



Trade & Industrial Education Teacher of the Year Award

Purpose

This award recognizes the finest career and technical teachers at the middle/secondary school level who have demonstrated innovation in the classroom, commitment to their students, and dedication to the improvement of CTE in their institutions and communities.

Eligibility

All candidates must be employed as classroom/laboratory CTE teachers at the middle/secondary school level and have at least five years of teaching experience at the time of initial nomination. Candidates must be members of their state ACTE for consideration at the state level. To be eligible for nomination, candidates must be ACTE members by **Oct. 31, 2025**.

Criteria Candidates will be evaluated on the following criteria:

- A. Contributions to student success
- B. Innovations in CTE
- C. Leadership in the local or greater CTE community

All candidates must demonstrate at minimum one best practice in CTE as outlined in the [High-Quality CTE Framework in order to be eligible to receive the award](#). For more information on how nominations will be scored, please see the [ACTE Trade and Industrial Division Awards Scoring Rubric](#).

Nomination Requirements

Each nomination must include the following (incomplete nominations will not be considered):

- A. Description of candidate's qualifications for the award
- B. Two letters of support
- C. Headshot photo
- D. Résumé

See below for more information on each component.

A. Description of candidate's qualifications for the award (1500 words total)

Address the following:

1. How has the candidate contributed to implementing high-quality CTE programs that ensure student success? Please refer to the High-Quality CTE Framework as a guide/reference. (i.e., development of standards-aligned and integrated curriculum; contributions that resulted in student achievements, opportunities and innovations; CTSO successes; etc.) (500 words max)
2. How has the candidate demonstrated innovation in CTE? (i.e., improvements implemented to program or institution; new activities or initiatives spearheaded; creative or cutting-edge classroom practices) (500 words max)
3. How has the candidate demonstrated leadership in improving CTE and/or student opportunities in the local or greater CTE community? (i.e., activities conducted with community leaders, business and industry partners, fellow educators, or ACTE and other organizations) (500 words max)

B. Letters of Support

Each nomination should include letters of support recommending the candidate based on the criteria above. Letters should be provided from two of the following: a supervisor, a parent/guardian of a student, a student, an employee or a community leader.

C. Headshot Photo

Each nomination should include a headshot photo (head and shoulders) of the candidate. Photos should be digital, high resolution (at least 300 dpi), and submitted in .jpg format. Files 2MB or larger are preferred. *(Note: photographs will be used for publicity purposes only.)*

D. Résumé

Nominations should be uploaded to this [link](#) no later than Nov. 7, 2025. Candidates for the ACTE National Trade and Industrial Division Awards may nominate themselves for an award or be nominated by a third party. National winners will be selected by the ACTE National Trade and Industrial Awards Committee. Winners will be recognized at the ACTE National Trade and Industrial Division meeting during CareerTech VISION. Winning candidates permit ACTE to use and edit the content of the application for promotional activities. Non-winning candidates may be re-nominated for the same or another ACTE National Trade and Industrial Division Award the following year. Winning candidates at the national level may not be nominated for the same or another national ACTE National Trade and Industrial Division Award within three years of their win.