

# Educator of the Year Nomination Form

2026 Fire & Life Safety Education Conference



## About the Award

Nominations are being accepted for the 2026 Massachusetts Fire and Life Safety Educator of the Year Award. This award recognizes individuals or teams for their involvement and commitment to make our world safer from fire and other preventable injuries. Although fire and life safety education may be their job, we are looking for people who go above and beyond to make a difference. We seek to honor people who demonstrate qualities such as leadership, teamwork, creativity, vision, and perseverance. The winner's name will be inscribed on a perpetual plaque which hangs at the Department of Fire Services. The winner will be invited to participate in fire prevention activities with the State Fire Marshal, and to represent fire and life safety educators at appropriate events throughout the year. The award and the runner-up citations will be presented at the 31st Annual Fire and Life Safety Education Conference to be held at the Wellsworth Hotel in Southbridge, MA.

## Who can be nominated?

Nominees may be a member of any profession. They may impact the safety of any part or many parts of the community — children, older adults, teens, special groups of citizens or the general public.

Name of Nominee(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

## Who can make nominations?

Anyone can make a nomination — peers, chief officers, teachers, principals, or citizens. Do you know someone who has made a difference and deserves to be recognized? Let us know who and why.

Name of Nominator(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Can we contact you if we have questions about your nomination? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

## Send both pages of this nomination form to:

Mail: Department of Fire Services  
P.O. Box 1025 - State Road  
Stow, MA 01775  
Attention: Sheryl Hedlund

E-mail: [Sheryl.Hedlund@Mass.Gov](mailto:Sheryl.Hedlund@Mass.Gov)

**Nomination Deadline is August 3, 2026.**

# Educator of the Year Nomination Form

2026 Fire & Life Safety Education Conference



## Please explain

Please explain why the nominee deserves special recognition by writing a short answer to the following questions. (Feel free to use an extra sheet of paper.) Since the reviewers will likely not know your town, your answers will help them to understand the nominee's program and why your nominee is someone who is worthy of this award. **Please answer the questions in detail and give examples.** We encourage you to attach supporting materials that demonstrate publicity, successful leveraging of community resources, and community support and involvement such as newspaper articles, handouts, letters, lesson plans, or photos. Remember, you know the program, the reviewer does not. Your answers help them to see the program as you do.

## Please use another sheet of paper to answer the following:

1. Why does this nominee deserve special recognition?
2. How successful is the program?  
(Any Young Heroes? Statistics? Behavior changes by the public or inside the organization?)
3. What is innovative or creative about the approach?
4. What partnerships were built?  
(Within or between agencies?)
5. What leadership was shown?
6. What obstacles were surmounted or challenges faced?