

This application is the State Affiliate process for the National NEA Foundation Award.

Purpose of Award:

The ***NEA Foundation Award for Teaching Excellence*** recognizes, rewards, and promotes excellence in teaching and advocacy for the profession. They also honor public education and dedicated members of the NEA. The awards are presented jointly by the NEA Foundation and NEA with support from NEA Member Benefits and the Horace Mann Companies.

Awards:

State affiliate awardees receive expenses-paid travel to the NEA Foundation's Annual Salute to Excellence in Education Gala in Washington, DC. Five finalists are selected for the Horace Mann Awards for Teaching Excellence and receive expenses-paid for a guest in addition to themselves. One of the five will be selected to receive the NEA Member Benefits Award for Teaching Excellence, \$25,000, and a personalized gift. The remaining four each receive \$10,000. The NCAE State winner receives a plaque and \$250, and assistance for one family member's expenses to the Gala.

Eligibility

All current members of NCAE are eligible, regardless of their role in education.

NCAE State Deadline: February 1, 2011.

Judging Criteria

- **Professional Practice** where the nominee can demonstrate instructional expertise, creativity, and innovative pedagogical techniques addressing students' different learning styles. The nominee is an instructional leader in their school community and beyond.
- **Advocacy for the Profession** by a current NCAE member who is active in the Association on a local, state and national level and has assumed a leadership role in one or more levels. The nominee is active in other professional organizations and engages in activities that advance public education.
- **Community Engagement** where there is evidence of frequent interactions with parents/guardians and the community at-large. The nominee brings community resources to the classroom and provides opportunities for students to be engaged in service learning projects.
- **Leadership in Professional Development goes** beyond just attending courses or classes but using new skills to engage colleagues to support student success.
- **Attention to Diversity** will afford the nominee to demonstrate how the learning environment meets the needs of all students, regardless of differences. There will be evidence addressing all cultures and a global society.

The Nomination Packet must be submitted electronically to Angela.Farthing@NCAE.org No later than **February 1, 2011.**

Questions: 1.800.662.7924 ext. 230

Your NEA Excellence packet must include the following items:

1. A **one page resume** that provides a factual overview of your career. It must be typed in a 12pt. font with 1” margins and **doubled spaced**.
2. **Three letters of Endorsement** that can be written by your local president, colleagues, current or former students, parents or community members. The letters should be two pages maximum, each, 12-pt. font, and 1” margins and double spaced and on letterhead.
3. **Data Sheet:** E/m Cathy.Barnes@ncae.org to request the data sheet
4. **Digital Photo in a JPEG format**
5. **Nominee Statement:** Your statement must be written by you and in first-person narrative. The statement should include specific examples to illustrate all five of the award criteria. Maximum length is five typed, double spaced pages with 1” margins and 12-pt. font. **These questions don't need to be copied verbatim, but you are encouraged to include headings or keywords related to the criteria to aid in the screening process as you write your nominee statement:**
 1. What are the most successful innovations that you have introduced in your classroom or school? What strategies or methods do you use to ensure success for all students? How do you act as an instructional leader?
 2. How has your involvement in the **NEA or NCAE** contributed to your success as an educator? How would you persuade a new colleague to join or become more active? In what other ways do you serve as an advocate for the profession?
 3. What community resources do you bring to the classroom to enhance your lessons and student achievement? What service learning projects have you conducted with your students to impact the community?
 4. What experiences or activities have been most beneficial to your professional knowledge, skills, and practice? How have you contributed to the profession development/growth of your colleagues? How has your growth made a difference for your school community? Be specific with your examples.
 5. How do you address issues of diversity in your curriculum, instruction and other interactions with students? What are the results of such efforts? How does your approach to diversity impact your work?
 6. If you have not yet done so, tell us how your approach to teaching made a difference for a student or a group of students?
 7. What advice would you give to someone entering the profession on how to reach teaching excellence?

The Nomination Packet must be submitted electronically to Angela.Farthing@ncae.org no later than **February 1, 2011**

All required items should be submitted at the same time, not in parts.