

Outstanding Educator Awards 2023 Application

Applications are due to Synergy by March 31, 2023

Congratulations on your nomination for the Outstanding Educator Awards Program!

A Minnesota teaching license or administrator license is required for all awards. You may apply to more than one category, if applicable; however, a separate application is required for each category. **(Nominees are ineligible if you have received a substantial monetary educational award.)**

Application Checklist

Application Packets: Each completed application should include the following materials and be submitted on or before March 31, 2023 to Synergy & Leadership Exchange. Email: lgarry@synergyexchange.org or mail: 2075 Lookout Drive, North Mankato, MN 56003. (If mailing, please do not bind or staple your application.)

Part I: Biographical Information Form

Please see page 2. Note: Be sure to indicate the appropriate recognition category for each application submitted.

Part II: Introduction and Personal Narrative Essay

Please see page 3.

Part III: Guided Reflection

Please see page 3.

Part IV: One Letter of Recommendation

Please see page 4. The actual letter of recommendation should be returned to you for inclusion in your application packet and should be from the following individual:

1. An administrator with whom you work, on school or organizational letterhead

— Reminder —

Please ensure that Outstanding Educator Award materials are submitted on or before March 31, 2023 to:
Synergy & Leadership Exchange

E-mail: lgarry@synergyexchange.org Mail: 2075 Lookout Drive, North Mankato, MN 56003

Phone: 507-389-2461 Website: www.synergyexchange.org Fax: 507-389-1772

I am applying for: Coach Teacher Achievement Educational Leadership

Part I: Biographical Information

Please complete this form (where applicable) and include it in your application packet. Make sure to check the application category in the box above. A separate application packet should be submitted if you are applying for more than one category. You may type or print legibly on this form.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Home Address: _____

City/State: _____ Zip Code: _____ E-mail: _____

Teacher License/Administrator number _____ Current? (check one) Yes No

Educational Background/Degrees Attained and in Progress: _____

Community Involvement/Awards/Honors: _____

Academic Challenge Program(s) Coached (if applicable): _____

Academic Challenge Program(s) coached is listed in Reach for the Stars catalogue (check one) Yes No

Athletic Program(s) Coached (if applicable): _____

Athletic program coached is endorsed by the Minnesota State High School League (check one) Yes No

Years as Coach (from/to): _____ Total Years Coaching Experience: _____

Subjects Currently Teaching: _____

Grade Level(s) Currently Teaching/Working with: _____

Years Taught (from/to): _____ Total Years Teaching Experience: _____

District/Organization of Current Employment: _____

School(s) of Current Employment: _____ Phone: _____

School/Org. Mailing Address: _____ City: _____ Zip Code: _____

Administrator/Supervisor Name: _____ Title: _____ Phone: _____

_____ Title: _____ Phone: _____

Please verify that you are (check all that apply):

Current elementary, middle, junior high or secondary teacher Current principal or administrator Coach

Not a relative of Synergy directors or staff, and/or not affiliated with the administration of any Synergy programs.

Hometown media: _____

I give permission for Synergy & Leadership Exchange (Synergy) to use my name/photo in a news release/video and/or other promotional materials regarding Synergy and this awards program if I am named a finalist or honoree.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Part II: Introduction and Personal Narrative Essay

We want to know more about you. Tell us about yourself. Reflect upon and summarize your educational, coaching or leadership practices, citing specific examples. Topics to address could include the following: Why do you teach/coach/lead? What do you value in education/extracurricular activities/administration? How do you inspire others to do their best? How have you been exceptional in your work? Who has inspired you and how has that influenced your work? How has continued learning contributed to your overall growth? Or other information about you as an educator.

Your response should be up to three pages, using Times New Roman 12 pt. font double-spaced.

Part III: Guided Reflection

Respond to the prompt specific to the category to which you are applying.

Your response may be up to two pages, using Times New Roman 12 pt. font double-spaced.

Coach

Provides a team model with specific goals that demonstrates improved individual and/or team performance and communicates a clear philosophy for acceptable behavior that balances winning with resiliency, growth and learning. Promotes youth participation from all backgrounds and abilities, even those not performing or competing directly.

Educational Leadership

Demonstrates leadership that promotes values, ethics and diverse perspectives in the school curriculum, policy and culture.

Teacher Achievement

Encourages active learning to challenge all students appropriately, demonstrates improved student learning and academic gains, and incorporates student-developed goals for achievement.

Part IV: Letter of Recommendation Instructions

Please return letter of recommendation to your nominee

Nominee's Name _____

Your Name _____ Relationship to Nominee _____

Thank you for supporting the nomination of an outstanding educator! Nominees will be evaluated by a blue ribbon panel of judges who are experienced and knowledgeable in the field of education. Please address the items below in your recommendation and cite evidence and examples when possible. Any additional information that supports your recommendation is welcomed. Letters from administrators should be on school letterhead.

The nominee has been nominated for:

Coach **Educational Leadership** **Teacher Achievement**

1. Enthusiasm and vitality – passion for teaching and learning
2. Ability to motivate, inspire and impact students, colleagues and community
3. Evidence of student achievement gains as the result of the educator's practices *(TA applicants only)*
4. Commitment to educating the whole student
5. How deserving overall is this candidate for the award?

I am unable to write a letter of recommendation at this time.
(Please return this form to the nominee.)