



October 8, 2016

Dear state association leaders,

NECTFL is pleased to announce that we are accepting applications from state organizations for the NECTFL Teacher of the Year (TOY). The award is intended to elevate the status of our profession at the state, regional, and national levels by creating opportunities for recognizing the most accomplished members of our profession. First and foremost, this process is designed to involve all of our state, regional, and national organizations in promoting our profession. Second, it is intended to create as many media opportunities as possible to increase the visibility of the importance of learning languages and cultures to the general public. Successful candidates must be full-time language educators who spend at least fifty-percent (50%) of their time in direct teaching during the year of application with an expectation of teaching during the next two (2) years.

For complete information about the award, nomination process and guidelines, please visit the [ACTFL TOY homepage](#).

It is our plan this year to announce the NECTFL TOY at our conference (February 9-11 in New York City) and to recognize all runners-up at our awards ceremony. With our early conference date in mind, the deadline for state associations to submit nominations packets to NECTFL is January 5. All nominees will be notified of the results prior to the conference (by January 31).

While procedures vary from state to state, it is common for state associations to assist their candidate financially to attend the NECTFL conference. NECTFL is prepared to waive conference registration fees for all state-level nominees and to cover one night at the conference hotel **for all NECTFL TOY finalists**. NECTFL will also provide a stipend to assist the NECTFL TOY to participate in the ACTFL Convention 2017 in Nashville, TN.

We are delighted to offer states this opportunity to highlight the accomplishments of language professionals. The need for powerful exemplars of professional practice is great. We appreciate all that you do to support teacher leadership in the language profession.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact NECTFL headquarters or TOY Committee Chair, [Maryann Woods-Murphy](#).

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