

2019-2020 OKLAHOMA TEACHER OF THE YEAR
APPLICATION PACKET
and **PROGRAM GUIDE**

DEADLINE
WEDNESDAY, MAY 23, 2018



OKLAHOMA
TEACHER
OF THE YEAR

CEREMONY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2018

OKLAHOMA STATE FAIR PARK

OKLAHOMA STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

WWW.OK.GOV/SDE • 2500 NORTH LINCOLN BOULEVARD, OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA 73105-4599

OKLAHOMA TEACHER OF THE YEAR PROGRAM

The Oklahoma Teacher of the Year (TOY) Program is conducted through the office of the State Superintendent of Public Instruction and is made possible through a partnership with the State Fair of Oklahoma. The enduring success of the program is credited to the numerous businesses, associations, organizations, and universities that typically present tuition waivers, tickets to athletic events, classroom technologies, gift card, cash awards, organization memberships, and the use of a new automobile.

Great Oklahoma teachers challenge, motivate, and inspire their students to do their best; they make learning exciting, engaging, and continuous; they are respected by their peers as well as local school officials, parents, and students; they are caring and creative, seeking to enrich the lives of their students and build a better future for us all. Honor classroom teachers at the local level by participating in the Oklahoma Teacher of the Year Program. This packet will guide you through the process.

CRITERIA

A candidate for Oklahoma Teacher of the Year is a teacher in a state approved or accredited school, prekindergarten through grade twelve, who is planning to continue in an active teaching status. All Oklahoma Teacher of the Year honorees agree to participate in the national program sponsored by the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO).

The Oklahoma Teacher of the Year candidate has the respect and admiration of colleagues and:

1. Is an expert in his or her field who guides students of all backgrounds and abilities to achieve excellence.
2. Collaborates with colleagues, students, and families to create a school culture of respect and success.
3. Deliberately connects the classroom and key stakeholders to foster a strong community at large.
4. Demonstrates leadership and innovation in and outside of the classroom walls that embody lifelong learning.
5. Expresses him or herself in an engaging and articulate way.

LOCAL DISTRICT SELECTION

At the local district level, the Teacher of the Year program is coordinated through the district superintendent, and it is his or her responsibility to make sure that every teacher is given the opportunity to participate in the recognition process. It is important to emphasize that the search is not for "the best teacher" but for one who exemplifies the finest in the profession. The local school district determines the local selection process and announces its Teacher of the Year.



TIMELINES

Deadline for application is Wednesday, May 23, 2018, in the State Department of Education Events office by 4 p.m.

We cannot accommodate late submissions.

- On June 7, 2018, the 12 finalists will be selected by the regional judging selection committee.
- By June 14, 2018, the 12 finalists will be notified via phone and email.
- On July 12, 2018, the 12 finalists will be announced at EngageOK On the Road at Norman North High School. (Rehearsal will be July 11, 2018.)
- On August 29, 2018, the State Selection Committee will interview the 12 finalists. The process will consist of:
 - An interview
 - Evaluating candidate videos (each of the 12 finalists will electronically submit a ten-minute video of classroom teaching)

The announcement of the Teacher of the Year will take place at State Fair Park on **September 18, 2018**, at the Teacher of the Year Ceremony. (Rehearsal will be September 17, 2018.)

EDWARD C. JOULLIAN III SCHOLARSHIP

Edward C. Joullian III honorably served the state of Oklahoma as chairman of the State Fair Board of Directors for ten years. As a founder of the partnership between the Teacher of the Year program and the Oklahoma State Fair, he showed his dedication to the education of the children of this great state. The Edward C. Joullian III Scholarship was established by the State Fair Board to encourage students to continue their education, recognize the State Teacher of the Year's school district, and celebrate the contributions of Mr. Joullian to the lives of Oklahoma's young people.

In 1998, the \$5,000 scholarship debuted during the State Teacher of the Year recognition ceremony and is awarded annually to a graduating senior from the Teacher of the Year's school district. It is awarded based upon a student's overall scholastic, leadership, and civic potential.

OKLAHOMA TEACHER OF THE YEAR PROGRAM PORTFOLIO

Please read carefully and follow instructions; if application is not completed as requested, it will not be accepted.

The application must be typed. The Oklahoma State Department of Education **will not** accept handwritten applications. In addition, you must use the forms provided unless otherwise stated.

To participate for **recognition at the ceremony ONLY**, submit pages 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9. A binder is required.

To participate in the **state competition**, submit all items in portfolio form. The portfolio must be on 8.5" by 11" paper, be **placed in a binder**, and be organized in numerical order. All essay sections must be typed in 12-point standard font, double-spaced with one-inch margins around each page. You may include dividers in the portfolio. **Judges request that you follow instructions carefully and maintain a professional format.** All signatures included in the portfolio must be original, not electronic or photocopied. The portfolio must include the following:

Acknowledgments Form signed by the candidate, Principal, and Superintendent (fillable form enclosed)

- Only original signature accepted
- Congressional district must be checked

Basic Data Sheet (fillable form enclosed)

Educational History and Professional Development: List and date your participation in professional organizations, service on committees, commissions, task forces, and presentations. (Please use these forms; if you need more space, attach a sheet to the back of the page.)

