

NSTA FELLOW AWARD

PROGRAM SUMMARY

This award recognizes extraordinary contributions to science education through (1) personal commitment to education, specifically science teaching or science; (2) educational endeavors and original work that position recipients as exemplary leaders in their field; (3) significant contributions to the profession that reflect dedication to NSTA as well the entire educational community. The NSTA Fellow Award is a prestigious award that recognizes an NSTA member for long standing service to science education at the local, state, and national level. The NSTA Fellow is recognized as an ambassador for the advancement of science and science education for students, teachers, and the community at large.

The number of awardees each year is at the discretion of the NSTA Awards and Recognition Committee.

Awardees will be recognized at the NSTA Awards Banquet in conjunction with the NSTA National Conference. Awardees will receive a formal citation and a commemorative pin designed to signify the importance of this award and will be honored at the Teacher Awards Banquet at the NSTA National Conference. Awardees will receive one night's lodging at the NSTA National Conference.

ELIGIBILITY

This award is open to longstanding (at least 10 years) NSTA members.

Candidates may not self-nominate. All materials must be submitted by a person who is currently a member of NSTA and is knowledgeable about the candidate's contributions to the science education community and his or her personal integrity.

AWARD SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

It is the nominator's responsibility to assemble an entry packet, which must include:

- ★ A curriculum vita, not exceeding three pages, that includes a brief description of the nominee's contributions to science education and their relevant involvement in NSTA, including committees, conferences, offices held, and distinguished contributions the candidate has made as a result of NSTA. This may also include involvement in State Chapters, Affiliates, and Associated Groups.
- ★ Three letters of support from individuals and groups who are familiar with the applicant's work. Letters should not exceed two pages each and must accompany the packet. Letters should provide detailed comments on the candidate's service to NSTA and additional accomplishments in the profession or contributions to the advancement of science education. When possible, use letterhead. Make sure letters are signed and dated accordingly. Letters sent separately will not be considered.
- ★ A narrative describing the major reasons this candidate should be considered for the honor of NSTA Fellow. These are significant contributions that the candidate has made to the profession. Select one area from the Criteria for Selection and address the points under that criterion. You must limit the word count to 500 words or less for the selected criteria.

Select one of the three following Criteria:

CRITERIA FOR SELECTION

Personal Characteristics

1. Exhibits commitment to science education for all students, teachers, administrators, and community members.
2. Consistently seeks science education knowledge through advanced education, degrees, and professional development opportunities related to a variety of areas in science education.

3. Collaborates and supports the efforts of others to improve science education.
4. Is recognized by numerous colleagues as a trustworthy, passionate, and considerate leader who helps to raise the profession to an even higher level.
5. Exemplifies career-long commitment to science education for all, not only in salaried capacities, but also through volunteer organizations.

TEACHING CRITERIA

1. Promotes excellence in teaching as demonstrated through the documented success of students.
2. Demonstrates innovation in teaching by inspiring, producing, adapting, modifying, or developing functional and effective curriculum materials.
3. Analyzes and reflects on teaching, develops means to analyze and reflect on teaching, and teaches others how to analyze and reflect on teaching.
4. Mentors others to help them develop exemplary understanding and skills related to teaching.
5. Incorporates research practices in the development of curriculum and to improve teaching and student learning.

SERVICE CRITERIA

1. Serves as a recognized leader on committees, panels, boards, or other groups making innovative and effective contributions in the service of the profession.
2. Serves or has served as an officer in a professional science education organization.
3. Works with colleagues to develop criteria, programs, or policies enhancing science education for all students.
4. Performs as a leader of a team involved with exemplary teaching, curriculum development, assessment, or research projects.
5. Networks across district, agency, and geographic lines.

RESEARCH CRITERIA

1. Demonstrates evidence that teaching and research about teaching, learning, and assessment are essential aspects of an excellent educator.
2. Conducts personal research (for example, action research) with the intention of improving educational practice.
3. Exhibits involvement in the research of others as a subject or collaborator as dictated by the needs of the research/project.
4. Encourages others to conduct research about teaching, learning, and assessment in science education.
5. Demonstrates that research results are used to develop and communicate beneficial recommendations for science education, teacher development, and educational policy.

Upon receipt, all applications become the property of NSTA. Applications will not be returned. Late or faxed applications will not be accepted. Completed applications must be received by December 10, 2020. Use the on-line submission form at www.nsta.org/awards to complete your application. Questions send e-mail to awards@nsta.org.