

Outstanding School Support Employees

Outstanding School Support Employee Overview

The Louisiana Department of Education recognizes that outstanding school support staff are critical to school success. Through the Outstanding School Support Employee Award program, the Department recognizes and celebrates some of the state's most exceptional teacher aides, paraprofessionals, school bus drivers, food service workers, clerical workers, custodial/maintenance workers, or any other school support employee classification. This program provides an opportunity to acknowledge those support staff employees who are playing an integral role in school and student success.

Application

All school systems are invited to submit up to three candidates (one for elem, middle and high) to the state-level process. [State-level applications](#) are due by the end of day on Thursday, November 30.

Criteria

An exemplary candidate for the Outstanding School Support Employee of the Year is one who demonstrates: a. Outstanding skill and dedication b. Plans to continue active employment c. Respect of and positive rapport with students, parents, co-workers, etc., as well as is a leader in the school/school system, community. etc.

Timeline

The following outlines the nomination and application process through recognition of finalists.

Date	Activity
September 1, 2023	Nomination window opens
October, 12, 2023	Nomination window closes
October, 19, 2023	School systems receive nominations information/application process opens
November 30, 2024	State applications due
January 30, 2024	Finalists announced
February 5, 2024	Finalists submit application tasks
April 10, 2024	Outstanding School Support Employee of the Year finalists recognized and overall recipient announced at the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) meeting

Award

The Louisiana Department of Education will honor ten finalists. All school systems are encouraged to select up to three support staff, one per division (elementary, middle and high) as their local-level semi-finalists and submit these candidates to the state process.

Please contact childnutritionprogram@la.gov with questions.