

# Maine School Psychologist of the Year

## Purpose

To identify and recognize an outstanding **practicing** school psychologist in the state of Maine, and to increase public awareness of the profession.

## Who Can Nominate

**Anyone** can make a nomination!

Nomination forms can be submitted by any person(s) familiar with the requirements of a school psychologist and recent familiarity of reported work of nominee. Given the rural nature of the State of Maine, self-nominations are accepted and encouraged. Previously submitted nominations may be resubmitted with updated information.

## To nominate an outstanding school psychologist simply follow these three steps:

1. Candidate Information form and Nomination Statement are completed by you;
2. Candidate Statement is completed by the candidate;
3. Letters of Support, up to three (3) may be submitted.

## Who is Eligible?

Practicing school psychologists who spend the majority of their time (80 percent) providing direct services to students, teachers, and parents in school settings.

Examples of “majority of the time (80 percent)” could include 4/5 days spent as a practitioner vs. 1/5 days in another role (administrator, trainer, ghost writer, etc.) or if your practice has been for 20 years so far, 16 years should be as a practicing school psychologist. Additionally, a candidate who has retired during the 2018–2019 school year may be nominated. Trainers, researchers or administrators are not eligible for this award. Current and good standing NCSP certification is preferred.

## Selection Criteria

Makes an outstanding contribution to the betterment of his or her school, clinic, or other relevant setting though

1. An ongoing commitment to
  - School safety
  - Multicultural awareness and sensitivity
  - Academic and/or social supports for student success
  - Positive school climate
  - Performs job in exemplary manner. Earns respect of others.
2. Demonstrates ethical and professional behavior, as defined by NASP standards and ethics documents.
3. Is a MASP member for fiscal year 2019–2020 (July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020)
4. Provides school psychological services in line with current NASP practice standards.

## Procedures and Required Documents

1. Paper submission nomination materials should be in a 10- or 12-point font for easy reading by the reviewers. Additionally, nominations can be made electronically at:

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1CiSwbeVCCwrl4APvei1cKIHENLcQeCdg16BwMPCDKk/viewform?usp=send\\_form](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1CiSwbeVCCwrl4APvei1cKIHENLcQeCdg16BwMPCDKk/viewform?usp=send_form)

- Nominator & Candidate Nomination Information with Nomination Statement: In **no more than two pages or 750 words**, describe why the candidate should be considered for this award. Give specific examples in any of the following areas: data-based decision making; consultation & collaboration; interventions & instructional support to develop academic skills; interventions & mental health support to develop social & life skills; school-wide practices to promote learning; prevention, crisis prevention & mental health; family-school & community collaboration; diversity in development & learning; research and program evaluation; legal, ethical and professional behavior; performs job in an exemplary manner; earns respect of others; professional memberships and leadership activities. **Please see the [domains of school psychology practice](#) for definitions and examples of these areas. More detailed descriptions can be found in the NASP [Standards for Practice and Ethics](#).**
- Candidate's resume or vita
- Essay Questions to be completed by each nominee: Please limit your response to each question to 1,000 words. Include the question at the top of each response and your name, question number and page number in the header. The question does not count as part of the 1,000 word limit. Please double-space and use a 10 or 12-point font if submitting in paper.
- **Question 1:** Describe one professional accomplishment specifically related to your role as a school psychologist. How has it given you your greatest satisfaction professional and/or personally?
- **Question 2:** Describe how you involve parents in the education of their children and enhance family-school partnerships at the building and/or district level?
- **Optional Letters of Support:** These should be **no more than two page letters** written by individuals knowledgeable (e.g., teachers, parents, students, colleagues, administrators, etc.) about the candidate's capabilities, professionalism and ethical behavior, interpersonal skills, and leadership qualities. At least one letter must be from an individual in the candidate's school system. A maximum of **two (2) letters of will be accepted**. Letters of support should avoid repeating information in the candidate's resume/vita.

2. Submit all application materials All Nomination materials must be **POSTMARKED**

**BY: Wednesday, April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020.** Please mail materials to:

Maine Association of School Psychologists

PO Box 852

Kennebunk, Maine 04043

3. INCOMPLETE nominations will not be reviewed. If the packet is missing one or more of the following documents it will be considered incomplete: nomination statement, candidate's resume, maximum 4 letters of support, responses to essay questions 1 and 2. The chairperson will contact the nominee regarding the missing documentation to see if it was inadvertently omitted.
4. A confirmation of materials received will be sent to the nominator by email.
5. **Questions?** Please contact current MASP President Mary McLennan, President Elect Ruth Crowell or GPR Co-Chairperson Hilarie Fotter Kennedy.

### **Selection, Notification & Award Presentation**

A panel of reviewers will read and rate the materials and determine the top candidate. Judging criteria include: provides a full range of services; performs the job in an exemplary manner; is well respected by colleagues, students, and parents; is well informed about the goals and standards of the state professional organization MASP; and represents school psychology well. A panel of judges reviews nomination materials, validates entries, and selects the winner each year.

If the winner is notified before the official announcement at the annual fall convention in Freeport, we request that no advance public announcement or publicity (such as an article in the local newspaper or school/district newsletter) should be made prior to the convention; however, you may tell colleagues, employers, friends, and family.

**The awarded candidate can expect to receive a personalized plaque. Additionally, the award recipient goes on to be considered for the prestigious national school psychology of the year award from the National Association of School Psychologists.**