Appreciation and Recognition

The many ways we say, “Thank you!”

At Cornell, we are committed to cultivating a culture of appreciation that celebrates our employees’ achievements and contributions throughout the year. Success relies on all of us!

It is easy to get focused on the tasks at hand — the emails, the meetings, the projects and to-do lists — and forget to say, “Thank you!” or “Well done!” And yet, it is often those simple, timely gestures that have a profound impact on our attitude, productivity, and feelings of belonging.

Appreciation Portal

An easy-to-use appreciation portal that allows for quick, just-in-time messages to peers across the university. It's a thank you note, without having to pull out a card! The system empowers our employees to recognize a colleague’s success or milestone the moment it happens. Simply sign in and share your message privately with the individual.

Informal Recognition

It's easy and meaningful to recognize the efforts and accomplishments of employees and peers for their work every day, as well as after the completion of projects both large and small. Check out ideas for low cost and no-cost individual and group recognition.

Events

Special events such as High Five RED Days and Employee Celebrations are a broad campus-wide informal show of appreciation for our hardworking employees.

Awards

The university stewards several award programs intended to formally honor our employees for outstanding performance. Some are campus-wide recognitions, while others are specific to colleges, departments and units. Recognize an exceptional employee, supervisor or fellow colleague by nominating them for a variety of campus awards. Find out more.

Programs

Service recognition

This tradition of recognition is a grateful celebration of the staff milestones of 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, and 40 years of service to the university.

Degree recognition
Each year, dozens of Cornell staff members graduate with degrees from Cornell and other colleges with the help of the Employee Degree Program and the Tuition Aid program offered by the University.