

Note: This is a copy of the 2027 NEA ESP of the Year (ESPOY) Nomination form as it appears in Smartsheet. The purpose of this PDF is to familiarize state affiliate ESPOY Points of Contact (POCs) and nominees with the format of and information requested in the form.



2027 ESP of the Year Nomination Form

Nominations must be submitted by state affiliate ESPOY points of contact (POCs). POCs are state affiliate staff appointed by the state affiliate executive director (or local, if a local nomination) to liaise with NEA staff and coordinate the compilation and submission of their state's ESP of the Year nomination to NEA. POCs work directly with nominees to collect the award requirements and then enter them into the online nomination form on their behalf. Nominees cannot submit their nominations.

You can find the "**NEA ESP of the Year Overview and Requirements**" and other award materials at www.nea.org/espoty-nomination.

Questions? Contact Jennie Young at jyoung@nea.org.

The deadline to submit nominations is **Midnight ET on Monday, September 28, 2026.**

Fields marked with an asterisk (*) are required.

IMPORTANT!

You **CANNOT** start, save, and return later to finish a nomination. Be sure you have all of the requested information from your nominee **BEFORE** you complete this form.

Date *

mm/dd/yyyy



Affiliate Point of Contact (POC) Information

POC First Name *

POC Last Name *

POC Job Title *

POC E-mail Address *



POC Phone Number *

∨ +1

POC Phone Number Extension (if applicable)

POC Acknowledgment *

By checking the box below, you are attesting that:

- The information in the nomination has been reviewed, is deemed complete, and is true to the best of your knowledge.

Nomination Type

Type of Nomination *

Local affiliate nominations are only permissible if the state affiliate does not have an ESP award program or nominee.

State Affiliate Nomination Local Affiliate Nomination

State Affiliate Name *

Nominee Personal Information

Legal First Name *

Legal first name as it appears on the nominee's driver's license, birth certificate, etc.

Legal Last Name *

Legal last name as it appears on the nominee's driver's license, birth certificate, etc.

Mailing Street Address *

Mailing City *

Mailing State *

Mailing Zip Code *

Primary E-mail Address *

Please provide an email address that the nominee checks regularly (preferably a personal email).

Primary Phone Number *

Please provide a phone number that the nominee answers regularly (mobile/cell). No work phone numbers, please.

Age Range

- 18-25
- 26-35
- 36-45
- 46-60
- 61+
- Prefer not to say

Race/Ethnicity *

- Asian and Pacific Islander
- Native American/Alaska Native
- Latin(o/a/x), Hispanic, and Chican(o/a/x)
- Black or African American
- Multiracial
- MENA (Middle East and North Africa)
- White
- Other
- Prefer not to say

Pronouns *

- She/Her
- He/Him
- They/Them
- She/They
- He/They
- Ze/Zim
- Not listed
- Prefer not to answer
- Prefer to self-describe (please email jyoung@nea.org)

What are the nominee's social media handles (e.g., Facebook, Instagram, TikTok)? Enter N/A if they do not use social media. *

Nominee Worksite/Career Information

10-Digit NEA Member ID *

This can be found on the address label of the nominee's NEA Today magazine, by calling the State Affiliate, or by emailing jyoung@nea.org. **Note:** This field will only accept numbers.

Number of Years as an NEA Member *

The minimum requirement is at least three (3) years as of 12/31/26. **Note:** This field will only accept numbers.

Local Affiliate *

No abbreviations, please.

Local President *

If the nominee is the Local President, please note that here.

UniServ Director *

This is the nominee's staff representative. They may have the title Organizational Specialist, Labor Relations Specialist, Field Rep, or something else. If unsure, please check with the Local President or State Affiliate.

Employment Status *

Retired members are not eligible for the award.

- Active Retired

Job Title *

NEA ESP Career Family (Check all that apply.) *

Visit www.nea.org/esp for career family descriptions.

- Clerical Services
- Custodial/Maintenance
- Food Services
- Health/Student Services
- Paraeducators
- Security Services
- Skilled Trades
- Technical Services
- Transportation Services

Career Experience

- Early Career Educator (0-5 years)
- Mid-career Educator (6-10 years)
- Veteran Educator (11+ years)
- Prefer not to say

Worksite Level (Check all that apply.) *

- Pre-K
- Elementary
- Middle or Junior High School
- High School
- Central Office/District Wide
- Post-Secondary/Higher Education

School/Worksite *

No abbreviations, please.

School District/University *

No abbreviations, please.

School/Worksite City *

Worksite State *

School Community Type *

- Suburban Urban Rural

Title I Status *

Select N/A if the nominee works in multiple schools, if their primary worksite is not a school, or if they work in a post-secondary/higher education institution.

