

Policy No: H-6

Subject: AASL Chapter of the Year Award

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Review Date(s):

Review Responsibility: AASL Bylaws and Organization Committee, AASL Board of Directors

Policy Statement:

The AASL Chapter of the Year Award recognizes the AASL Chapter most active and dynamic in achieving the goals of AASL at the state and local level. AASL established this award to acknowledge the important contributions made by AASL Chapters and encourage chapters to take pride in their accomplishments. Through this recognition, AASL encourages educational growth, increased involvement at the national level and community, and legislative involvement.

Focus:

AASL Chapters, AASL Board of Directors, AASL Members

Purpose:

To outline the process for submission and selection of the AASL Chapter of the Year Award recipient.

Procedure:

1. Eligibility Requirements:
 - a. The AASL Chapter must be affiliated and in good standing for a minimum of two years.
 - b. The AASL Chapter must have not received this award for at least five years.
2. Performance Criteria:
 - a. In order to be considered for this award, a chapter should:
 - i. Be involved in community, education, and legislative efforts for a stronger voice for school librarians and the profession.
 - ii. Be involved in AASL Chapter Assembly activities, provide representation at meetings, and participate in the resolutions process.

- iii. Promote School Library Month and other AASL events to chapter members.
 - iv. Have a regular communication channel for chapter activities.
 - v. Provide a number of continuing education opportunities to meet the needs within the chapter membership and to build the school librarian professional community.
 - vi. Develop leadership through chapter governance and volunteer opportunities.
 - vii. Include a percentage of AASL members.
 - viii. Provide evidence about promoting ALA/AASL election participation.
 - ix. Provide evidence an AASL Chapter representative attended the AASL Virtual Membership Meeting.
3. Guidelines for Award Application Completion:
 - a. An award application must be filled out completely and include the following documents:
 - i. A report of the chapter governance activities
 - ii. A copy of the annual summary report of continuing education hours offered by the chapter for the previous year
 - iii. A recent copy of the chapter newsletter/communications.
 - iv. An essay in 300 words or less explaining why the chapter should be considered “outstanding” by AASL.
4. Award Benefits:
 - a. Awards benefits will include:
 - i. Recognition during the ALA Annual Conference and AASL National Conference.
 - ii. A banner featuring the chapter.
 - iii. A \$1,000 stipend.
 - iv. Ribbons at the ALA Annual/AASL National Conference for all chapter members in attendance.
 - v. An announcement in AASL’s *Knowledge Quest* and *AASL Digest*.
5. One award will be given annually. The committee may choose to not select a recipient for the award during any given year.
6. Applications for the AASL Chapter of the Year Award will be due February 1 of each year.
7. The Awards subcommittee will:
 - a. Judge applicants utilizing a standardized scoring rubric.
 - b. Vote on nominee(s) prior to April 1 of each year.
 - c. The chair of the Awards subcommittee, in coordination with the staff liaison, will announce the winner in the form of an information report to the AASL Board of Directors.

- d. The recipient will be sent a congratulatory letter from the awards committee chair and AASL President.
- e. All applicants that were not successful in receiving the award will be sent a notification letter from the awards committee chair and AASL President.