

# *Illinois Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation & Dance*



affiliated with  
MID-WEST ASSOCIATION FOR HEALTH, PHYSICAL EDUCATION, RECREATION AND DANCE  
and the  
AMERICAN ALLIANCE FOR HEALTH, PHYSICAL EDUCATION, RECREATION AND DANCE

## **ILLINOIS/MIDWEST DISTRICT AAHPERD RECREATIONAL PROFESSIONAL/LEISURE EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR Application Packet**

### **Definition**

A recreation professional/leisure educator is defined for the purposes of this award as an individual who has major responsibility for leadership in the recreation/leisure profession or teaching recreation/leisure education (studies) at the college/university level.

### **Eligibility Requirements**

Any physical educator who meets the eligibility requirements and exemplifies the criteria for this award, as outlined below, may apply or be nominated by a colleague.

Eligibility requirements include:

1. **This is a State/Midwest District Award and is not awarded at the national level. The Illinois State award winner will be advanced to Midwest District AAHPERD for consideration.**
2. Have had a minimum of five (5) years in continuous membership in AAHPERD (This is required for a Midwest District Award)
3. Have had a minimum of five (5) years in continuous membership in IAHPERD (required for Illinois TOY)
4. Degree in and certification as a recreation professional/leisure educator
5. Minimum of ten (10) years as a recreation professional/leisure educator
6. The current Recreation Professional/Leisure Educator of the Year will present a session at the IAHPERD State Convention in November
7. Verification of teaching assignment from your place of employment

**Please note:** Current members of AAPAR Executive Committees are not eligible to apply for this award.

## **Teaching Assignment**

Teachers/professional leisure educators may have responsibility for teaching general PE, but applications can be submitted only for the recreation professional/leisure education part of the teaching assignment. A staff member/administrator who can attest to the applicant's assignment must complete a form included in the packet.

## **Award Criteria**

The candidate must be a person who:

1. Serves as a positive role model, epitomizing personal recreation/leisure endeavors, is energetic and passes this enthusiasm on to others, and is sensitive to the needs of others/students.
2. Exhibits outstanding and creative leadership in the recreation profession, or as an innovative leisure educator at the college/university level, as evidenced by publications and scholarly presentations.
3. Provides creative leadership in the recreation/leisure profession or as illustrated by having delivered conference speeches, consultations, and/or demonstrations in the past two years.
4. Demonstrates a vitality of contemporary and future centered leisure thought and theory in actions and expressed or written words.
5. Contributes significantly in the area of recreation/leisure in various ways of AAHPERD concerns such as publications, service on national, district, or state committees or boards, and demonstrated expertise in recreation/leisure research activities.

**NOTE:** All Letters of Recommendation should be one to two pages in length with content directly related to the **Award Criteria**. **It is the responsibility of the candidate to ensure the content of the recommendations meets the Award Criteria.**

## **State and AAHPERD District Selection and Recognition Process**

1. IAHPERD District Presidents must receive Illinois Recreation Professional/Leisure Educator of the Year applications from the membership by **March 1** of the current year. Contact information for all Illinois District Presidents is available in the IAHPERD website: [www.iahperd.org](http://www.iahperd.org). **The State Association will re-direct all submitted names and applications for Recreation Professional/Leisure Educator of the Year to the appropriate IAHPERD District President or appointed designee.**
2. State District Presidents will present their District winners to the IAHPERD Recognition/Awards Committee by **April 15**. The state winner will be contacted in early **May**.
3. The IAHPERD Recognition/Awards Committee will present one candidate for Illinois Recreation Professional/Leisure Educator of the Year for approval at the **April** meeting of the IAHPERD Executive Board.
4. The IAHPERD Recognition/Awards Committee will submit the Illinois Recreation Professional/Leisure Educator of the Year and his/her application to the Midwest District AAHPERD Recognition/Awards Committee by **August 15**.
5. The Midwest District Recreation Professional/Leisure Educator of the Year will be selected at the annual meeting of the Midwest District leadership in **late September or early October**. All winners of this award will be officially notified by Midwest District within two weeks of the Midwest District AAHPERD Leadership Conference.

