

# NABE Teacher of the Year Competition Guidelines

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The National Association for Bilingual Education has established the Bilingual Teacher of the Year Competition. The purpose of this award is to recognize the efforts that bilingual classroom teachers make on behalf of English Language Learners.

## **Award:**

The winner of NABE's Annual Bilingual Teacher of the Year competition will receive a \$500.00 scholarship to further his or her education or to use for the benefit of English language learner students. In addition, the winner's travel expenses within the continental United States will be paid by NABE. This will include: air travel ticket up to \$500.00, two (2) nights lodging at the NABE Conference Headquarter Hotel, one (1) complimentary NABE Conference Registration and one (1) NABE Awards Luncheon ticket, a total value of approximately \$ 2,000.

Nominations:

## **Nominations will be accepted from the following parties:**

- In states that have a NABE affiliate, candidates MUST be endorsed by their NABE affiliate. The affiliate must be a NABE affiliate organization in good standing. Each NABE affiliate may endorse only ONE candidate.
- In states that do not have a NABE affiliate, candidates may be nominated by a NABE Member in good standing or a NABE SIG in good standing. Each NABE SIG or NABE member may endorse only ONE candidate.

Nominations should be made – and the winner will be chosen – without regard to age, sex, race, religion, or national origin.

## **Qualifications:**

- Nominee has not previously competed for this award.
- Nominee is a NABE member in good standing and is fluently bilingual.
- Candidates must be teachers in a bilingual program for pre-Kindergarten through grade twelve.
- Only bilingual classroom teachers who work full-time with students and have at least three years of experience qualify.
- Candidates must have distinguished themselves as outstanding teachers and educational leaders, and should enjoy the respect and admiration of students, parents, and co-workers. They should play active and useful roles in their communities as well as in their schools.
- Candidates should be poised, articulate, and willing and able to grant media interviews and make presentations. Finally and most important, candidates must have a proven ability to inspire Bilingual and English Language Learners of various backgrounds and abilities to excel.

The nominating party is responsible for submitting an electronic portfolio of materials for their candidate to be used by the selection committee in its deliberations.

## **Eligibility Disclaimer:**

NABE committee members and their family members are not eligible to enter the contest. Family members of committee members include siblings, parents, significant others, children, grandchildren, and grandparents. Additionally, students of committee members, or students of family members of committee members, are not eligible to enter the contest. Once a nominee is determined to be eligible, he/she must successfully meet all requirements outlined in phase 1 of this competition. Next, a committee will review the candidate's file using a rubric for specific components (see rubric below). Finally, a decision will be made.

## **Preparation of Nomination Materials (to be Uploaded):**

The nominating party is responsible for submitting an electronic portfolio of materials for their candidate to be used by the selection committee in its deliberations. Documents should be typed double-spaced, and each section should be a maximum of four pages. Documents must be in PDF or PDFX format. Photographs must be in JPG or TIFF format. All materials become the property of NABE and will not be returned. Each nomination must be submitted electronically with the following materials, with no more than 24 total document pages submitted and no more than 6 total photographs submitted (1 teacher headshot, up to 5 classroom photos):

**Cover Letter:** A cover letter signed by either a NABE affiliate or a NABE Member/NABE SIG in good standing (in states that do not have a NABE affiliate) must be submitted.

**Biographical Sketch:** a narrative of no more than four pages prepared by the teacher describing his or her formative environment and the specific events or experiences that led to a career in bilingual education must be submitted.

**Philosophy of Education:** a statement of no more than four pages in which the candidate reflects on his or her commitment to the profession, including a description of the candidate's educational values and beliefs about bilingual education must be submitted.

**Professional Development:** a description of no more than four pages of the candidate's academic preparation and participation in professional organizations and service committees, commissions, task forces, workshops and conferences, etc. must be submitted.

**Community Service:** a description of no more than four pages of the candidate's participation in organizations, and in personal efforts to improve education and social conditions of the community must be submitted.

**Recommendations:** one letter of recommendation from the teacher's immediate supervisor and a maximum of three other letters of recommendation must be submitted.

**Teacher Photograph:** a photograph of the candidate for publication in the conference program must be submitted. (The photos should be either a high-quality JPG or TIFF image file, no smaller than 1200 x 1800 pixels at 300 dpi.)

**Classroom Photographs:** A minimum of three photographs (up to a maximum of five photographs) of the teacher's classroom must be submitted. (The photos should be either a high-quality JPG or TIFF image file, no smaller than 1200 x 1800 pixels at 300 dpi.)

**Classroom Video:** A link to a video of the candidate teaching his/her class must be submitted. This video should be at least five minutes in duration, but no longer than ten minutes total duration.