



OUTSTANDING PLTW TEACHER AWARDS

The [Outstanding PLTW Teacher Awards portal](#) opens Monday, May 3, 2021, and closes Friday, June 4, 2021 at 11:59 p.m. ET.

Overview

Project Lead The Way (PLTW) recognizes Outstanding PLTW Teachers who inspire, engage, and empower their students by creating transformative learning experiences in their classrooms through PLTW programs.

Eligibility: Nominees for this award may include such individuals as teachers, teaching specialists, technology integration specialists, etc., for it is the duties and responsibilities of one's job that define one's role, rather than one's title. Nominations for this award are appropriate if one's responsibilities include 75 percent or more of the direct instruction of students.

After reviewing all nominations, PLTW will select all qualified nominations and recognize all Outstanding PLTW Teachers. From this group of Outstanding PLTW Teachers, PLTW will award PLTW National Teacher of the Year to one nominated teacher in each of these areas:

- PLTW Launch Teacher of the Year
- PLTW Gateway Teacher of the Year
- PLTW Computer Science Teacher of the Year
- PLTW Engineering Teacher of the Year
- PLTW Biomedical Science Teacher of the Year
- Robert and Patricia Kern National PLTW Teacher of the Year

Teachers who were recognized as Outstanding PLTW Teachers in the 2018-19 and/or 2019-20 school years have the option to have their past nomination resubmitted into the pool for the PLTW National Teacher of the Year awards. Want to resubmit your nomination for consideration? Here is what you need to know:

- Past recipients will receive a unique email the week of Monday, May 3 with the option to declare intent to resubmit their nomination.
- If you elect to have your nomination resubmitted, you will receive an email with login credentials for the nomination portal.





- o Within the nomination portal you will have the opportunity to update your submission before resubmitting.
- o PLTW will pull over and grant you access to your nomination regardless of whether you self-nominated or were nominated by a member of the educational community.
- Additional details about re-submitting your nomination will be sent via email from events@pltw.org.
- All submissions will need to be submitted by Friday, June 4, 2021, at 11:59 p.m. ET.

Award

PLTW will recognize all qualifying Outstanding PLTW Teachers with an engraved award as well as feature them in social media, myPLTW Direct, and other communications.

Each Outstanding PLTW Teacher who is selected as a PLTW National Teacher of the Year Award recipient receives:

- An engraved award recognizing the recipient's outstanding achievement.
- A congratulatory call and visit to recipient's school/district from Vince Bertram, PLTW President and CEO.
- Recognition through PLTW communications.
- Award recipients also have the opportunity to:
 - o Contribute two blog posts/articles.
 - o Act as a PLTW advocate at PLTW events, if requested and available.
 - o Participate in subsequent PLTW National Award selection committees.

Nomination Process

Any member of the educational community (staff, faculty, administrators, or students) can submit a nomination for this award. PLTW also accepts self-nominations. **The nomination portal closes on Friday, June 4, 2021 at 11:59 p.m. ET.** Recipients will be notified in July 2021. Recipients will be publicly recognized starting in August 2021.

Criteria for Selection

Nominees demonstrate their commitment to reaching more students and creating an impact on their lives through PLTW programs, aligned to the following criteria:

1. Impact on lives of students
 - Demonstrates commitment to enabling and empowering students to develop key transportable skills important for college and career success so they can thrive in life beyond the classroom
 - Demonstrates success in implementing and supporting PLTW programs and curriculum, above and beyond his/her peers





- Inspires students to engage/apply learning beyond the classroom by providing exploration opportunities, career exposure, etc.
- 2. Expansion of access for students
 - Supports growth of the PLTW program and increases student access to PLTW programs across diverse student groups
 - Promotes PLTW in the school, community, and district
 - Actively engages with other PLTW network members through local, state, or national initiatives
- 3. Impact on teaching and classroom environment
 - Demonstrates leadership within the classroom, school, school district, local community of educators, and/or the PLTW network.
 - Creates an inclusive classroom environment so all students feel a sense of belonging
 - Uses or supports the use of innovative methods and tools to engage students in active, hands-on learning that provides connection and relevancy to the real-world
 - Actively pursues professional and personal development and encourages or supports the professional development of others

Submission Requirements

- **Nomination Information**
 - Award type
 - Nomination type
 - Nominator full name
 - Nominator email
 - Nominator phone
- **Nominee Information (if not self-nomination)**
 - Nominee first name
 - Nominee last name
 - Nominee email
 - Nominee phone
 - Nominee title
 - Nominee state
 - Is Nominee a Master Teacher?
 - What PLTW program does the nominee teach?
- **Nominee's School and District Information**
 - Nominee school district name
 - Nominee superintendent name
 - Nominee superintendent email
 - Nominee school name
 - Nominee principal name





