

**Award Title: USDLA Innovation Award**

**Award Description:** The award is given to an organization, an individual, a project, an initiative, a disruptive technology, or a unique pedagogy. The award nomination exhibits innovative approaches to the delivery of distance learning. One award is given each year in each USDLA constituency: K12, Higher education, Corporate training, Telehealth, and Military/Government.

<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Strong (5)</b>	<b>Medium (3)</b>	<b>Weak (1)</b>	<b>Sample Artifacts</b>
<b>Engagement (15%)</b>	The innovation is interesting, engaging and unique. It makes a powerful statement. It may be a new concept, tool, method or something that contributes to the advancement distance learning.	The innovation is interesting and engaging. It definitely makes a statement.	The engagement is minimal.	Evidences of how the innovation engages and contributes to the advancement of distance learning.
<b>Innovation (30%)</b>	The innovation stands out as a unique approach to the delivery of distance learning. It creatively uses disruptive tools, methods, and/or pedagogy.	The innovation is somewhat creative.	There is little innovation.	Description of how the innovation uses tools, methods and/or pedagogy creatively and in a unique manner.
<b>Uniqueness / Originality</b>	The innovation is a project,	The innovation is a project, initiative,	The project is not new or	A description of how the innovation

<b>(25%)</b>	initiative, technology, and/or pedagogy that is totally new or reimagines something existing in a new and original way. It may offer a program not offered elsewhere, may work with a special audience, and/or may set the foundation for a new approach to distance learning.	technology, and/or pedagogy that contains some elements which are new or original, but is not wholly so.	original.	is new and original and how it may influence distance learning.
<b>Solid and Significant (15%)</b>	The innovation addresses a need or problem in distance learning and provides a solid solution that could make a significant impact on distance learning. The innovation has been pilot tested and shown	The innovation addresses a need or problem in distance learning and provides a possible solution. The innovation has been tested and shown to be somewhat effective.	No real need or problem is addressed.	A description of how the innovation addresses a need or problem in distance learning and how it provides a solution which could significantly impact distance learning. Evidence of how the innovation has been tested and shown to be effective.

	effective.			
<b>Makes a Difference with Measurable Impact (15%)</b>	The innovation has a tight alignment between outcomes/goals/mission and measured impact. Innovation leader(s) are setting goals, measuring the impact, and provide evidence of monitoring progress and impact of the innovation.	There is some measured impact.	There is little to no measureable impact.	Evidence of how the innovation impact and progress is being measured and monitored.