

American Association of Family & Consumer Sciences

National Teacher of the Year Award

2008 Guidelines

The National Teacher of the Year Award (National T.O.Y. Award), Top Teacher of the Year Award (Top T.O.Y. Award), and Affiliate Teacher of the Year Award (Affiliate T.O.Y. Award) recognize exemplary teachers who utilize cutting-edge methods, techniques, and activities to provide the stimulus for and give visibility to family and consumer sciences elementary and secondary education.

From the Affiliate Teachers of the Year who compete at the national level, up to three (3) semifinalists are selected as Top Teachers of the Year. The National Teacher of the Year Award recipient is then selected from these semifinalists.

The National Teacher of the Year must attend the AAFCS Annual Conference & Expo and will be recognized during one of the sessions and presented with a commemorative plaque, \$1,000 from Glencoe/McGraw-Hill, and \$500 from AAFCS to defray expenses. The Top Teachers of the Year and the Affiliate Teachers of the Year will have the opportunity to network with peers at the conference and may receive special recognition, such as certificates, pins, and complimentary luncheon tickets.

Eligibility

Anyone who enters the competition at the national level must have been chosen as an Affiliate T.O.Y. (through competitions run at the affiliate level); each affiliate may enter no more than one Affiliate T.O.Y. into the national competition per year and the nomination must be submitted by the Affiliate President. An Affiliate T.O.Y. who is eligible for the National T.O.Y. Award:

- is employed as a full-time family and consumer sciences teacher of grades kindergarten through 12 at the time the nomination is submitted;
- is an AAFCS member at the time of nomination and for at least three consecutive years prior to nomination;
- created and runs a family and consumer sciences program that focuses on one of the following five program areas:
 - *Career Awareness/Job Skill Training* (e.g., work/study; literacy education; entrepreneurship)
 - *Consumer Education/Family Finance* (e.g., consumer rights; understanding credit; budgeting and managing money)
 - *Creative Dimensions/Alternative Program Designs* (e.g., caring for children, the elderly, or the disabled; peer or cross-age tutoring; internationalized curriculum; impact of legislation on family life)
 - *Family Life/Personal and Social Development* (e.g., alternative family structures such as step, blended, or single-parent families; programs for children in self-care; abuse or crisis intervention programming; dealing with grief and death)
 - *Nutrition Education/Diet and Health* (e.g., wellness; food science and chemistry; dietary education)

Although the more generic word *program* is used throughout this document, a teaching unit, semester project, or new initiative suitable for integration with an existing program may also be submitted for an award.

The current AAFCS Board of Directors, Awards and Recognition Committee, and staff are not eligible for nomination.

Up to three (3) Top T.O.Y. Awards will be presented annually if qualified recipients are identified. One (1) National T.O.Y. Award recipient will be selected from these qualified Top T.O.Y.s.

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Recipients are eligible to receive the National T.O.Y. Award or Top T.O.Y. Award more than once if the outstanding program for which the teacher is nominated differs from the one for which the teacher won the award in the past.

Nomination Package

To nominate an Affiliate T.O.Y. for the National T.O.Y. Award, complete three steps:

Step 1 – Complete T.O.Y. Award nomination form (form found in Programs section of AAFCS website).

Step 2 – Mail five (5) complete and assembled photocopies or five (5) labeled CDs of the nomination package (i.e., the nomination form and supporting documents) **postmarked by January 7, 2008**, or earlier to

AAFCS Awards Program
400 N. Columbus St.
Suite 202
Alexandria, VA 22314

Step 3 – Visit <http://surveymonkey.com/s.asp?u=275811436571> by **January 7, 2008**, to submit required information to us electronically.

Please do not mail us the notebook of originals.

Review Process

Nomination packages are forwarded to jurors selected by the Awards and Recognition Committee. Jurors review the packages, assign points (for more on the point system see Evaluation Criteria, below), and then return their evaluation sheets to AAFCS headquarters. The current AAFCS Board of Directors and staff cannot serve as jurors for the National T.O.Y. Award or any other award, grant, fellowship, or scholarship. Those who nominate candidates for the National T.O.Y. Award, those who are nominated for the National T.O.Y. Award, and those who write letters of support for National T.O.Y. Award nominees cannot serve as jurors.

The results of the review process will be announced in Spring 2008. Please note that materials sent to AAFCS headquarters cannot be returned to nominees.

Duties and Responsibilities

Every Teacher of the Year (including those of absent Affiliate T.O.Y.s and Top T.O.Y.s) may have the opportunity to present and display a Teacher of the Year Notebook during the annual conference. More information on conference activities will be available in Spring 2008.

In addition to the National T.O.Y.'s responsibilities at the conference, he or she also serves as spokesperson for family and consumer sciences and AAFCS throughout her/his year as National T.O.Y., and is available for interviews with the media (media relations training provided by headquarters staff).

Evaluation Criteria

Nomination packages will be evaluated using the point system outlined below and can be awarded no more than 100 points. Guidelines, as to what jurors may consider for each criterion, are listed for clarification, ease in preparing the nomination package, and consistency in judging.

Specific goals and intended outcomes of this program are identified and address the needs of the nominee's school or community

Maximum 10 points

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Program has been successful for at least three years, is sustainable, and can be replicated.	Maximum 10 points
Program exhibits creativity, innovation, and cutting-edge techniques.	Maximum 15 points
Nominee uses ingenuity and perseverance to obtain, maximize, and sustain funding and/or overcome obstacles or challenges.	Maximum 5 points
Program shows the integration of family and consumer sciences with the subject matter focus and with other disciplines.	Maximum 10 points
The lives of students are changed during and after the program.	Maximum 10 points
This educational program has had a relevant and timely impact on the students, school, and/or community.	Maximum 10 points
The program increases the visibility, recognition, appreciation, and support of the profession within the community.	Maximum 10 points
Nominee shows exemplary level of professional commitment to FCS.	Maximum 8 points
As of due date of nomination form, nominee holds AAFCS credential(s) in family and consumer sciences. These are Certified in Family and Consumer Sciences (CFCS), Certified in Family and Consumer Sciences, Retired (CFCS, Retired), Certified in Human Development and Family Studies (CFCS-HDFS), and Certified in Hospitality, Nutrition and Food Science (CFCS-HNFS).	5 points
Nominee is a current FCCLA Advisor.	4 points
Nominee is a current advisor or sponsor of FCS extracurricular activities.	3 points