Teacher of the Year 2018-19

Eligibility and Criteria

A Teacher of the Year candidate must:

* be a full-time, certified, in good standing, pre-k–12 teacher in a state-accredited public or charter school in Tennessee at each stage of the recognition process (school, district, region, grand division, state, and national levels),
* spend the majority of the school day in direct instruction to students,
* have a minimum of three years of experience as a teacher in Tennessee public or charter schools, and
* have a track record of exceptional gains in student learning.

Teachers of the Year at all levels must:

* have a broad understanding of research-based models for effective teaching and of current trends and issues in education,
* be facilitators of learning, skilled in implementing creative teaching strategies,
* be able to show evidence of positive teacher effect over time related to student achievement through formal and informal documentation,
* be able to explain, discuss, and defend a personal philosophy of teaching,
* be poised, articulate, enthusiastic, and energetic,
* be exceptionally dedicated, knowledgeable, and skilled,
* have a superior ability to teach and to inspire in students a love of learning,
* be recognized as leaders in the community and in the school,
* show active involvement and leadership in professional development and extra-curricular activities,
* inspire students of all backgrounds and abilities to learn, and
* have the respect and admiration of students, parents, and colleagues.