



SMART/MAHERVFW NATIONAL CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION TEACHER AWARD

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- The VFW Teacher Award, founded in 1899, recognizes America's best educators (K-5 – 12) who instill a sense of national pride in students.
- The National award includes \$1000.00 for professional development for each of the top K-5, 6-8, and 9-12 teachers and \$1000.00 for the winning teacher's school.
- Who's eligible: All current certified/licensed teachers in grades K-12 are eligible.



Nominations

- Teachers can nominate themselves, or other teachers, supervisors, family members, or other individuals.
- Nominations must be submitted on the official VFW Entry Form.
- The entry form must contain a one-page resume at minimum or up to five pages including resume, news articles, or letters of support. Please include a head and shoulder photo of your teacher.



B-L HIGH SCHOOL INSTRUCTOR
RECEIVES
AWARD



Judging Criteria

Citizenship (1-25 points): On a scale of 1-25, to what extent does the teacher encourage and/or model good citizenship and community involvement?

Innovation (1-25 points): On a scale of 1-25, how much innovation (new ideas, new tools, new resources, and new approaches) does this teacher utilize in the classroom? Does this teacher's effort reflect an ongoing desire to stimulate the students with new things?

Resources (1-25 points): On a scale of 1-25, to what degree has this teacher demonstrated an ability to identify and utilize new and exceptional resources to fund, facilitate, and provide materials for his or her classroom? Does this teacher tap into outside agencies, organizations, and individuals to acquire materials and expertise in the classroom? As an example – bringing speakers, finding in-kind and monetary donations, or utilizing local opportunities, museums, field trips, and local events

Judging Criteria

Passion (1-25 points): On a scale of 1-25, to what degree does this teacher appear to be passionate about the profession of teaching? Are they regularly seeking to upgrade their skills? Do they try to find ways to encourage their students? Do they take a personal interest in their student's individual success?

Deadline

Due to Post 10-31-2024

Due District 11-15-2024

Due to the Department 1-15-2025

Entry Form

2024-2025 Smart/Maher VFW National Citizenship Education Teacher Award



Entry Deadline: October 31, 2024

2024-2025 Official Entry Form Teacher Award Competition

Please tell us who you are nominating—below in box.

Name: First, M.I., Last _____	
Address _____	
City, State, Zip _____	
() _____ Phone	_____ Email
Grade Level (K, 5, 6, 8, or 9-12) _____	
School Name _____	
School Address _____	
() _____ School Phone	_____ School Email

Person Nominating Teacher

Name: _____
Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____

To Be Completed by the VFW Post

I certify that this teacher has an authorized entry in our VFW Post level Teacher Award Competition.

Post Commander's/Chairperson's Signature _____ Post # _____

VFW Auxiliary President's/Chairperson's Signature
(If Applicable) _____

Post Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

VFW Post Email _____

No. of teachers participating: _____

No. of winners advanced to District: _____

Amt. of Post/Aux. scholarship awards \$ _____

Amt. of Post/Aux. additional expenses \$
(Banquet, pizza, etc.) _____

To Be Completed by the VFW District (If Applicable)

I certify that the teacher named in the previous section is the duly selected winner of the Teacher Award District Competition and is our entry into the Department judging.

District Chairperson's Signature _____ Dist # _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

() _____
Phone _____ Email _____

To Be Completed by the VFW Department Chairperson

I certify that the teacher named in the previous section is the duly selected first-place winner of the Teacher Award Department Competition, is our entry into the National Judging.

Department Chairperson's Signature _____

() _____
Daytime Phone _____ Email _____

The winner has been will be (check one) notified that they are the first-place Department winner on _____.

Where Do I Submit My Entry?

All entries will begin at the local VFW Post level. Individual nominees may submit their entry directly to the Post. This VFW Post should be within your local area and within your U.S. state of residence. Entries sent to VFW National will be returned. One Post winner can be submitted for each level, and to District by Nov. 15. If your Department does not have a District judging, then submit to your Department Headquarters by Jan. 1. Otherwise, one District winner, at each level, may advance to the state (Department) competition. If you need help finding a participating VFW Post in your area, follow these instructions: First, visit vfw.org/FindaPost to find your local VFW Post. Be sure this Post is within the state you reside in. If you do not have success in finding a Post, or if you have trouble getting in touch with them, you can contact your VFW Department (state) office to see if they can offer any information or assistance. You can visit vfw.org/ContactUs and look for "Find a State Contact" to get your VFW state office's phone number and email. If you still need assistance, please email us at VFW National Headquarters at tbeauchamp@vfw.org.

Score Sheet

TEACHER'S AWARD JUDGING SCORE SHEET

TEACHER'S NAME	CITIZENSHIP (1-25 Points)	INNOVATION (1-25 Points)	RESOURCES (1-25 Points)	PASSION (1-25 Points)	TOTAL (Possible 100 Points)
					0
					0
					0
					0
					0
					0
					0

Judging Criteria

- Citizenship:** (1-25 points) On a scale of 1-25, to what extent does the teacher encourage and/or model good citizenship and community involvement?
- Innovation:** (1-25 points) On a scale of 1-25, how much innovation (new ideas, new tools, new resources, and new approaches) does this teacher utilize in the classroom? Does this teacher's effort reflect an ongoing desire to stimulate the students with new things?
- Resources:** (1-25 points) On a scale of 1-25, to what degree has this teacher demonstrated an ability to identify and utilize new and exceptional resources to fund, facilitate and provide materials for his or her classroom? Does this teacher tap into outside agencies, organizations and individuals to acquire materials and expertise in the classroom? As an example – bringing speakers, finding in-kind and monetary donations, or utilizing local opportunities like museums, field trips and local events.
- Passion:** (1-25 points) On a scale of 1-25, to what degree does this teacher appear to be passionate about the profession of teaching? Are they regularly seeking to upgrade their skills? Do they try and find ways to encourage their students? Do they take a personal interest in their student's individual success?

DATE _____ POST# _____ GRADE LEVEL: K-5 6-8 9-12

JUDGE'S NAME (Please Print) _____

JUDGE'S SIGNATURE _____

NOTE: Judges should be carefully selected, preferably from individuals who have classroom experience and understand the challenges of teaching. They should never have any affiliation with the nominees or the schools where the nominees teach. While it may be necessary to use VFW and its Auxiliary members, it is preferred that judges come from outside our ranks to avoid the appearance of inappropriety. During the judging, the chairperson should facilitate and observe but refrain from offering his or her observations on the candidates. The judges are encouraged to discuss the candidates but must arrive at their own numerical evaluation using the grid above. Make sure all judges are kept aware of the progress of the teachers they have judged and are invited to any awards presentations.



Revised: 5/1/2014

NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS.

Questions?

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