LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



Outstanding School Support Employees of the Year

School Health Provider of the Year 2023-2024 School Year

Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions
- Awards Initiatives Featured:
 - Outstanding School Support Employees Award
 - Outstanding School Health Provider of the Year Award
- Information to be Covered:
 - School Employees Recognized
 - Benefits of the Awards Program
 - Program Timeline
 - Application Process
 - Award Criteria
 - Resources
- Questions





Outstanding School Support Employees Award Overview



Outstanding School Support Employees Award

- The <u>Outstanding School Support Employee Award</u> provides the opportunity to acknowledge those support employees who have rendered time and talents beyond the call of duty.
- All school systems are encouraged to select up to three support staff, one per division (elementary, middle and high) as their local-level honorees and submit these candidates to the state process.





Outstanding School Support Employee Award

The nominee must be an employee of a Louisiana public school system and serve in a position that does not require a teacher's certificate as a condition of employment.



*Other includes local public school board employees who are not required to hold a teacher's certificate as a condition of employment





Benefits of Participation in the Awards Program



Benefits to School Systems

Provides school systems with the opportunity to:

- Celebrate, honor and reward outstanding school support employees.
- Shine the light on school support employees contributing to school and student success.
- Call state-wide attention to great work taking place in school systems.
- Recruit and retain outstanding school support employees.





Benefits to Candidates

Provides the school support employee the opportunity to:

- Be recognized and celebrated for their outstanding work.
- Serve as the representative to promote the role of all school support employees in the education system.
- Develop and amplify their voice to advocate for the profession.
- Build relationships with other exemplary support staff throughout Louisiana.





Outstanding School Support Employees Timeline



Timeline

September

September 1, 2023 –Nominations portal opens

October

October 12, 2023 – Nominations portal closes

By October 19, 2023 -School systems receive nominations information and application portal opens

November

November 30, 2023 – State applications due



Timeline

January/ February

January 16, 2024 – Semifinalists announced

January 31, 2024 -Semifinalists submit application tasks

March

March 5, 2024 – Finalists announced

April

April 10, 2024 –
Outstanding School
Support Employee of
the Year finalists
recognized and overall
recipient announced at
BESE meeting



Outstanding School Support Application Process



Nomination Process

- Part of the nomination process includes nominations from teachers, principals, district employees, parents, colleagues, and community members.
- The nominations portal is open and will close on October 12.
- Upon portal close, the nomination information will be shared with school systems for their consideration.
- Nomination portal link





School System Selections

- All school systems are encouraged to select up to three support staff, one for elementary, middle and high, to move to the state process.
- School systems may utilize their own process to identify their support staff selections. For those who don't have a process in place, these selections may come from the nominations information.
- When the application portal opens, school systems will be notified.
- School systems are to report their selections are by November 30.





Award Criteria



Criteria

An exemplary candidate is one who meets these criteria:

Skill and dedication

Plans to continue active employment

Respect of and rapport with students

Respect of and rapport with parents

Respect of and rapport with coworkers

Community leadership





Resources



Resources

Information about the Outstanding School Support Employees awards program may be found on the <u>Awards</u> page and in the <u>Resources Library.</u>



Questions?

Submit questions to childnutritionprograms@la.gov.





School Health Service Provider of the Year Award



Outstanding School Health Service Provider Award

- Student health plays a vital role in education and that school health providers are the critical link in ensuring health service delivery to students.
- Provides an opportunity to acknowledge school health service providers who
 demonstrate superior provision of health services in schools and support the
 expansion of health services in schools.





Outstanding School Support Employee Award

The nominee must be an employed or contracted by a Louisiana school and have a license or certification to practice in the school setting.







Benefits of Participation in the Awards Program



Timeline

September

September 12, 2023 – Nominations portal opens.

September 13, 2023 Informational call to review the application process.

October

October 12, 2023 – Nominations portal closes

October 19, 2023 - Nominees notified

November

November 1, 2023-Nominee Webinar

November 30, 2023 – Provider Applications Due.



Timeline

January/ February

January 16, 2024 – Semifinalists are contacted. January 29-February 8, 2024 -Semifinalists panel zoom interviews.

March

March 4-8, 2024 – Finalists are recognized and announced

Week of March 18, 2024 - School Health Service Provider of the Year is recognized

April

April 10, 2024 – School Health Service Provider of the Year honoree and finalists recognized at BESE meeting





Nomination Process

School administrators, teachers, providers, and parents are invited to

- <u>Nominate</u> an outstanding school nurse, behavioral health provider, speech therapist, OT or PT for the 2023-2024 School Health Service Provider Award.
- Nominations will be accepted through October 12.
- More information about the award may be found in the <u>award overview</u>.

Please contact <u>elizabeth.duncan@la.gov</u> with questions.





School Health Service Provider of the Year Award Application

The application includes:

- Basic information including name, email and school system
- Applicant provider type (nurse, OT, PT, speech, etc.)
- License type (LMSW, LOTR, DPT, etc.)
- Written responses to essay questions (500 maximum word count per response)
- Links to websites as demonstration of work may be included
- Link(s) to accomplishments that showcase work may be included











Benefits to School Systems

Provides school systems with the opportunity to:

- Celebrate, honor and reward outstanding health providers for the hard work, dedication and success.
- Call state-wide attention to the exceptional work taking place in school systems.
- Shine the light on the innovative work and leadership within school healthcare.
- Recruit and retain school health providers.





Benefits to Candidates

Provides the healthcare provider the opportunity to:

- Develop and amplify their voice to advocate for the profession.
- Empower participation in policy discussions to improve healthcare for all children.
- Hone their leadership skills through professional learning opportunities.
- Serve as the representative to promote the role of their license in the education system.
- Build relationships with other exemplary educators throughout Louisiana.





Resources

- School Health Service Provider of the Year overview
- School Health Provider Rubric

For questions, email <u>elizabeth.duncan@la.gov</u>.





Next Steps

Outstanding School Support Employee of the Year:

This program recognizes outstanding school support employees, including teacher's aides, paraprofessionals, school bus drivers, food service workers, clerical, custodial, maintenance or other personnel that does not require a teacher's certificate as a condition of employment.

- Nominations portal + Overview information
- Please contact <u>childnutritionprograms@la.gov</u> with questions.

School Health Service Provider of the Year:

This program recognizes outstanding school nurses, school behavioral health providers (licensed counselor, psychologist, social worker), speech language pathologist/audiologists, occupational therapists and physical therapists.

- Nominations portal + Overview information
- Please contact <u>elizabeth.duncan@la.gov</u> with questions.



