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Demystifying the TOY Application Process

December 9, 2020

Welcome!

Today we will

- Introduce members of SHAPE America staff, Partner Network, and Teachers of the Year alumni.
- Review eligibility requirements for the District/National Teacher of the Year award.
- Review the application process for District/National Teacher of the Year.
- Provide tips and advice from Teachers of the Year.
- Answer any questions about the Teacher of the Year Program.

Introductions

SHAPE America

Michelle Carter

Director of Educational Content & Programs

Danielle Platt

Senior Manager, Strategic Partnerships & Education Programs

Partner Network

Julie Frank

Executive Director, SPARK

Teachers of the Year

Daniel Tennessen

2020 Midwest District Middle School PE Teacher of the Year

Donn Tobin

2019 National Elementary PE Teacher of the Year



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Thank You to the Partner Network!

 SHAPE America
TEACHER
— of the —
YEAR 

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Eligibility Requirements for District & National Teacher of the year

- 5 years+ of teaching experience in category to which you are applying
- Degree and certification in teaching
- Full time teaching at the time of application submission AND selection
 - Retired teachers not eligible
- 50% of your teaching must be in the category you're applying for at the time of application submission AND selection
- **Must be a state Teacher of the Year**
 - previous three years state recipients are eligible for the current District award (e.g. 2019, 2020 and 2021 state Teacher of the Year winners are eligible for the 2022 District Teacher of the Year award).
 - It is strongly recommended that state Teachers of the Year wait a full year before applying for their District Teacher of the Year award.

Eligibility Requirements for District & National Teacher of the year

- You are not eligible to apply if you are a
 - Current member of SHAPE America's Board of Directors
 - Current member of SHAPE America's District Leadership Councils
 - A national or district Teacher of the Year alumni

Applying for District Teacher of the Year

Required materials

- **Verification of Teaching Assignment Form**
 - Must be current for the school year you are applying in
 - If you apply over the Summer, verification form should be for the upcoming school year
- **Three letters of recommendation** – One letter for each should be included from:
 - a fellow teacher
 - an administrator/supervisor
 - a student. (Elementary teachers can allow parents to help them write a letter.)
- **Award criteria**
- **Professional head shot** (for promotional purposes only)

Applying for District Teacher of the Year

Award Criteria – submit as a PDF

- Physical Education
 - Elementary, Middle, and High School
- School Health Education
- Adapted Physical Education
- Dance Education

Scoring the Award Criteria

- Blind review process
- 80% minimum score
- Teachers that instruct in a Title I school are awarded an additional four points, one time, to their total score.
- Rubrics are available online

Applying for District Teacher of the Year

Submitting your materials

- Must apply online (currently not accepting applications)
- Offline application available for preparation purposes
- Have all materials ready ahead of time
- Review all materials to ensure you are uploading the correct versions

Applying for **National** Teacher of the Year

There are three parts of the application process:

- Application Review
 - District application will move forward automatically
- Video Submission
- Online Interview

Review committees

- Six review committees – one per category
- Three reviewers for each category will review all three parts of the application

Additional information about being a SHAPE America Teacher of the Year

- At convention, the TOY year officially begins and ends
- District and National Teachers of the Year present at convention at the end of their TOY year
- All Teachers of the Year (District and National) receive opportunities to present or share their expertise
- District and National Teachers of the Year are asked to sign a Memorandum of Understanding
 - Outlines expectations for Teachers of the Year, SHAPE America and the Partner Network
- District/National Teachers of the Year receive business cards, polo, complimentary registration for convention
- National Teachers of the Year receive \$1,000 to help cover travel costs to convention

Teacher of the Year Timeline

- **September 15:** State Teacher of the Year winners complete the online application
- **November 2:** Deadline for the District Teacher of the Years to be selected and SHAPE America notified of selections by district awards chairs.
- **November 20:** District Teacher of the Year winners will be notified by SHAPE America by November 20.
- **December 21:** Deadline for District Teacher of the Years to submit videos for National Teacher of the Year consideration due to SHAPE America.
- **SHAPE America National Convention & Expo:** District Teacher of the Years are honored, and National Teacher of the Years are announced

Hear from Teachers of the Year



Dan Tennesen

2020 Midwest District Physical Education Teacher of the Year
SUPER School #19
Indianapolis, IN



Donn Tobin

2019 National Elementary Physical Education Teacher of the Year
Lakeview Elementary School
Mahopac, NY

Real Tips from TOYs

“Be reflective with your answers, really take the time to think through what you do and how it positively affects your students.”

Sally Schulte
2019 Central District Elementary
PE TOY

“Read the essay questions carefully and consider all that you have done to be honored as a TOY applicant. Be thorough in answering the essay questions and make sure it is clear to the reader what your program feels like to your students and your school community.”

Patty Kestell
2013 National Elementary PE TOY


Real Tips from TOYs

“I always focused on how the process helped with my students. It was an honor to receive multiple state/district/national awards, but it was always a way to reflect on my students. I never completed any item with the hope that I would become a TOY. I always made decisions on how it would help students.”

Matthew Bassett
2018 National Elementary PE TOY

“When answering the question prompts in your ‘essay’ for National TOY, you are given guidelines on how long each response can be (1 page). I inserted a lot of hyperlinks in my essay responses so that the selection committee could click around and find out what my P.E. program was all about instead of reading about it in the essay and taking up lots of space in my responses.”

Brian Hull
2020 National High School PE TOY



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Questions?

teacheroftheyear@shapeamerica.org