- Educational Preparation (list most recent first)
- Name of high school attended
- Employment Record of Service (list most recent first)
- Professional Association Memberships (list most recent first)
- Leadership in Staff Development (list most recent first)
- Awards and Other Recognition of Teaching (list most recent first)
- Original signature of candidate

Assurance Statement signed by the Superintendent (fillable form enclosed)

- Only original signature accepted

Photograph: You must include one color photo of yourself suitable for publication and press release (300 dpi). **ONLY a 5" by 7"** original photograph (no photocopies of pictures, please) will be accepted. Please do not adhere the photo to the page. It is recommended that you submit a professional-style photograph. The 12 finalists will be required to send a high-resolution digital photo for media use.

Professional Biography: What were the factors that influenced you to become a teacher? Describe what you consider to be your greatest contributions and accomplishments in education. (Limit response to two single-sided double-spaced pages.)

Professional Statements Written by the Candidate:

- **State your Philosophy of Teaching:** Describe your personal feelings and beliefs about teaching, including your own ideas of what makes an outstanding teacher. Describe the rewards you find in teaching. How are your beliefs about teaching demonstrated in your personal

teaching style? (Limit response to two single-sided double-spaced pages.)

- **Education Issues and Trends:** What do you consider the major public education issues today? Address one in depth, outlining possible causes, effects, and resolutions. (Limit response to two single-sided double-spaced pages.)
- **The Teaching Profession:** What do you do to strengthen and improve the teaching profession? What is and/or what should be the basis for accountability in the teaching profession? (Limit response to two single-sided double-spaced pages.)

Community Involvement: Describe your commitment to your community through service-oriented activities including volunteer work, civic responsibilities, and other group activities. (Limit response to one single-sided double-spaced page.)

Oklahoma Teacher of the Year:

- As the 2018-19 Teacher of the Year, you will serve as a spokesperson and representative for teachers and students. What is your message? What will you communicate to your profession and to the public? (Limit response to one single-sided double-spaced page.)
- Describe a lesson or unit that defines you as a teacher. How did you engage all students in the learning, and how did that learning influence your students? How are your beliefs about teaching demonstrated in this lesson or unit? (Limit response to one single-sided double-spaced page.)

Letters of Endorsement: Submit **ONLY THREE** recommendations that support why you should be the 2018-19 Oklahoma Teacher of the Year. At least one must be a recommendation from a parent, colleague, administrator, or student, and each letter must be no longer than one page in length. (Limit letters to one single-sided page; original signatures only.)

The electronic version of this document is available at <http://sde.ok.gov/sde/oklahoma-teacher-year>. Please do not include additional materials other than those listed. Videos are not to be submitted until the 12 finalists are selected.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS FORM

In submitting this form, I agree to allow the information herein to be used during the selection process for the 2019-2020 Oklahoma Teacher of the Year. The information will only be accessed by necessary State Department of Education staff and selection committee members. I understand that the information in this application will be held securely and not be distributed to third parties. Additionally, information about the person named Oklahoma Teacher of the Year will not be released until after the state has made an official announcement identifying the candidate as the state's Teacher of the Year.

CANDIDATE

I hereby give my permission that any or all of the attached materials (other than home address, telephone, and date of birth) may be shared with persons interested in promoting the Oklahoma Teacher of the Year Program. I also acknowledge that if selected as the 2019-2020 Oklahoma Teacher of the Year, I will be released from classroom responsibilities during the 2019-2020 school year in order to fulfill the obligations of the role.

NAME OF CANDIDATE

SIGNATURE OF CANDIDATE

DATE

EMAIL

PHONE NUMBER

SCHOOL/BUILDING PRINCIPAL

I acknowledge that the candidate submits this application with my approval. If the candidate is selected as the 2019-2020 Oklahoma Teacher of the Year, he or she will be released from classroom responsibilities during the 2019-2020 school year.

NAME OF SCHOOL/BUILDING PRINCIPAL

SIGNATURE OF SCHOOL/BUILDING PRINCIPAL

DATE

EMAIL

PHONE NUMBER

SCHOOL DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT

I acknowledge that the candidate submits this application with my approval. If the candidate is selected as the 2018-19 Oklahoma Teacher of the Year, he or she will be released from classroom responsibilities during the 2018-19 school year.

