NCHE/NEA Higher Educator of the Year Award

**Purpose:** The National Council of Higher Education (NCHE)/National Education Association (NEA) Higher Educator of the Year Award recognizes the postsecondary education professional who continually provides outstanding student service, excellence in teaching and/or working with students, and state/local labor-based advocacy. This award is presented to a member of NCHE who demonstrates outstanding accomplishments in all three areas.

**Award:** Each year, one nominee receives the NCHE/NEA Higher Educator of the Year Award. Members of the NCHE Executive Committee present the award at the yearly NEA Higher Education Conference, which includes a monetary award of $10,000.

This award is made possible by the NEA Foundation, an organization founded by educators for educators to improve public education for all students.

**Eligibility:** This award is open to all NCHE members. The recipient for the NCHE/NEA Higher Educator of the Year award must have at least ten years of professional service in higher education as of December 31, 2019 and have demonstrated consistent advocacy for higher education unions at any level (local, state, national). Individuals must be nominated by their state organizations or local affiliates.

**Nominations:** Each state or local affiliate may only nominate one (1) candidate per year. Affiliates must submit the official nomination form as well as a letter of recommendation detailing the rationale for supporting the candidate to the NCHE/NEA Higher Educator of the Year Award Selection Committee by February 14, 2020.

**Selection/Criteria:** The NCHE/NEA Higher Educator of the Year Selection Committee will review all nominations to ensure that eligibility and submission requirements are met. It will also score the nomination per the three criteria. Nominations will be rated on a scale of 1 to 5 for each criterion, where “1” represents minimal evidence of the criterion, and “5” represents very strong evidence of the criterion. The criteria are as follows:

1. Professional Practice including, but not limited to, demonstrated development of innovative student-centered learning tools, research methods, curricula, and appropriate discipline-based course delivery methods.

2. Labor-Based Advocacy including, but not limited to, demonstrated development of a union consciousness/social awareness regarding the critical role organized labor plays in the higher education landscape.

3. Community Engagement including, but not limited to, a demonstrated pattern of participation in local/community organizations, events, and activities associated with strengthening the ties between higher education and other service-related organizations.

**Notification:** The NCHE/NEA Higher Educator of the Year Selection Committee will notify the recipient of this year’s award by February 21, 2020. The award will be presented during the NEA Higher Education Conference in Orlando, Florida, March 13, 2020, during the luncheon. While an award of $10,000 is provided thanks to the generosity of the NEA Foundation, NCHE/NEA does not pay conference registration or other expenses incurred as a result of attending the conference.

Please submit your nomination by February 14, 2020, to:
Dr. Suzanne G. Sublette, Chair-Higher Educator of the Year Award sublettes@gtc.edu
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Title (Dr/Mr/Ms) First Name Last Name

Position (Instructor, Professor, Staff, etc.)

Home address City State Zip

Work address City State Zip

Local Affiliate State Affiliate

Personal statement attesting to why you believe the candidate should receive the award (please type here or attach additional information):