- Yes No N/A

Personal Statement

IMPORTANT!

- There is a **4,000-character limit (including spaces)** for each criterion area.
- The form **WILL NOT** alert the POC if a response exceeds the limit. Any text over the limit will be cut off. If the copy and paste function is used to enter the responses, please verify that the entire response was captured before submitting.
- This section **CANNOT** be written by anyone except the nominee.

Impact on students: *

Describe specific actions you have taken and how those actions positively impacted student learning, social-emotional well-being, health and/or safety.

4,000-character (including spaces) maximum.

Impact on families and community: *

Describe specific actions you have taken and how those actions have positively impacted families and/or the local community.

4,000-character (including spaces) maximum.

Union engagement and activism, with a focus on ESP workforce

issues: *

Describe how your engagement and activism with the local or state union/association have positively impacted ESPs' professional stature (e.g., importance and reputation), stability (e.g., wages, benefits, and job security), and/or effectiveness (e.g., professional practice).

4,000-character (including spaces) maximum.

Impact on colleagues: *

Describe specific actions you have taken and how those actions have positively impacted colleagues at your school campus, school district, or worksite.

4,000-character (including spaces) maximum.

Resume Questionnaire

IMPORTANT!

- There is a **4,000-character limit (including spaces)** for each question.
- The form **WILL NOT** alert the POC if a response exceeds the limit. Any text over the limit will be cut off. If the copy and paste function is used to enter the responses, please verify that the entire response was captured before submitting.
- This section **CANNOT** be written by anyone except the nominee.

Worksite Positions/Typical Day at Work

Please list your **CURRENT** worksite position AND describe your typical day at work. *

4,000-character (including spaces) maximum.

Please list any **PAST** worksite positions. *

4,000-character (including spaces) maximum.

School/District Positions and Appointments

Please list any CURRENT school/district positions or appointments (e.g., committee, team, or workgroup roles; athletic/academic/other club positions; coaching positions, etc.)

*

4,000-character (including spaces) maximum.

Please list any PAST school/district positions or appointments (e.g., committee, team, or workgroup roles; athletic/academic/other club positions; coaching positions, etc.)

*

4,000-character (including spaces) maximum.

Local/State Affiliate Positions and Appointments

Please list any CURRENT local/state affiliate positions or appointments. *

4,000-character (including spaces) maximum.

Please list any PAST local/state affiliate positions or appointments. *

4,000-character (including spaces) maximum.

External Organizations/Stakeholder Group Positions and Appointments

Please list any CURRENT external organizations/stakeholder group positions or appointments. *

4,000-character (including spaces) maximum.

Please list any PAST external organizations/stakeholder group positions or appointments. *

4,000-character (including spaces) maximum.

Education/Training/Certifications

Please list any degrees, certifications, courses, or training you have completed. *

4,000-character (including spaces) maximum.

Honors/Awards

Please list any honors or awards you have received, including the name of the honor/award and the year it was received. *

4,000-character (including spaces) maximum.

Letters of Recommendation

- Exactly **three (3) letters (no more, no less)** are required.
- Letters must be **typed, one page maximum, with 1-inch margins and a minimum 10-point font.**
- Letters can be uploaded as **PDF or Word document files.** Pictures of letters will not be accepted.
- Each filename should include the nominee's name and state.
- A helpful resource for letter writers can be found at **www.nea.org/espoty-nomination.**

Upload the letters of recommendation here. Drag and drop them or click on "browse files." *



Drop your files here

[Browse](#)

State President Acknowledgment

By checking the box below, you (the POC) are attesting that: *

- You have permission from the state president to electronically sign and submit this nomination on their behalf, **and**
- The state president recognizes the individual outlined in this nomination as their affiliate's nominee.

Authorizing State President First and Last Name *

Local President Acknowledgment

**Note: Only required if the nomination is a local nomination. If the local president is the nominee, the vice president will authorize the nomination.*

If this is a local affiliate nomination, you (the POC) will check the box below to attest that:

- You have permission from the local president to electronically sign and submit this nomination on their behalf, **and**
- The local president recognizes the individual outlined in this nomination as their affiliate's nominee.

Authorizing Local President First and Last Name

**Only required if the nomination is a local nomination.*

Check the box below to receive a copy of the nomination.

Check “**send me a copy of my responses**” before you check “submit” to receive a copy of the nomination. We strongly encourage you to do this, so you can review the nomination and promptly flag any errors. If errors are found, send to jyoung@nea.org as soon as possible.

Send me a copy of my responses

Submit

*We strongly encourage you to do this, so you can review the nomination and promptly flag any errors. If errors are found, please email jyoung@nea.org as soon as possible.

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Questions? Contact Jennie Young at jyoung@nea.org.