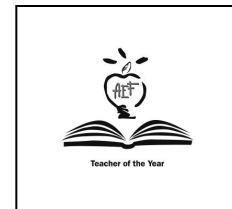


I. Candidate Information Form
Arizona Educational Foundation/AEF
2012 Arizona Teacher of the Year Application



*This signed "Candidate Information Form" will be page 1 of your original application and all copies.
Please read instructions on page 2 of the application.*

General Information

Applicant's Name _____
Home Address _____
City _____ Zip _____ Phone() _____
E-Mail address _____
School District _____
School _____
School Address _____
City _____ Zip _____ Phone() _____
Major Subject Area (if any) _____ Grade Level(s) _____
Total Years Teaching Experience _____ Years in Present Position _____
Arizona Teacher Certificate Number _____

To be eligible for the Arizona Teacher of the Year Program, you must:

- Spend the majority of the school day in direct instruction to students
- Currently be certified to teach in Arizona
- **NEW:** Currently be in at least your 5th year of teaching
- Teach any grade or combination of grades Pre-Kindergarten through 12 in any state-approved or accredited school in Arizona
- Be a full-time teacher and plan to continue in an active teaching status through 2012.

If you have questions regarding eligibility, please call Bobbie O'Boyle at 480-421-9376 or e-mail bobbie@azedfoundation.org before completing the application.

Promotion Permission

I hereby give my permission that any or all of the attached materials may be shared with persons interested in promoting the Teacher of the Year Program. I certify that what appears in the application is truthful and has been written by me.

Applicant's Signature

Complete and submit application online. Send original signed application to:
Arizona Educational Foundation
6155 E. Indian School Rd. #106, Scottsdale, AZ 85251



Presented By:



Additional Support Provided by:



APPLICATION 2012 – ARIZONA TEACHER OF THE YEAR ARIZONA EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

General Information

(Call 480-421-9376 with questions)

Arizona Educational Foundation's (AEF) Teacher of the Year program is the only statewide program that spotlights the contributions of Arizona's teachers. The Arizona Teacher of the Year program, presented by **Wells Fargo**, annually recognizes 10 exceptionally skilled and dedicated public schools teachers grades PreK-12. Nominees are teachers in their 5th year or greater who have gained the respect and admiration of students, parents, and colleagues, and who inspire students of all backgrounds and abilities to learn. They play an active and useful role in their communities and in their schools, distinguishing themselves as leaders. Recognized teachers must be poised, articulate, and possess the energy to withstand a taxing schedule. Candidates must plan to continue in an active teaching status through 2012.

Applicants submit a written application that is reviewed by a panel of judges consisting of educators, students, and business and community leaders. Ten semi-finalists are selected from the written applications; all applicants will be notified in late September 2011 if selected as a semi-finalist. The 10 semi-finalists will be interviewed in early October 2011, as part of the final selection process. The 10 semi-finalists will prepare and bring to their interview a 15-minute DVD; judges review the DVDs, interview candidates and hear them deliver an impromptu speech. Five of the semi-finalists are selected as Ambassadors for Excellence; one of the five Ambassadors will be named AEF's Teacher of the Year at the awards luncheon on November 17, 2011, at the Camelback Inn, Scottsdale. The Teacher of the Year and four Ambassadors serve for one year as advocates for the teaching profession by making public appearances statewide, speaking to professional, business, education, civic, parent and student groups. The remaining five semi-finalists who are not selected as Teacher of the Year or Ambassador attend the awards luncheon where they are honored.

Prizes

Arizona Teacher of the Year (1): * \$20,000 (\$10,000 cash + \$10,000 Series EE US Savings Bond) * Arizona's candidate for National Teacher of the Year * Laptop computer from Intel * SMART® Board * International Space Camp in Huntsville, Alabama * Meets the President of the United States * National State Teacher of the Year Conference in Dallas * Full scholarship to Argosy University/Phoenix * Professional speech training * Event in Wells Fargo Suite at U.S. Airways Arena or Ballpark * March in Fiesta Bowl Parade on Wells Fargo Stagecoach * Microsoft Office for Teachers® * School wide Blue Bell Ice Cream Party

Ambassadors for Excellence (4): * \$5,000 cash * Laptop computer from Intel * Partial scholarship (50%) to Argosy University/Phoenix * Professional speech training * Event in Wells Fargo Suite at U.S. Airways Arena or Ballpark * March in Fiesta Bowl Parade along side Wells Fargo Stagecoach * Microsoft Office for Teachers® * School wide Blue Bell Ice Cream Party

Semi-Finalists (5): * \$1,000 cash * Partial scholarship (25%) to Argosy University/Phoenix * March in Fiesta Bowl Parade along side Wells Fargo Stagecoach * Microsoft Office for Teachers® * School wide Blue Bell Ice Cream Party

Application Instructions:

- Review the eligibility requirements on the Candidate Information Form before completing the application.
- Observe the page limits and spacing for each section; use no smaller than 10-point, easy-to-read font; be consistent with font size and style throughout application; margins should be no less than 1 inch.
- Number the sections and pages ("Candidate Information Form" will be Page 1).
- Head each of sections II-IX of the application with the bolded title and Roman numeral only.
- Send the original signed application plus 12 copies, stapled (not bound), printed on white paper to the address on the Candidate Information Form. The original and all copies should include **all** the following: (a) signed Candidate Information Form as the first page; (b) responses to the questions; (c) letters of recommendation.
- Do not submit additional material (you will prepare a DVD *only* if you are selected as one of 10 semi-finalists).
- Original and online applications **must be received at AEF office** no later than **August 26, 2011, at 5:00 p.m.** **NOTE:** this is not a "postmarked-by" date; it is a "received-by" date.

