



2021 Washington Ag in the Classroom (WAIC) Excellence in Teaching Award

*Before you start your application, read this important information...
Application deadline: November 30, 2020*

What is Agricultural Literacy? An agriculturally literate person understands and can communicate the source and value of agriculture as it affects our quality of life.

What is the Excellence in Teaching Award? One award will be given to a Washington state teacher currently engaged in classroom instruction at the Kindergarten through 12th grade levels. This award recognizes a teacher for their integrated efforts to teach students about the importance of agriculture. The teacher selected will receive statewide recognition, a \$300 cash prize and be nominated for the *National Excellence in Teaching about Agriculture Award*. The National award includes paid travel expenses to attend the 2021 National Agriculture in the Classroom Conference held in Des Moines, Iowa, June 29-July 1, 2021.

Who is Eligible? This competitive award will recognize an outstanding teacher for their creative efforts to teach students about the importance of agriculture. Teachers currently engaged in integrating agricultural concepts into non-vocational agriculture classroom settings at the K-12 level are eligible. This award encourages the use of agriculture concepts outside of the agriculture classroom in career and technology education; therefore agriculture programs are not eligible. This may be an individual teacher or a team of teachers (with a designated team leader).

What are the Criteria for Selection?

Teachers must use agricultural information and/or materials within their classroom curriculum in an effort to help students understand importance of agriculture. Innovative and interdisciplinary methods are encouraged.

Judging will be based on these four criteria:

- 1) Use of Agricultural Information - The degree to which sound, accurate agricultural concepts have been included in a variety of subjects or topics. Demonstrates an understanding of relationships among agriculture, food and fiber production, animals, health, energy systems, technology, economics, and the environment.
- 2) Student Impact - Evidence of impact on student's attitudes and overall learning. Demonstrates understanding of the importance and value of agriculture in students' daily lives.
- 3) Overall Impact, Longevity of the Program - Evidence of historical and new agricultural concepts introduced to the class and/or school wide. Examples could be securing grants for the future, community development/interaction, and/or professional development relating to increasing agricultural literacy in the classroom.
- 4) Creativity – Value will be placed on approaches that teach about agriculture across the curriculum or subject. References should be made to the creative methods utilized in advancing student learning. Creates and delivers innovative, integrated, and interdisciplinary programs. ie: using Washington Ag in the Classroom's *Ag@School*

If you have any questions, please contact WA Ag in the Classroom at (360) 357-9975 ext 104 or email at info@waic.net

2021 Washington Ag in the Classroom Excellence in Teaching Award Application

Teacher's Name: _____

School: _____

School Address: _____

School Phone: _____ E-mail Address: _____

School Administrator name/contact information _____

Personal Phone: _____

Grade Level _____ Subject(s) taught _____

Number of years teaching experience _____ Number of years at current school _____

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

POSITION

SCHOOL/ORGANIZATION

DATES

EDUCATION:

INSTITUTION

YEAR

DEGREE/CERTIFICATION

AWARDS AND HONORS RELATED TO TEACHING (especially those related to the 4 Criteria):

OTHER RECOGNITION OR HONORS:

MEMBERSHIP IN PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS (please list):

Please use the following questions to describe your classroom curriculum and how it helps students understand importance of agriculture using innovative and interdisciplinary methods. (up to 2 pages size 12 font)

1. How have you integrated agriculture into classroom teaching?
2. How has your program impacted the students?
3. What are your plans to sustain or expand your program? (Please include data to support your plan)
4. Show how you creatively integrated agriculture into classroom learning, i.e., why is agriculture important?

Applicant's Signature _____ Date _____

You may include supplemental pages of photocopies of pictures, articles or other materials that will help the selection committee (up to 8 pages). Please include materials that demonstrate your proficiency/excellence in the four criteria areas above. Submitted ideas, materials, and pictures might be included in the WAIC website and/or used by WAIC in Ag@School.

Nominations will be evaluated by a panel of judges familiar with agriculture, education and Agriculture in the Classroom and will be awarded at the discretion of the Washington Ag in the Classroom (WAIC) Board of Directors. You will be notified by email that your application has been received, and the winner announcement will be via email.

I, _____, give my consent to use my ideas, materials, and pictures in the WAIC website and/or used by WAIC in publication. Additionally, I have included written permission from parents for the use of any pictures that include student faces.

Provide two references who can verify your efforts to teach about the importance of Washington agriculture in your classroom: (One reference should be an administrator with direct knowledge of your work.)

Name & Title _____ Phone _____

Name & Title _____ Phone _____

Applications must be in the WAIC office by 5 pm on or before November 30, 2020.

Submit Applications via mail or email to:

Washington Ag in the Classroom, 975 Carpenter Rd NE Suite #301 Lacey, WA 98516

Phone: (360) 357-9975 ext 104

Email: info@waic.net

Evaluation Criteria

Applicant's name: _____

Judging will be based on the four criteria:

The degree to which the educator ...

	Adequate	Highly Adequate	Excellence
1. Demonstrated Use of Agricultural Information in the Classroom	1-10	11-20	21-30
2. Demonstrated Student Impact	1-10	11-20	21-30
3. Demonstrated Overall Impact, Longevity of the Program	1-6	7-14	15-20
4. Demonstrated use of Creativity	1-3	4-7	8-10
Well-written, understandable, clearly presented	1-3	4-7	8-10
		TOTAL	

Need at least 84 points (out of 100) to be considered

Judges' Comments:
