

## George Cunningham Visionary Award in Newborn Screening

The **George Cunningham Visionary Award** in Newborn Screening (NBS) shall be given on the occasion of the 2026 APHL Newborn Screening Symposium (NBSS) to honor a person working in U.S. NBS and judged by the 2026 APHL NBSS Planning Committee to have made the greatest contribution to expanding or improving the screening of newborns by public health agencies in one or more states. The contribution of the recipient must have had a direct effect in improving the quality of life of newborns and their families.

The award will be for lifetime achievements. Contributions to voluntary, proprietary screening do not qualify for the award.

### Nomination for the Award

Nomination for the **George Cunningham Visionary Award** in NBS may be made by any person working in U.S. NBS activities or a consumer thereof. The nomination must be accompanied by:

1. A brief statement of entry explaining why you believe your nominee deserves this award
2. A letter of nomination of 100-200 words (English) which describes the nature of the nominee's contribution(s)
3. Two seconding letters
4. Supporting documentation such as a resume, publications, presentations, newsletter articles, photographs of program events highlighting the individual's contributions or other relevant information to demonstrate the contributions of the nominee

Previous winners of the [George Cunningham Visionary Award](#) in NBS and the [International Society of Neonatal Screening awards](#) are ineligible for nomination. A person may not nominate more than one candidate per award period. Nominations, selection discussions and accompanying materials will be kept confidential by the NBSS Planning Committee except for information about the winner, which will be shared at the awards ceremony.

All nominations must be submitted through the NBS Awards Nomination Platform by **Friday, July 31, 2026**. Nominations not submitted through the platform will not be considered. Directions for submitting a nomination can be found on the platform.

### Award Selection

Nominations will be solicited, and awardees will be selected by the NBSS Planning Committee of the 2026 APHL NBSS. Voting will take place on the platform.

If no nominations for outstanding contributions are received or if those nominated are deemed without merit, the Planning Committee may elect not to present an award.

## **Announcement of the George Cunningham Visionary Award in Newborn Screening**

The recipient of the **George Cunningham Visionary Award** in NBS will be announced at the 2026 APHL NBSS. The announcement will be accompanied by a brief biography of the recipient and an explanation of their contribution. The recipient will have the opportunity to make a brief acceptance speech.

In advance of the awards ceremony, nominators and the award recipient will be made aware of the final decision. Please submit nominations for the award through the platform. The deadline to submit a nomination is **Friday, July 31, 2026**.