



SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

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January 24, 2019

(X) Action Required
Nominations Due: March 1, 2019
Applications Due: April 1, 2019
(X) Informational

BULLETIN NO. 004-19 EDUCATOR GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

TO: Educational Service District Superintendents
School District Superintendents
School District Business Managers
School District Communications Staff
Elementary and Secondary School Principals
Educational Service District Teacher Award Coordinators
Educational Associations
Other Interested Parties

FROM: Chris Reykdal, Superintendent of Public Instruction

RE: 2020 Teacher of the Year Nominations

CONTACT: Hilary Seidel, Statewide Recognition Coordinator
360-725-6117, hilary.seidel@k12.wa.us

BACKGROUND

Every year the Teacher of the Year program celebrates the hard work and dedication of public school teachers and selects one educator as the Washington State Teacher of the Year. Nominations are now open. All public, full-time teachers who spend at least 50 percent of their time in a classroom setting with students, plan to keep teaching through the 2020–21 school year, and have not previously been recognized as a State or Regional Teacher of the Year are eligible. Anyone can submit a nomination at <http://bit.ly/2020ToYNom>. Nominees must complete the online application to be considered for the award.

Washington's educational service districts (ESDs) review completed applications and select one regional finalist each. Washington's Teacher of the Year program is guided by criteria set by the National Teacher of the Year program:

1. The teacher has the respect and admiration of their community.
2. The teacher is an expert in their field who guides students of all backgrounds and abilities to achieve excellence.

3. The teacher collaborates with colleagues, students, and families to create a school culture of respect and success.
4. The teacher deliberately connects the classroom and key stakeholders to foster a strong community at large.
5. The teacher demonstrates leadership and innovation in and outside of the classroom walls that embodies lifelong learning.
6. The teacher expresses themselves in an engaging and effective way.

OSPI recognizes finalists and announces the state winner at a fall awards ceremony. Regional finalists and the state winner receive awards from program sponsors and attend a variety of professional learning and recognition events. The 2020 State Teacher of the Year will be relieved of their full-time teaching responsibilities January–June 2020 to travel the state and meet with education stakeholders to advocate for and strengthen the teaching profession.

INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE

For questions regarding this bulletin or award programs, please visit:

<http://www.k12.wa.us/EducationAwards/default.aspx> or contact Hilary Seidel, Statewide Recognition Coordinator, at 360-725-6117 or email hilary.seidel@k12.wa.us. The OSPI TTY number is 360-664-3631.

This bulletin is also available on the [Bulletins](#) page of the OSPI website at:

<http://www.k12.wa.us/BulletinsMemos/bulletins2019.aspx>.

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