



California Council for the Social Studies
AN AFFILIATE OF NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR SOCIAL STUDIES
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Outstanding Middle School Social Studies Teacher of the Year

- Purpose** The purpose of the CCSS Outstanding Middle School Social Studies Teacher of the Year is to recognize a CCSS member whose classroom teachings in grades 5-8 and whose professional practices reflect the goals and purposes of an exemplary social studies education.
- Nomination Process** Co-workers, administrators, or local councils may nominate a candidate. Individual teachers may also self-nominate.
- Membership Status**
- A **current** member of CCSS at the time of nomination.
 - Nominee must be teaching in grades 5-8, or must be teaching social studies at least one-half time in a departmentalized school or regularly and systematically in an middle school setting.
 - Not an elected member of the CCSS Executive Committee at the time of the nomination.
 - Not a member of the Selection Committee at the time of the nomination.
- Criteria** Candidates have demonstrated an exceptional ability to excel in at least five of the six areas listed below.
1. Develops and/or uses instructional materials creatively and effectively.
 2. Incorporates innovative and/or verified effective instructional strategies and techniques.
 3. Utilizes new scholarship from history, the social sciences or other appropriate fields.
 4. Fosters a spirit of inquiry and the development of skills related to acquiring, organizing, processing, and using information and making decisions related to both domestic and international matters.
 5. Fosters the development of democratic beliefs and values, and the skills needed for citizenship participation appropriate to middle school age youth in classroom, school, and community settings.
 6. Evidence of professional involvement through activities such as workshops, curriculum development, committees, and other association activities.
- Award** Each award recipient will receive:
- A plaque
 - A complimentary registration at the “Award Year” Conference
 - The winner may present a showcase session during the “Award Year” Conference
- Selection Process**
1. The selection committee will consist of current members of the Professional Standards Committee, an Executive Committee Member/Board Member and may include a past recipient of the award.
 2. Selection committee members will have no conflict of interest with award nominees.
- Required**

Documentation

It is the responsibility of the nominator to provide all nomination materials.

1. A vita or professional resume
2. A narrative statement describing the nominee's exemplary practice, teaching philosophy and unique qualifications. (maximum 2 pages)
3. Supporting documentation may include reproductions of newspaper articles, teaching evaluations and letters of support from a professional colleague, immediate supervisor, parent or student. Not to exceed ten pages.
4. Video or portfolio with unit plan, lesson(s), and student materials; which provide a visual/hands-on of the nominee's expertise as a teacher.
5. Application Cover Sheet
6. Maximum of 100 word biographical statement to be used in the conference program
7. Headshot photo of nominee to be used in the conference program

Submission of Nomination Applications and Required Materials

Complete applications with all required materials are due to CCSS no later than 11:59pm on **December 1st**. Application materials will NOT be returned. Please retain a copy for your records. Applications and materials submitted via email must be sent to info@ccss.org.

Only complete applications will be considered.