NAME OF DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT

SIGNATURE OF DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT

DATE

EMAIL

PHONE NUMBER

SCHOOL DISTRICT

SCHOOL SITE

SCHOOL MAILING ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP

COUNTY

SCHOOL PHONE NUMBER

Check One:

- Congressional District 1 Congressional District 2 Congressional District 3
 Congressional District 4 Congressional District 5



BASIC DATA FORM

NAME OF CANDIDATE

HOME PHONE NUMBER

CELL PHONE NUMBER

HOME MAILING ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP

SCHOOL EMAIL ADDRESS

SUMMER EMAIL ADDRESS

GENDER:

Female

Male

AGE CATEGORY:

21-29

30-39

40-49

50-59

60 or older

ETHNICITY:

Caucasian

African American

Native Hawaiian

Asian

Native American

Pacific Islander

Other (please specify): _____

DO YOU SPEAK A LANGUAGE OTHER THAN ENGLISH FLUENTLY?

No

Yes (please specify) _____

SCHOOL SIZE

DISTRICT SIZE

SCHOOL DEMOGRAPHIC:

Public

Charter

Suburban

Rural

Urban

Other (please specify): _____

ACHIEVED NATIONAL BOARD CERTIFICATION:

Yes

No

In-Progress

AREAS OF NATIONAL BOARD CERTIFICATION:

GRADE LEVEL(S)

SUBJECT(S) TAUGHT

YEARS IN PRESENT POSITION

TOTAL YEAR OF EXPERIENCE



EDUCATIONAL HISTORY AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

LEADERSHIP IN STAFF DEVELOPMENT (list most recent first)

Title	Position Held (include leadership in the training of future teachers)	Dates

AWARDS AND OTHER RECOGNITION OF TEACHING (list most recent first)

Title	Dates

I hereby give my permission that any or all of the materials/videos may be shared with persons interested in promoting the Oklahoma Teacher of the Year Program.

SIGNATURE OF CANDIDATE

ASSURANCE STATEMENT

The undersigned hereby assures that _____ is a full-time classroom teacher without administrative duties who expects to continue in an active teaching position in the _____ School District during the 2019- 2020 school year. It is understood that if our local teacher of the year is selected to be a finalist, he/she will be required to submit a video, not to exceed ten (10) minutes of classroom teaching, and attend interview sessions with the Oklahoma Teacher of the Year Selection Committee to be held in Oklahoma City.

In addition, Oklahoma's Teacher of the Year will also be Oklahoma's Ambassador of Teaching. As Ambassador, the teacher will share his or her knowledge and resources with educators around the state. It is understood that if our local teacher of the year is selected as Oklahoma Teacher of the Year, he/she will be released from his/her classroom duties during the 2019- 2020 school year. The State Legislature has funded the Oklahoma Ambassador of Teaching position to provide for a full-time certified teacher in the classroom of Oklahoma's Teacher of the Year.

SIGNATURE OF SUPERINTENDENT

DATE

PHOTOGRAPH

Include one color photo of yourself suitable for publication and press release (300 dpi). **ONLY a 5" by 7"** original photograph (no photocopies of pictures, please) will be accepted. **Please do not adhere the photo to the page.** It is recommended that you submit a professional-style photograph.

PROFESSIONAL BIOGRAPHY

(Limit response to two single-sided double-spaced pages.)

What were the factors that influenced you to become a teacher?

Describe what you consider to be your greatest contributions and accomplishments in education.

PHILOSOPHY OF TEACHING

(Limit response to two single-sided double-spaced pages.)

Describe your personal feelings and beliefs about teaching, including your own ideas of what makes an outstanding teacher. Describe the rewards you find in teaching. How are your beliefs about teaching demonstrated in your personal teaching style?

EDUCATION ISSUES AND TRENDS

(Limit response to two single-sided double-spaced pages.)

What do you consider the major public education issues today? Address them in depth, outlining possible causes, effects, and resolutions.

THE TEACHING PROFESSION

(Limit response to two single-sided double-spaced pages.)

What do you do to strengthen and improve the teaching profession?

What is and/or what should be the basis for accountability in the teaching profession?

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

(Limit response to one single-sided double-spaced page.)

Describe your commitment to your community through service-oriented activities including volunteer work, civic responsibilities, and other group activities.

OKLAHOMA TEACHER OF THE YEAR

(Limit response to one single-sided double-spaced page.)

As the 2019-2020 Teacher of the Year, you serve as a spokesperson and representative for teachers and students. What is your message? What will you communicate to your profession and to the public?

OKLAHOMA TEACHER OF THE YEAR

(Limit response to one single-sided double-spaced page.)

Describe a lesson or unit that defines you as a teacher. How did you engage all students in the learning, and how did that learning influence your students? How are your beliefs about teaching demonstrated in this lesson or unit?

LETTERS OF ENDORSEMENT

(Limit letter to one single-sided page; original signatures only)

Submit ONLY THREE recommendations that support why you should be the 2018-19 Oklahoma Teacher of the Year. At least one must be a recommendation from a parent, colleague, administrator, or student.