



## FOUNDATION *for* EXCELLENCE SEASONED TEACHER AWARD NOMINATION ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION & SAMPLE AWARD APPLICATION

**PLEASE NOTE: All nominations must be submitted via the online process:**

<http://athensffe.org/awards/>

**Nominees should refer to their nomination email for the direct link to their award application.**

The *Seasoned Teacher Award* is awarded biennially (odd-numbered years only) and honors dedicated teachers who have taught fifteen years or more (at least ten in the Clarke County School District) and are recognized as outstanding instructional leaders and mentors. Award recipients are characterized by an enthusiastic love of teaching and known for inspiring students to do their best while providing an enjoyable and challenging learning environment. This award was endowed by longtime CCSD teacher Peggy Cole; read more about her and past awardees on the FFE website.

**Qualifications:** These awards recognize superior classroom teachers who:

- Have completed at least fifteen years of teaching experience with at least ten years in the Clarke County School District;
- Hold current Georgia teaching certification;
- Are employed by the CCSD as a full-time or part-time teacher on the first day of pre-planning of the calendar year of the nomination (retiring teachers are eligible to receive the award);
- Do not currently hold any other FFE award; and
- Have never previously received the *Seasoned Teacher Award*.

**Term:** This award is presented for two years at a level of \$500 per year. Nominations for this award are accepted only in years ending in an odd number.

### **NOMINATION PROCESS:**

Nominations are now completely online. Please see below how the process differs from previous years.

#### **Primary Changes:**

- The awards process will consist of 3 separate time frames: Nomination, Application, & Supporting Documentation
  - **Nomination (February 18-March 1):** Nominations may be made by principals/supervisors, colleagues, students, parents, or community members. There is no limit to the number of nominations made by any one school
  - **Application (February 25-March 19):** Once a CCSD employee is nominated for an award, he or she will be contacted by the FFE awards committee to begin the application process (the later a nomination comes in, the less time an applicant will have to complete the process).
    - Primary information necessary to complete the application includes education credentials, contact information for letters of support, and any essays associated with the award (please note that the Stroud, Downs, and Horvat awards require no essay).
  - **Supporting Documentation (March 4-April 1):** During the application phase, the CCSD employee who has been nominated will be asked to provide the names and email addresses for the individuals the FFE should approach for two (2) **letters of support** from past or present administrators/supervisors, co-workers, students, parents, or community members.
- To assist with the overall submission process, the FFE will create several guiding documents; it is recommended that nominators and nominees pay special attention to these documents to ensure all requirements and eligibility standards are met.



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**Process Overview**



**COMPLETED APPLICATIONS ARE DUE BY MARCH 19<sup>th</sup> AND ALL SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS ARE DUE BY APRIL 1<sup>st</sup>.**

Please see below for a sample version of the online application process.

Completing the below template will assist in gathering information for the online submission process and will help you prepare answers for the questions you will be asked to answer.

Once an individual is nominated, they will be contacted by the FFE to complete the application process.

Nominator information will be provided to the nominee, so that the nominator can assist with the application & supporting document requirements if needed.

The content below is offered as a template for you to gather information for the online submission process. Collecting the information below will assist you in completing your applications quickly. There are also 1-2 questions that you should be prepared to answer (see below).



**FOUNDATION *for* EXCELLENCE**  
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**PART I: NOMINEE PERSONAL INFORMATION:**

Nominee Name:  
 Nominee CCSD Email:  
 Nominee School or Office:  
 Nominee Current Position:  
 Nominator Name (refer to email from FFE):

**PART II: NOMINEE PROFESSIONAL DATA:**

**A. EDUCATION**

<u>Degrees Earned:</u>	<u>Field or Major:</u>	<u>Year Earned:</u>	<u>Institution:</u>
Undergraduate			
Master's			
Specialist (6-year)			
Doctorate			
Other:			

List Certification Field(s):

**B. TEACHING/PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE** (Begin with the most recent. Add additional rows as needed.)  
*Within the CCSD:*

<u>Dates:</u>	<u>School:</u>	<u>Position:</u>	<u>Subject/Grade Level:</u>

*Relevant Experience Other Than CCSD:*

<u>Dates:</u>	<u>School District:</u>	<u>City/State:</u>	<u>Position:</u>	<u>Subject/Grade Level:</u>

**C. PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT** (Include activities or courses taken in the last four years. Add additional rows as needed.)

<u>Dates:</u>	<u>Activity or Course:</u>	<u>Institution (e.g., CCSD, RESA, ...):</u>

**D. PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES** (Include memberships, conferences attended, professional presentations, etc. Please do not use acronyms. Add additional rows as needed.)

<u>Dates:</u>	<u>Activity:</u>



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**E. OTHER SCHOOL/COMMUNITY/LEADERSHIP ACTIVITIES** (Include school sponsorships, school or district committees, community organizations, etc. Add additional rows as needed.)

<u>Dates:</u>	<u>Activity:</u>

**F. AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS** (Add additional rows as needed.)

<u>Date:</u>	<u>Recognition:</u>	<u>Granting Organization/Agency:</u>

**PART III: NOMINEE ESSAY**

This essay should be completed by the nominee. Essays must not exceed 600 words. Please stay clearly focused on the topic and use concrete example(s) with vivid details. All essays should be proofread to correct errors in grammar and spelling. Essays submitted that do not reflect these requirements may cause the packet to be rejected.

*If you were asked to share with younger teachers what you have learned about teaching and how your practices have changed during your career, what would you say to them? For instance, what ineffective practices have you learned to avoid? What have you learned to do to in order to best help students learn? What has led to your “Aha!” moments as a teacher?*

**PART IV: TWO SUPPORT LETTERS**

Two letters (no more) of support are to be provided. Each letter must not exceed 600 words. These letters should come from any combination of present or past administrators/supervisors, co-workers, students, parents of students, or community members familiar with the nominee’s work.

Each letter should address the following:

*Why is Mr./Ms./Dr. \_\_\_ [the nominee] an outstanding teacher? Please give as many details as you can (while staying within the limit of 600 words).*

- Name of author of first letter:  
 Relationship to nominee:  
 Email address:
  
- Name of author of second letter:  
 Relationship to nominee:  
 Email address:

*Individuals identified to complete letters of support will be contacted by the FFE starting the week of **March 4<sup>th</sup>** and will have until **April 1<sup>st</sup>** to submit the letters (see above timeline). Nominees are strongly encouraged to notify individuals providing letters of support as early as possible*



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Once a nominee provides the FFE with the personal and professional data, essay(s), and the contact information for the individual responsible for submitting their letters of support, the application portion of the awards process will be considered complete. Nominees will receive an email confirmation of their submission.

The FFE anticipates sending one reminder approximately 5 business days prior to the deadline for supporting documentation. Nominees are encouraged to check in with the individuals they identify for supporting documentation to ensure completion of all award components. As a reminder, to be considered a complete award nomination, all steps (nomination, application, and supporting documentation), must be completed and turned in by the appropriate deadline. Final submission of supporting documentation is due **April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019**.

Please feel free to direct questions to:

Josh Podvin: [jhpodvin@athensffe.org](mailto:jhpodvin@athensffe.org)

CJ Amason: [director@athensffe.org](mailto:director@athensffe.org)

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