

## Five Hints for Writing a Winning Denali Award Nomination

1. Choose the most appropriate category, such as Exceptional Performance, Leadership, and so forth.
2. Study the sample nominations and criteria for your category on the award website: [doa.alaska.gov/dop/denaliAwards/scoringCriteria/](https://doa.alaska.gov/dop/denaliAwards/scoringCriteria/)
3. Write your nomination addressing each criterion in the category. This is what the reviewers will use when scoring the nominations. For instance, a nomination for Exceptional Performance must address:
  - a. Productivity
  - b. Problem Solving Skills
  - c. Creativity
  - d. Ability to Prioritize Objectives
4. Be specific. Use real examples that illustrate or measure the accomplishments of your nominee, such as:
  - a. John provided expert assistance to XX number of food service establishments during the XX food recall event, protecting the health of XX number of Alaskans.
  - b. Team Alaska designed and delivered a widget that saved XX time and \$\$ for essential data collection and retrieval, resulting in the protection of XX water-bodies in Alaska.
  - c. Jane has been nationally recognized for her development of the XX which was used successfully to secure \$\$ in funding to improve the drinking water of XX rural Alaskans following the flood events of 20XX.
5. Read your nomination aloud to yourself. Is it compelling? Does it address the criteria? Consider asking a colleague to read your submittal and offer suggestions.