



Coconino County Teacher of the Year General Information

The Coconino County Teacher of the Year (TOY) event is the only county-wide teacher recognition program that spotlights the contributions of state-accredited public and charter school teachers in grades pre-Kindergarten through 12. The TOY awards event recognizes three exceptionally skilled and dedicated teachers in their fifth year or more of teaching who have gained the respect and admiration of students, parents, and colleagues. They inspire students of all backgrounds and abilities to learn, and are dedicated and passionate about education. Candidates must continue active teaching status through the end of the 2016-2017 school year and have valid Arizona certification.

Candidates fill out the application which is reviewed by a panel of five judges comprised of educators, business, and community leaders. Using an application rubric, the judges will determine the top five candidates to be interviewed on Thursday, March 2. After the interviews they will choose the three finalists by using an interview rubric. All interviewed candidates will be contacted and three will be notified of their finalist status. Next, the video production process begins, resulting in three minute bio segments of each finalist. On Wednesday, April 19 the videos will be shown and the 2017 Teacher of the Year and the two Ambassadors for Excellence revealed. The event will be at the High Country Conference Center located at 201 West Butler Street in Flagstaff from 4:30 p.m. until 6:30 p.m.

2016 Prizes for Example – 2017 Prize List to Be Released Upon Finalization

- **Coconino County Teacher of the Year (1)**: *New Car Leased for One Year from Findlay * \$3,000 Cash Award * Free Course through Coconino Community College * Participate in the 4th of July Parade *
- **Ambassadors for Excellence (2)**: *\$1,500 Cash Award * Free Course through the Coconino Community College * Participate in the 4th of July Parade *



2017 Coconino County Teacher of the Year *Eligibility Requirements*

*Prior to completing the application, please be certain you meet the eligibility requirements.*For questions contact Kim Graves at 928.679.8070 or kgraves@coconino.az.gov.

- Be a full-time teacher in Coconino County and plan to continue in an active teaching status through the end of 2016-2017 school year.
- Teach any grade(s) pre-Kindergarten through 12 in a state-accredited, traditional district or charter public school in Coconino County.
- Spend the majority (more than 50%) of the school day in direct instruction to students.
- Currently be in your fifth year or more of teaching.
- Have valid Arizona teacher certification.

Application Instructions

- a) Observe page limits and spacing; use easy-to-read and no smaller than 10-point font consistently throughout.
- b) Number the sections and pages; "Candidate Information and Promotion Permission Form" will be page 1.
- c) Head each of the sections 2 - 9 of the application with the corresponding page numbers and **bolded title** only. Delete the explanation and criteria after the **title** and insert your responses.
- d) Mail or deliver the original application packet stapled (not bound), printed on white paper to the address on the Candidate Information and Promotion Permission Form. **Packet** includes: **(1)** signed Candidate Information and Promotion Permission Form as Page 1; **(2)** responses to sections 2 - 9; **(3)** 3 signed, one-page letters of support.
- e) Do not include additional materials.
- f) The original signed application packet must be received in the Superintendent of School's Office ***by Thursday, January 12, 2017* at 5:00 p.m.**
***NOTE:** This is a **received-by** date, not a postmarked-by date.*



Candidate Information and Promotion Permission Form

This signed form will be page 1 of your original application packet. Refer to "Application Instructions" on the preceding page.

Applicant's Name _____
Home Address _____
City _____ Zip _____ Cell # (____) _____
E-Mail (personal) _____
School District/Charter Holder _____
School _____
School Address _____
City _____ Zip _____ Phone (____) _____
Major Subject Area (if any) _____ Grade Level(s) _____
Total Years Teaching Experience _____ Years in Present Position _____
Arizona Teacher Certification Number _____

Promotion Permission: I, _____, hereby give my permission for any/all of the completed documents in my application packet, future photographs, and any other TOY related documents/information to be shared with interested parties for event promotional purposes. I certify that I **personally completed** this application and that all of the information found within is **truthful**.

Applicant's Signature

Date

Mail or deliver original application packet to:
Coconino County Superintendent of School's Office
Attn: Kim Graves
2384 N. Steves Blvd.
Flagstaff, AZ 86004

APPLICATION DEADLINE: Must be received by Thursday, January 12 at 5:00 p.m.

1. Candidate Information and Promotion Permission Form

2. Educational History and Professional Development Activities (2 double-spaced typed pages; bullet list acceptable) – 10 points

- A. Beginning with most recent, list colleges and universities attended including postgraduate studies. Indicate degrees earned and dates of attendance.
- B. Beginning with most recent, list teaching employment history indicating time period, grade level and subject area.
- C. Beginning with most recent, list professional association memberships including information regarding offices held and other relevant activities.
- D. Beginning with most recent, list staff development leadership activity and leadership activity in the training of future teachers.
- E. Beginning with the most recent, list awards and other recognition of your teaching.

