



# Teachers of Ohio Representing Character and Heart

Ohio's TORCH recognition honors five extraordinary teachers annually by celebrating their efforts to model strong character and a heart for their students, colleagues and community. The annual Ohio Teacher of the Year and that year's Teacher of the Year finalists together evaluate nominations and select TORCH honorees. The Ohio Department of Education supports the program.

TORCH recipients should demonstrate dedication to social justice and personal commitments to their communities. They also should hold themselves and others accountable to the ideals of compassion, integrity, honor and respect.

TORCH honorees are recognized at surprise presentations, so all nominations should be kept confidential.

**Eligibility Requirements:** A nominee must meet the following criteria:

- Possess a current Ohio teaching license;
- Have at least three years of teaching experience;
- Work full-time in prekindergarten through grade 12 at a state-approved public or community school;
- Work directly with students at least 50 percent of the time;
- Plan to continue in active teaching status.

**Process:** Teachers, administrators, community members, parents or students can nominate outstanding teachers for TORCH recognition. Email the nomination form to [torch@education.ohio.gov](mailto:torch@education.ohio.gov) by Jan. 31, 2019. The 2018 finalists for Ohio Teacher of the Year will evaluate nominations, select five exceptional teachers for recognition and work with the nominator to organize the surprise recognition ceremony. They will select honorees using the following criteria:

- Educator has an engaging and inspiring presence that motivates and influences students, colleagues and the community;
- Educator has earned exemplary educational accomplishments beyond the classroom that offer models of excellence for the profession;
- Educator shows compassion, integrity, honor and respect for others with a commitment to equity and social justice.



## 2019 TORCH Recognition Nomination Form

Please complete this form and submit it with your nomination to [torch@education.ohio.gov](mailto:torch@education.ohio.gov) by Jan. 31, 2019

**Nominee's First and Last Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

School Name: \_\_\_\_\_

District Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Subject(s) Taught: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade Level(s) Taught: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Social Media Presence (Twitter/Instagram/Website): \_\_\_\_\_

Building Administrator's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Administrator's Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

**Nominator's First and Last Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State and Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominator's Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominator's Phone Number, Including Extension: \_\_\_\_\_

**Choose one of the following:**

I am the nominee's supervisor (principal, superintendent).

I teach in the same building or district as the nominee.

I am a current or former student of the nominee.

I serve as member of the district's board of education.

I have worked with the nominee in community organizations or functions.

Other: \_\_\_\_\_



## Nomination Statement Instructions

In fewer than 500 words, please describe why you feel the nominee deserves to be a TORCH honoree. Consider how the nominee's actions have motivated and inspired colleagues, students or community members. Include information about the nominee's leadership involvement, mentorship, awards, publications or presentations. Share examples of actions the nominee has taken that exhibit strong character and an interest in social justice.



I certify this nominee meets the criteria for the TORCH award (see award description for eligibility requirements).

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_