



THE PAUL SIMON AWARD Call for Applicants

Signature Healthcare Foundation

Signature Healthcare Foundation was formed by physicians whose vision for the organization was to be a recognized leader in the local and national healthcare dialogue and spearhead physician leadership in improvements and efficiencies in the healthcare delivery system.

THE MISSION OF THE FOUNDATION IS TO UTILIZE PHYSICIAN LEADERSHIP TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY, EFFICIENCY AND AFFORDABILITY OF HEALTHCARE

Each time a physician writes a doctor's order for the benefit of a patient, he/she shows commitment to the patient, their family and the community by accepting responsibility for their care. Signature Healthcare Foundation is an organization created by physicians to continue that commitment.

Patients access our healthcare delivery system through physicians. The physician and patient partnership then does business with insurance companies, hospitals and other support services. Physicians are the link between these patients and the care received from these support services. Signature Healthcare Foundation is dedicated to improving the healthcare delivery system and looking for new solutions to the problems physicians face in providing quality care.

The Paul Simon Award

Former Illinois Senator Paul Simon was a member of the Signature Foundation Board of Directors until his death in late 2003. The Foundation Board established this award in his honor to stimulate the kind of quality and effectiveness in healthcare in which he believed.

The program presents monetary awards to the individuals and institutions who have demonstrated, through a competitive review process, the most creative or effective method to save money and increase business efficiency in the healthcare system.

The goals of this program are to:

- Spur creative thinking about cost savings methods
- Stimulate implementation of these cost savings methods
- Share cost savings strategies to enable replication

The Foundation plans to announce award winners at the Foundation's Annual Health Policy Forum where awardees creativity and cost saving methods will be highlighted. The Foundation also plans to share results of the Paul Simon award throughout the community via other media distributions.

Criteria for awards include:

- Cost savings mechanism must have been in place with demonstrable savings for at least one month prior to award submission and must have been implemented within the last three years.
- Submitting institution must have a commitment to the continuation of this savings mechanism.
- While the cost saving award can be received by anyone working in a healthcare institution, the mechanism must have been developed utilizing involvement and consultation with a physician.

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Award Amounts

For 2017, the amounts for this award will be:

- \$2,000 to the institution implementing the cost saving process
- \$1,000 to the physician or physicians instrumental in the design and implementation of the cost saving process
- \$1,000 to any additional individual (nurse, administrator, or other staff) instrumental in the design and implementation of the cost saving process

Application Process

Applicants should submit a description of their cost saving mechanism not to exceed two single spaced pages. The following should be included:

- Description of the project/cost saving mechanism
- Date on which the savings mechanism was implemented
- Stated commitment to continued implementation
- Estimate of amount to be saved
- Description of role of physician in development and implementation of idea
- Signatures of all parties applying for award (healthcare institution, i.e. hospital, physician office, nursing home, etc.); physician and any other involved employees.

Applications should be submitted in Microsoft word format.

Applications are due by **12:00 noon on Wednesday, September 6** and should be emailed to bschlueter@signaturefoundation.org.

Any questions should be directed to bschlueter@signaturefoundation.org.

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