Criteria for scoring: *The teacher possesses a strong academic background appropriate to the grade level and subject(s) s/he teaches. The teacher is an active leader in education through professional development and training activities with current and future teachers. The teacher's involvement in associations, task forces, publications, etc. indicates that s/he is a strong advocate for education. The teacher has received other recognition or awards that illustrate that s/he is highly regarded in the field.*

3. Professional Biography (2 double-spaced typed pages) – 10 points

What were the factors that influenced you to become a teacher? Describe what you consider to be your greatest contributions and accomplishments in education.

Criteria for scoring: *The teacher clearly states factors which influenced him/her to become a teacher. The teacher describes contributions and accomplishments in education in and out of the classroom.*

4. Community Involvement (1 double-spaced typed page) – 5 points

Describe your commitment to your community and give examples of how you bring the community into your classroom through service-oriented activities such as volunteer work, civic responsibilities, and other group activities.

Criteria for scoring: *The (classroom) examples given are clear and convincing evidence stressing the importance of service-oriented activities and community involvement.*

5. Philosophy of Teaching (2 double-spaced typed pages) – 10 points

- A. Describe your personal feelings and beliefs about teaching, including your own ideas of what makes you an outstanding teacher. Describe the rewards you find in teaching.
- B. How are your beliefs about teaching demonstrated in your personal teaching style?

Criteria for scoring: *The teacher has a strong and coherent philosophy of education. The examples given are clear and convincing evidence of how the philosophy is demonstrated in the classroom. The teacher's instructional approach is worthy of sharing with other teachers.*

6. Education Issues and Trends (2 double-spaced typed pages) – 10 points
What do you consider to be the major public education issues today?
Address **one** in depth, outlining possible causes, effects and resolutions.

Criteria for scoring: *The teacher describes current issues facing education today. The teacher's outline indicates a logically developed and persuasive resolution to the issue chosen.*

7. The Teaching Profession (2 double-spaced typed pages) – 10 points
A. What do you do to strengthen and improve the teaching profession?
B. What is and/or should be the basis for accountability in the teaching profession?

Criteria for scoring: *The examples given are clear and convincing evidence of what s/he does to strengthen and improve the profession. Teacher clearly describes an accountability basis for the profession, either in use or proposed.*

8. Teacher of the Year Message (1 double-spaced typed page) – 5 points
As the 2017 **Arizona** or **National** TOY, you would serve as a spokesperson and representative for the entire teaching profession. What message would you communicate to others in your profession and to the general public?

Criteria for scoring: *The teacher presents a concise and compelling message which is appropriate for others in the teaching profession and the general public.*

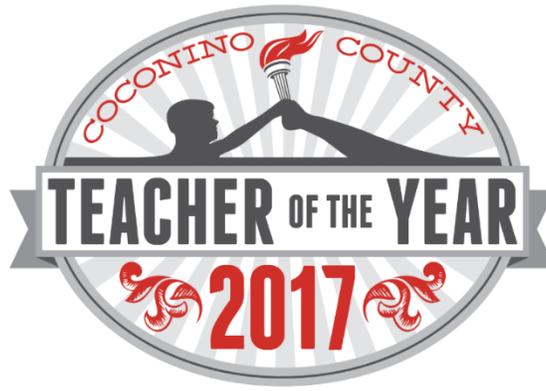
9. Letters of Support (limit 3 signed letters, each a MAXIMUM OF 1 PAGE) – 10 points

Include **3 signed** one-page letters of support as follows:
one from your *superintendent, principal or other administrator*; one from a colleague/coworker; and one from a student or former student, parent, civic or community leader. ***NOTE:** Prefer letter from current (if applicable) superintendent, principal, or administrator, but **must** include evidence of your effectiveness in the classroom, i.e. assessment data, anecdotes, etc.*

Criteria for scoring: *The 3, one-page letters must be signed and should provide evidence of and address the teacher's effectiveness and leadership abilities.*

OVERALL ASSESSMENT of APPLICATION – 5 points
Areas of consideration: **Appearance, content, grammar, readability, spelling, and organization.** Refer to "Application Instructions".

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2017 Coconino County Teacher of the Year Application Checklist
(This checklist is for your use only; do not include in the application packet)

- _____ 1. I, along with my principal and district administrators, understand that if chosen as the CCTOY or an Ambassador, it is imperative that I act as a role model to promote excellence in the teaching profession.

- _____ 2. All materials have been carefully checked and proofread.

- _____ 3. All responses are within the page/font/margin limitations.

- _____ 4. Original application packet is printed on white paper; no cover, binder, or portfolio has been used, and it is only stapled.

- _____ 5. No additional materials are included, but those requested for submittal in the original application packet.

- _____ 6. Original application packet includes **all** of the following:
____ the signed Candidate Information and Promotion Permission Form
____ responses to sections 2 – 9
____ 3 signed letters of support (not to exceed one-page each)

- _____ 7. The original signed application packet is complete and will be submitted in person or **received by** mail by **Thursday, January 12 at 5:00 p.m.** to:

Coconino County Superintendent of School's Office
Attn: Kim Graves
2384 N. Steves Blvd.
Flagstaff, AZ 86004