

Application form for Montana Geological Society K-12 Earth Science Teacher of the Year Award

*What better way to promote earth science in the state of Montana
than to recognize and reward those who do it every day?*

The MGS applauds the hard work of outstanding **K-12 Earth Science Teachers** in Montana. Each year Teacher of the Year (TOTY) applications are reviewed and the most deserving candidate is selected by the MGS Awards Committee to receive \$1000. The MGS winner is then eligible to apply for the regional Teacher of the Year Award (an additional \$2000) through the Rocky Mountain Section of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists (RMS-AAPG). The winner of the RMS-AAPG award becomes the RMS-AAPG nominee for the national American Association of Petroleum Geologists award, which is \$6000 (\$3000 for the teacher and \$3000 for their school). That's the potential for \$9000 in cash awards!

If you teach and promote Earth Science in your classroom or in the outdoors, the MGS encourages you to apply for the TOTY Award. The following completed application form and letter of support is all you need. The 2023 Application Deadline is February 28, 2023.

Qualifications for Nomination

- Teaching must be at a Montana accredited school, any level from K-12.
- Minimum 3 years teaching experience.
- Teaching at least one unit per year on natural resources, defined as:
 - 1) Organic materials such as petroleum, natural gas, and coal,
 - 2) Inorganic substances such as mineral ores, building stone and aggregates,
 - 3) Energy resources from the earth such as geothermal energy.
- Teaching should relate to the scientific study of natural resources, and may include their origin, extraction, historic use, and present use.
- Teaching should also include the use of earth science for decision making related to the preservation of the environment, reclamation, and conservation of resources.

Teacher Contact Information

Name of Teacher	
School	
School Address	
City, ST Zip Code	
Home Phone/Work Phone	
E-Mail Address	

Additional Teacher Information

Current Position	
Grades Taught	
Number of Years Teaching	
Degree(s) Earned	

Applicant's Statement

Please attach a short, succinct statement (no more than 500 words) describing your qualifications. In the statement, please discuss, with regard to the natural resources unit, your:

- Teaching philosophy
- Methods
- Course content
- Creative or innovative projects
- Ability to balance economic, societal, and environmental issues
- Objectivity
- Class size(s)

Letter of Support

Include one letter of support from an administrator, fellow teacher, or other person/organization familiar with your teaching philosophy and style. The letter should describe the applicant's qualifications as "Teacher of the Year" in Earth Sciences. We are particularly interested in what the applicant does to promote geologic education and increase student interest in geology. The statement should include the applicant's name, be signed by the letter's author, and should be returned with the rest of this application form.

Name of Letter of Support Author	
Phone Number	
Email address	
Relationship to Nominee	

MGS can accept applications in any standard format by email to: montanageologicalsociety@gmail.com or by regular mail to:

MGS
P. O. Box 844
Billings, MT 59103

2023 Deadline: Nominations must be RECEIVED by midnight, February 28, 2023.

MGS expects an award to be made by March 15, 2023.