## **Application Directions**

1. Illinois Teacher of the Year applications can be obtained at: [www.iahperd.org](http://www.iahperd.org).
2. Application, support materials, and publicity forms must be filled out completely and typed using 12-point font.
3. Application, support materials, and publicity forms must be submitted to the IAHPERD District Presidents by **March 1**. Portfolios and attractive folders/binders and additional information are not required by the application (such as your curriculum) and will not be considered in the selection process.
4. Application, support materials, and publicity forms remain unchanged from the beginning of the selection process (state) through participation at the Midwest District. A Recreation Professional/Leisure Educator of the Year is not eligible for the award again until after three (3) years.
5. Include a 3½" X 2½" (wallet size) photograph that will not be returned.
8. Include the **verification of teaching assignment** from your place of employment.
6. Attach one (1) double spaced sheet for each of the six (6) **Award Criterion** listed. Major consideration for the award will be given to the information provided. In describing your qualifications under each criterion, specifically address innovation, major accomplishments, and significance to the field.
7. Four (4) letters of recommendation addressing the Recreation Professional/Leisure Educator of the Year **Award Criteria** including one each from;
  - a. Fellow teacher familiar with applicant's work;
  - b. Administrator/supervisor
  - c. Parent/child who has been a beneficiary of the applicant's services
8. Applications that are forwarded to AAHPERD for Midwest District consideration must be on forms that are included in this packet and comply with all guidelines described here or they will not be considered.

**ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION FOR HEALTH, PHYSICAL EDUCATION,  
RECREATION AND DANCE**

**ILLINOIS/MIDWEST DISTRICT AAHPERD  
RECREATION PROFESSIONAL/LEISURE EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR (TOY)**

**OFFICIAL APPLICATION FORM**

**To be completed by nominee**

Detach the application, publicity, and verification of assignment forms from the rest of the packet and send them along with your letters of recommendation to your IAHPERD District President by **March 1**.

Should the space provided prove insufficient, please use additional sheets, clearly marking each item. You may create your own computer-generated copy of this form (recommended).

**Applicant's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Professional Address:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Present Position/Title:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Work Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

**Educational Background:**

College/University

Major

Bachelors Degree

Masters Degree

Doctoral/Prof. Degree

**Career Information:**

Position:

Location:

Length of Service:

**Professional Affiliations:**

AAHPERD Membership # \_\_\_\_\_  
Activities (offices, articles, etc.)

Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_ Years of Membership \_\_\_\_\_

District AAHPERD:

District Offices/Divisions or Project Activities:

Illinois AHPERD Membership # \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_ Years of Membership \_\_\_\_\_  
State Offices/Division or Project Activities:

Other Professional Affiliations:

**Honors and Awards Received:**

**Significant Achievements:** (in the Field of Recreation Professional/Leisure Education)

**Community Service:** (types and dates)

**Attach separate sheets; one (1) maximum for each of the six (6) Award Criteria listed on page 2 of this packet. THE APPLICANT SHOULD OUTLINE QUALIFICATIONS RELEVANT TO THAT CRITERION. Major consideration for the award will be based on these criteria.**

**Four (4) letters of recommendation should be included in the application. Letters should be directly related to the Award Criteria listed on page 2 of this packet. It is the responsibility of the candidate to ensure the content of the recommendations meets the Award Criteria. There should be one letter from the principal, a colleague, and a parent/child who is familiar with the work of the applicant.**

**ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION FOR HEALTH, PHYSICAL EDUCATION,  
RECREATION AND DANCE**

**ILLINOIS/MIDWEST DISTRICT AAHPERD  
RECREATION PROFESSIONAL/LEISURE EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR**

**SUPPORT INFORMATION AND PUBLICITY FORM**

**To be completed by nominee**

State: **ILLINOIS**

AAHPERD District: **MIDWEST DISTRICT**

Applicant's Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant's Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**School or Park District Information:**

Superintendent's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Principal's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Program/Dept Chair's Name, Title and Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

School/Park District Administration Address and Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

School/Park District Public Relations Officer (Name, Address, Phone Number, and FAX): \_\_\_\_\_

**Newspapers:**

Newspaper: \_\_\_\_\_ Editor: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Phone and Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

**Television Station:** List the local stations with the broadest coverage (use back of sheet if there is more than one).

Station Name/Call Letters: \_\_\_\_\_ Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Phone and Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

**Government Officials:**

State Legislator: \_\_\_\_\_

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

U.S. Congress Rep: \_\_\_\_\_

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

U.S. Senator: \_\_\_\_\_

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

U.S. Senator: \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Others:** list others, including titles and addresses, to which your progress in this program should be reported. Use the back of this sheet if necessary.

**VERIFICATION OF ASSIGNMENT FOR  
RECREATION PROFESSIONAL/LEISURE  
EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR**

I attest to the fact that this applicant, \_\_\_\_\_, for  
the Recreation Professional/Leisure Educator of the Year, does, in fact, have  
a major responsibility for leadership in the recreation/leisure profession or  
teaching recreation/leisure education (studies) at the high  
school/college/university level.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date