



National Staff Development and Training Association



Distinguished Service in Training - an Individual Award

Submission due: July 31, 2026

Criteria (At least one of the four criteria must be met):

1. Demonstrates a continuing and successful effort to create, improve and update training and organizational effectiveness materials, presentations or programs. Demonstrates outstanding skills as an adult educator through use of innovative approaches and ensures that effective transfer of learning occurs.
2. Demonstrates skills as a training manager, administrative support, communications specialist, evaluator/researcher, human resource planner, instructional designer, coach/mentor, organizational development specialist, training program and curriculum designer or any role related to providing quality human services training.
3. Demonstrates evidence of outstanding skills as a trainer or curriculum developer by creating new training approaches or curriculum. Able to present challenging content that leads to the transfer of learning.
4. Represents excellence and professionalism in the sector of human services training through leadership skills, mentoring new trainers, or advancement of training as a method of bringing positive change to the sector of human services.

Note: The above activities must have occurred in the last three years.

The nomination packet should include documentation or measurement of the nominee's success. NSDTA Executive Advisory Council members may not be nominated.

Award Nomination Instructions:

1. Complete the Award Nomination Form

[National Staff Development and Training Association Education Conference](#)

2. In addition to the electronic Nomination Form, these items may be submitted via email (if preferred) to jkerr@aphsa.org:

- Abstract to demonstrate how the program/person meets the awards criteria. This supports the overview of contributions listed above.
- Additional Supporting Information. ***The committee does not accept complete copies of curriculum, full program descriptions or Level 1 evaluations as part of the supporting materials.*

Award winners will be honored at the NSTDA Annual Education Conference in Salt Lake City, UT on October 4-7, 2026.

*****Winners for each Award will be offered one full registration fee waiver.**

No travel costs or per diem expenses will be paid by NSDTA for the Quality Training Program, Distinguished Service in Training, Technology Innovation or Career Achievement Award winners.

Award submissions and Questions: Contact Jen Kerr at jkerr@aphsa.org.