

2017-2018 IAITC Teacher of the Year Award

It is time to nominate a teacher in your county for the **2017-2018 Illinois IAITC Teacher of the Year Award**. Nominees for the award must be former Summer Ag Institute attendees. This award includes a trip to the USDA National AITC Conference in Portland, ME, June 26-29, 2018. Lodging, basic conference registration (no pre- or post-conference), and transportation will be provided by the IAA Foundation. The conference registration includes most meal costs during the conference. This award is non-transferable. **Nominations are due September 22, 2017**, and a winner will be chosen and notified by October 31, 2017. The winner receives a plaque recognizing them as the IAITC Teacher of the year, and press releases to the local media are coordinated by IFB. The prize is non-transferable, and the stipend is only issued to the teacher attending the National Conference. Our winner is the nominee for the USDA AITC Excellence in Teaching About Agriculture Award, and our Runner Up is the nominee for the AFBF White-Reinhart Grant.

The nomination format has changed recently to more closely align the Illinois Award with the National nomination form. Nominators will need to have teacher's assistance in completing the essay components.

Please enclose three photos of the nominee (preferably a head shot) with the nomination form.

**Illinois AITC Teacher of the Year Nomination Form
2017-2018**

RETURN TO:

**ILLINOIS FARM BUREAU®, IAITC
1701 TOWANDA AVENUE, BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS 61701
FAX: 309-557-2098**

Received at IAITC office no later than 4 P.M. ON September 22, 2017

USE THIS SHEET AS A COVER SHEET OF ALL MATERIALS SUBMITTED!

Teacher's Name _____

County _____

School _____

School Address _____

School Phone _____

Home Address _____

Home Phone _____

E-mail Address _____

Year of Summer Ag Institute Participation _____

Location of Session Attended _____

Candidate's Education

Institution	Year	Degree

Professional Experience

Position	School/Organization	Dates

Awards and Honors Related to Teaching

Nominator's Signature _____ Role with AITC _____

County Farm Bureau Manager Signature _____

Please follow the instructions below: Additional information including letters of support may be included in a packet. Please limit narrative answers to 4 pages total, and supplemental information to 6 additional pages. All packets should be no longer than 10 total pages. The winning teacher will go on to become the Illinois Nominee for the National Teacher of the Year. The questions for our award greatly reflect the National Teacher of the Year Application. Nominators are suggested to work with their nominee on this application.

Note: You may choose to address two of the subjects below (each one will have a two page limit) if you feel it will strengthen your application and provide the judges with a better view of your teaching methods for agriculture literacy. A preference will not be given to those who submit more than one narrative. **The one lesson plan you submit should correspond with your narrative(s).**

1. **Educator narrative:** Please share your method of integrating/instructing one of the following knowledge/attitude/skills of agriculture literacy in your classroom. Please note on the first line of your narrative(s) which topic you are addressing (two page limit):
 - A. Cross curricular integration of agriculture topics in standing subject(s) such as math, ELA, science, social studies, and creative arts through learning activity examples listed in VII.
 - B. Agriculture into your Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) education.
 - C. Economics and agriculture (historically speaking or present time issues)
 - D. Agriculture (food and fiber systems)
 - E. Agriculture and the environment
 - F. Agriculture and renewable energy

2. **Exemplary lesson plan:** Please submit one lesson plan (up to 4 pages) which illustrates your agriculture literacy teaching method as described in the narrative. We are looking for uses of standards based formal education practices on agriculture literacy which are integrated into standing subjects rather than used as a standalone lesson. We are also looking for critical thinking aspects, ones which encourage problem solving by learners for a deeper understanding of agriculture issues. Please include the following content, according to the order below, in your lesson plan:
 - A. Submitter's name and contact information
 - B. Title of the lesson
 - C. Brief purpose of the lesson
 - D. Grade level(s) addressed
 - E. Time length of lesson
 - F. Objective of the lesson
 - G. Standards addressed (limit your state's addressed standards list to no more than ½ page)
 - H. Materials list

- I. Vocabulary or keywords
- J. Instructor procedure
- K. Additional resources which you feel enhance the lesson
- L. Assessment (list 5 essential questions that students should understand and be able to answer after having been taught the lesson)

Note: Please be sure to give credit to the appropriate sources, if applicable. Lesson plan should not exceed 4 pages.

3. Documentation and photos: (not to exceed 2 pages)

We invite you to share photos and other documentation of your instruction on agriculture literacy. You may put as many photos on one page as you wish, please be sure the photo quality is high and add a brief note at the bottom of each photo to describe the activity. Strict limit on 2 page total.

I. How are nominees evaluated?

- II. All nominations will be evaluated by a panel of judges familiar with agriculture, education, and Agriculture in the Classroom.

Evaluation criteria:

Evaluation Sections:	Weight
Educator Narrative: The degree to which an educator exemplifies leading instruction on accurate agriculture knowledge, attitudes, and skills, and demonstrates teaching excellence in gaining student understanding of a selected agriculture literacy topic. Grants, community extensions, professional development relating to the narrative topic for other educators, and awards for teaching about narrative content will also be considered.	25
Lesson Plan: The degree to which accurate agricultural concepts have been integrated into a standards based education plan, which includes a critical thinking element and demonstrates for the learner a deeper understanding of the relationships between agriculture systems, individuals, and the world.	25
Formal Education: The degree to which the educator utilizes formal education practices for integration, standards based lesson plans with accurate agriculture literacy content, and demonstrates essential understandings across each of the submissions.	25
Documentation and photos: The degree to which photos and other documentation exhibit excellence in agriculture literacy methods used by the applicant, to include but not limited to: news articles, bulletin board examples relating to agriculture literacy, community outreach, school newsletters, grant award letters, etc.	20
Formatting of application: The degree to which the applicant has completed the application in accordance to the instructions.	5