

Chef Educator of the Year

Award objective: The ACF Chef Educator of the Year award pays tribute to an active culinary educator whose knowledge, skills, expertise, guidance, and direction have enhanced the image of the professional chef and who, by example, has given leadership, guidance, and direction to students seeking a career in the culinary profession. This person demonstrates the ability to help students define and develop their careers by using their skills and abilities to provide a strong foundation for their future success.

Revised February 2017

TCA Chapter Chef Educator of the Year

1. Be an ACF/TCA Professional Culinarian member in good standing and conduct themselves in a professional manner as outlined in the ACF Culinarians Code.
2. Hold ACF certification as a CCE, CSCE or higher.
3. Be an active culinary instructor, culinary chairperson, or culinary dean in charge of curriculum building in a culinary program for the year in which the nomination is made.
4. Have five (5) or more years of full-term teaching in a secondary or postsecondary culinary school.
5. Have a minimum two-year degree in culinary arts or hospitality management; a bachelor's degree or higher can be in any field.
6. Be a United States Citizen or have a permanent resident green card.
7. Elected by chapter with a voting (TCA/ACF Professional, Culinarian & Ret) quorum present.
8. The chapter winner will receive a plaque from the state and be eligible to apply for the State Educator of the Year award if they meet the criteria.
9. Once a nominee wins the chapter award, three (3) years must lapse (within a chapter) before being eligible to be nominated as Chapter Chef Educator of the Year again.

TCA State Chef Educator of the Year

1. Candidate must have won their local chapter Chef Educator of the Year within the last 5 years.
2. Be an ACF/TCA Professional Culinarian member in good standing for a minimum of 3 years and must conduct themselves in a professional manner as outlined in the ACF Culinarians Code.
3. Be an active culinary instructor, culinary chairperson, or culinary dean in charge of curriculum building in a culinary program for the year in which the nomination is made.
4. Have five (5) or more years of full-term teaching in a secondary or postsecondary culinary school.
5. Have a minimum two-year degree in culinary arts or hospitality management; a bachelor's degree or higher can be in any field.
6. Be a United States Citizen or have a permanent resident green card.
7. Candidate must be committed to attend the State Convention & complete the application for State Chef Educator of the Year. The application must be submitted to the state office no later than June 15. The applications will be voted on in the summer board meeting during the State Convention.
8. State Educator of the Year election will be done by the chapter Directors (secret ballot) during the Summer Board Meeting at the State Convention. Results will be tabulated by a panel, selected by the TCA President. They will give the results in a sealed envelope, (during the President's Ball), to the TCA President for announcement of the newly elected State Educator of the Year. In the event of a tie, the President will cast the deciding vote.
9. The winner will receive a plaque from the state indicating they are that year's state winner and will be the TCA's candidate for the Central Regional Educator award.
10. If the current winner is not interested in pursuing the ACF Regional Award, the state board will vote on an alternate candidate. Priority should be given to a past state winner who meets the ACF criteria.
11. Past winners of the State Educator of the Year are no longer eligible to win the state award.

ACF Chef Educator of the Year – Refer to the ACF web site for current guidelines