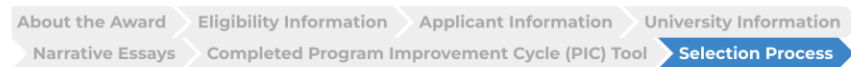
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Save

Save and Next

11. You will be brought to the seventh tab (Selection Process). Once you have finalized all fields of the application, hit Save and Finalize.

The CAHME/Baldrige Foundation Award for Leadership Excellence 2026-2027



Selection Process

- Nominations will be reviewed by a blue-ribbon panel.
- Applicants will be notified of a decision by January 2026.
- Award recipient will present their Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) initiative using the CAHME Process Improvement Cycle (PIC) tool during CAHME Bootcamp (June 2027).

Please be sure to click the 'Save and Finalize' button to complete this application.

If you have any questions or concerns, contact Brianna Moccia, CAHME Operations Manager, at bmoccia@cahme.org.

[Prev](#) [Save](#) [Save and Finalize](#)

12. When you hit Save and Finalize you will receive the message below:



Press OK to Submit your Application. You will not be allowed to make changes after submitting.

Press Cancel to return to the Application.

You may also press 'Save' instead of 'Save and Finalize' to save and return later.

[Cancel](#) [OK](#)

13. Hit Ok which will bring you to the page below.

Thank you for your application!

For more information on all of the CAHME Awards & Scholarships that are offered, visit: <https://cahme.org/awards-scholarships/>

If you have any questions or concerns, contact Brianna Moccia, CAHME Operations Manager, at bmoccia@cahme.org.

[See My Submissions](#)

14. Your application is submitted. If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to Brianna Moccia, Operations Manager, at bmoccia@cahme.org.

Thank you for applying to the CAHME/Baldrige Foundation Award for Leadership Excellence.