



The Big Ten Conference
Wayne Duke Postgraduate Award
Presented by
The Indianapolis Big Ten Community Partnership

The Wayne Duke Postgraduate Award is named for the former Big Ten Conference commissioner who served from 1971-89. While leading the Big Ten, Duke spent much of his time working to improve academic standards and graduation rates for student-athletes. Prior to arriving at the Big Ten Conference, Duke became the youngest executive officer of a major athletic conference when he took over the former Big Eight Conference at the age of 34 in 1963. Duke broke down barriers by hiring the first African American assistant commissioner of any national athletic organization in 1974 as well as the first female assistant commissioner in 1982. Duke graduated from the University of Iowa in 1950. He retired after 18 years of service to the Big Ten on June 30, 1989.

The Wayne Duke Postgraduate Award (the “Award”) is an annual scholarship recognizing one male and one female Big Ten senior for exceptional achievement in academics, athletics, and civic service. The Wayne Duke Postgraduate Award is merit-based and features a one-time, non-renewable financial award. For 2018, each Award is \$10,000. Awards will be funded directly to the recipient’s postgraduate institution upon verification of enrollment within eighteen months of graduation.

Each Big Ten institution may nominate one male and one female student-athlete who have consistently demonstrated high levels of achievement in academics, athletics, and civic service throughout their collegiate career. From these nominations, an independent committee will select one male and one female nominee to receive the award.

Nominations from university administrators are due upon completion of the Fall 2017 term, but no later than January 19, 2018. Nomination forms may be accessed online at www.indianasportscorp.org or via the link at www.bigten.org. Complete nomination packets must be scanned and emailed to the Selection Committee of The Indianapolis Big Ten Community Partnership (address below).

The Selection Committee is comprised of seven members who are independent from The Big Ten Conference and each institution. The Selection Committee will review all nomination packets to select the two Award recipients.

The Indianapolis Big Ten Community Partnership will present the Awards during the 2018 Big Ten Women's Basketball in Indianapolis.

Eligibility Requirements

To be eligible for consideration, a nominee must:

1. Honorably represent a Big Ten Conference institution, exhibiting excellence in academics, athletics and civic service while displaying strong character and leadership skills.
2. Be an undergraduate who is competing in:
 - a. His/her last season of athletic eligibility, and,
 - b. A varsity sport sponsored by his/her Big Ten Conference institution.
3. Plan to enroll in graduate or professional school within eighteen (18) months of graduation.

Nomination Process and Materials

Each institution should select one male and one female student-athlete pursuant to the criteria contained herein. The selection process at each institution is at the discretion of each institution. A complete nomination packet should be emailed to the Selection Committee upon completion of the Fall 2017 semester, but **no later than January 19, 2018**. A nomination packet must include:

1. A nomination form signed by the institution's Athletic Director and Faculty Athletic Representative
2. A letter of recommendation from the nominee's Head Coach (highlighting demonstrated athletic achievement, character, leadership, teamwork, work ethic, etc.)
3. A letter of recommendation from an academic faculty member familiar with the nominee's academic performance (highlighting academic achievement and effort extracurricular activities, leadership, accomplishments, etc.)
4. A student-athlete application form prepared and signed by the nominee
5. An official copy of the nominee's transcript
6. A headshot, and if possible, a sport-specific action shot of the student-athlete for publicity purposes (please email in .JPEG format to ckolby@indianasportscorp.org)

Selection Committee
Wayne Duke Postgraduate Award
ckolby@indianasportscorp.org
C/O Indiana Sports Corp

If you prefer to mail your application, please send to:
Indiana Sports Corp
Caleb Kolby
201 South Capitol Avenue, Suite 1200
Indianapolis, IN 46225-1069

A list of frequently asked questions (FAQs) is available online at www.indianasportscorp.org or via the link at www.bigten.org. Additional questions may be directed to Indiana Sports Corp at (317) 237-5018 or ckolby@indianasportscorp.org.

