***Driver Education Teacher of the Year***

**General Criteria**

Driver Education teachers who meet the eligibility requirements listed below and exemplify the criteria for this award, are encouraged to apply for this award.

* NJAHPERD membership for minimum of three (3) current and consecutive years. Other state SHAPE/AHPERD, or SHAPE America membership is accepted towards the three (3) current and consecutive years; it is the responsibility of the applicant to provide this documentation at the time of the application portfolio submission.
* Minimum five (5) year teaching/supervising experience in driver education. **(Please provide documentation)**
* Degree and certification for teaching driver education and possess a current SDI number from NJ Motor Vehicle Commission. **(Please provide documentation)**
* Full-time teaching position at time of application portfolio submission & selection. Contractual responsibilities must include teaching driver education.
* Conducts a quality driver education program as reflected in NJ Student Learning Standards.
* Two letters of recommendation should be included with the application portfolio. Letters should be directly related to the award criteria listed for each award. At least one letter should be included from each of the following: principal/supervisor, a fellow teacher, and a representative from one of the teen safe driving initiatives. Letters of recommendation must be dated, the author’s position listed and written on school/district/professional association letterhead.

**Award Criteria**

Below are the five (5) award criteria. Summarize your relevant qualifications for each criterion on no more than one page of text for each.

The applicant must be a teacher who:

1. utilizes various teaching methodologies and plans innovative learning experiences to meet the needs of all students.
2. serves as a positive role model for school and community encouraging and sharing safe driving behaviors and laws.
3. participates in recent driver education professional development opportunities.
4. provides service to the profession through leadership, presentations, and/or written publications.
5. utilizes driver education content specific programs to enhance curriculum and community safe driving behaviors. (NJM Safe Driving Program, Share the Keys, Champion Schools, Organ Donation Programs, MoveOver Laws and other programs/speakers)

**Directions for Submission of Application**

The online application and all supporting materials must be submitted to NJAHPERD via e-mail in two (2) files. These two (2) files include:

1. PDF of supporting materials - verification of teaching assignment, and letters of recommendation
2. award criteria essays, online application, and publicity form
3. Video – Meet and Greet Video – One (1) minute video introducing yourself, including your name, job description, years of experience, and personal teaching philosophy.

*Please send your completed portfolio to the NJAHPERD Executive Director:* [*executive\_director@shapenj.org*](mailto:executive_director@shapenj.org) *.*

*Incomplete portfolios and portfolios received after the deadline will not be considered.*

**Required Application Materials**

* Completed online application.
* Verification of teaching assignment form
* Publicity form
* Letters of recommendation
* Award criteria essays Meet and Greet Video – One (1) Minute
* Requested documentation.

**Award Criteria Essay Format**

* When completing the award criteria please use the following format: **Bold** the specific criteria as a heading then summarize your qualifications in paragraph form below the bolded criteria heading (see example below).
* Responses to each criteria answer should be in one word document. Please do NOT send each criterion answer in a separate word document.
* **EXAMPLE** format for Award Criteria essay:
  + Utilizes various teaching methodologies and plans innovative learning experiences to meet the needs of all students.
* Begin to write your answer to criteria 1 below the bolded heading in regular font.

**Nomination and Application Due Dates**

* Nomination due date – October 15th
* Application due date – November 15th
* Award winners will be notified by February 1st.