- Nominee principal email
- **Nominee criteria evidence:** Nominee criteria evidence demonstrates how the nominee meets the criteria listed in the “Criteria for Selection” section. The format should adhere to the following guidelines: maximum 300 words for each criterion, not to exceed 900 words total.
- **Nominee’s extracurriculars:** Activities, positions held, committees, etc.
- **Please share how the nominee promotes belonging in the classroom and school environment.** Click here to enter text.
- **Two Letters of support:** Two letters of support from individuals who are familiar with the nominee’s work and whose role aligns to the categories below:
 - Letter 1: Administrator
 - Letter 2: Student (letters accepted from current students or students who have participated in the nominee’s class within the last two years)Letters should not exceed 750 words each and the nominator must submit the letters through the nomination portal. When possible, use letterhead. Sign and date letters appropriately. Letters should reference the nominee’s strengths, identify accomplishments, and highlight teaching methods and experiences that directly connect to the criteria for selection.
- **PLTW won’t accept late nominations or incomplete submissions.** You must complete nominations by **Friday, June 4, 2021 at 11:59 p.m. ET.**

To get started:

1. Log in to the [Outstanding PLTW Teacher Awards portal](#).
 - a. Please refer to the instructions listed under the FAQ “How do I create a login for the Outstanding PLTW Teacher Awards Portal?”
2. Make sure you have all the information needed to complete your nomination.
3. Select **Add new**.
4. Fill out the nomination in its entirety.
 - a. Should you need to stop in the middle of your nomination and wish to continue your submission later, select **Save & Continue Later**.
 - b. The Outstanding PLTW Teacher Awards Portal closes **Friday, June 4, 2021 at 11:59 p.m. ET**. You are not able to submit your nomination after that time.
5. Once you’ve entered all information, select **Save & Submit**.
6. Congratulations on submitting a nomination!





Scoring Rubric			
Criteria	Proficient (3)	Basic (2)	Below Basic (1)
Nomination	Nomination is complete	Nomination is not complete	Nomination is not complete
Criteria Evidence: Student Impact (250-300 words)	Provides clear description of enabling and empowering students to develop key transportable skills and includes strong evidence of outstanding implementation of PLTW programs, exploration opportunities, and career exposure, above and beyond his/her peers.	Provides adequate description of enabling and empowering students to develop key transportable skills and includes some evidence of outstanding implementation of PLTW programs, exploration opportunities, and career exposure, above and beyond his/her peers.	Provides limited description of enabling and empowering students to develop key transportable skills and includes weak evidence of outstanding implementation of PLTW, exploration opportunities, and career exposure, above and beyond his/her peers.
Criteria Evidence: Expand Student Access (250-300 words)	Provides clear evidence of community involvement, as well as supporting growth of PLTW programs and increasing student access and opportunity to PLTW programs across diverse student groups.	Provides unclear evidence of community involvement, as well as supporting growth of PLTW programs and increasing student access and opportunity to PLTW programs across diverse student groups.	Provides little evidence of community involvement, as well as supporting growth of PLTW programs and increasing student access and opportunity to PLTW programs across diverse student groups.
Criteria Evidence: Transform Teaching (250-300 words)	Provides a clear description of school and community leadership, including innovative methods to engage students and/or educators and	Provides an adequate description of school and community leadership, including innovative methods to engage students	Provides a vague description of school and community leadership, including innovative methods to engage students and/or educators





	evidence of creating an inclusive working environment.	and/or educators and evidence of creating an inclusive working environment.	and evidence of creating an inclusive working environment.
Extracurriculars a. Professional association memberships, offices held, and other relevant activities b. Staff development, leadership activities (mentor or Cooperating Teacher) and other leadership activities awards, and other recognition of teaching	Provides clear evidence of educational history and leadership in promoting the growth of self and other educators.	Provides adequate description of educational history and professional development activities.	Fails to establish sufficient educational history and record of professional development experiences.
Promotes belonging in the classroom and school environment (250-300 words)	Provides clear evidence of promoting belonging in the classroom and school environment.	Provides adequate description of promoting belonging in the classroom and school environment.	Fails to provide sufficient evidence of promoting belonging in the classroom and school environment.
Letter of Support from Staff Colleague	Letter of support is complete and provides clear and strong evidence that candidate meets all three areas.	Letter of support is complete and provides clear and strong evidence that candidate meets at least two areas.	Letter of support is complete and provides clear and strong evidence that candidate meets at least one area.





Additional Letter of Support	Letter of support is complete and provides clear and strong evidence that candidate meets all three areas.	Letter of support is complete and provides clear and strong evidence that candidate meets at least two areas.	Letter of support is complete and provides clear and strong evidence that candidate meets at least one area.
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