I. Candidate Information Form

II. Educational History and Professional Development Activities (2 double-spaced typed pages) – 5 points

- A. Beginning with most recent, list colleges and universities attended including postgraduate studies. Indicate degrees earned and dates of attendance.
- B. Beginning with most recent, list teaching employment history indicating time period, grade level and subject area.
- C. Beginning with most recent, list professional association memberships including information regarding offices held and other relevant activities.
- D. Beginning with most recent, list staff development leadership activity and leadership activity in the training of future teachers.
- E. Beginning with the most recent, list awards and other recognition of your teaching.

Criteria for scoring: *The teacher possesses a strong academic background appropriate to the grade level and subject(s) s/he teaches. The teacher is an active leader in education through professional development and training activities with current and future teachers. The teacher's involvement in associations, task forces, publications, etc. indicates that s/he is a strong advocate for education. The teacher has received other recognition or awards that illustrate that s/he is highly regarded in the field.*

III. Professional Biography (2 double-spaced typed pages) – 5 points

- A. What were the factors that influenced you to become a teacher? Describe what you consider to be your greatest contributions and accomplishments in education.

Criteria for scoring: *The teacher clearly states factors which influenced him/her to become a teacher. The teacher describes contributions and accomplishments in education in and out of the classroom.*

IV. Community Involvement (1 double-spaced typed page) – 5 points

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

Criteria for scoring: *The teacher describes organizations s/he is involved with. The teacher shares how s/he brings the community to the classroom, and the classroom to the community.*

V. Philosophy of Teaching (2 double-spaced typed pages) – 15 points

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

Criteria for scoring: *The teacher has a strong and coherent philosophy of education. The examples given are clear and convincing evidence of how the philosophy is demonstrated in the classroom. The teacher's instructional approach is worthy of sharing with other teachers.*

VI. Education Issues and Trends (2 double-spaced typed pages) – 15 points

- A. What do you consider to be the major public education issues today? Address **one** in depth, outlining possible causes, effects and resolutions.

Criteria for scoring: *The teacher describes current issues facing education today. The teacher's outline indicates a logically developed and persuasive resolution to the issue chosen.*

VII. The Teaching Profession (2 double-spaced typed pages) – 20 points

- A. What do you do to strengthen and improve the teaching profession?
- B. What is and/or what should be the basis for accountability in the teaching profession?

Criteria for scoring: *The teacher provides clear and convincing examples of how s/he has contributed to the teaching profession. The teacher describes well-supported and realistic bases for accountability.*

VIII. National Teacher of the Year Message (1 double-spaced typed page) – 10 points

- A. As the 2012 National Teacher of the Year, you would serve as a spokesperson and representative for the entire teaching profession. What would be your message? What would you communicate to your profession and to the general public?

Criteria for scoring: *The teacher presents a concise and compelling message which is appropriate for the teaching profession and/or the general public.*

IX. Arizona Teacher of the Year Message (1 double-spaced typed page) – 10 points

- A. As the 2012 Arizona Teacher of the Year, you would serve as a spokesperson and representative for the teaching profession. What message would you communicate to your profession and to the general public in the state of Arizona?

Criteria for scoring: *The teacher presents a concise and compelling message which is appropriate for the teaching profession and/or the general public.*

X. Letters of Support (limit of three, each 1 page maximum in length; letters longer than 1 page will not be considered) – 10 points

Please submit three one-page letters of support (do not submit additional letters) from:

- a) your superintendent, principal or other district or school administrator; **NEW:** letter from your administrator **must** include evidence – assessment data, anecdotes, etc. – of your effectiveness in the classroom;
- b) a colleague; and
- c) a student or former student, parent or civic/community leader.

All letters should address and give evidence of your effectiveness as a teacher and of your leadership abilities.

Criteria for overall application: *In addition to the criteria outlined for each individual question, the panel of judges will consider appearance, content, grammar, spelling, organization, and readability in assessing the application. – 5 points*

APPLICATION DEADLINE: AUGUST 26, 2011

**2012 Arizona Teacher of the Year
Application Checklist
(do not include this checklist with your application)**

- _____ 1. I, along with my principal and district administrators, understand that if chosen as Arizona Teacher of the Year or an Ambassador I will be asked to make public appearances advocating for education and promoting excellence in the teaching profession. (NOTE: The 2011 Teacher of the Year will have made between 40-60 presentations statewide, while the 4 Ambassadors will have made approximately 10 presentations each. The Teacher of the Year and Ambassadors must possess the energy and flexibility to withstand a taxing schedule.)
- _____ 2. All materials have been checked carefully and proofread.
- _____ 3. All essay responses are within the page/font/margin limitations.
- _____ 4. One original plus 12 copies of collated and stapled application on white paper are submitted by the deadline containing **all** of the following:
- the signed Candidate Information Form;
 - responses to Questions II-IX of the Arizona Teacher of the Year application
 - three letters of support (not to exceed one-page each).
- _____ 5. No cover, binder, or portfolio has been used.
- _____ 6. No supplemental materials are submitted with the application.
- _____ 7. The application (one original plus 12 copies) **has been received** on or before **5:00 p.m., August 26, 2011** at:

Arizona Educational Foundation
Attn: Bobbie O'Boyle, Executive Director
6155 E. Indian School Rd. #106
Scottsdale, AZ 85251

If you have questions, call Bobbie at 480-421-9376



Teacher of the Year