



Champions of Innovation Award

Presented by Arizona Rural Schools Association
and Sponsored by Arizona State University



April 1, 2025
Nominations Open
August 29, 2025
Nominations Close
September 18, 2025
Award Presented

About the Award

This award recognizes a leader in rural public education who exemplifies excellence through visionary leadership leading to the implementation of innovative practices securing a higher quality education for students at their rural public school or charter. Such innovation should demonstrate:

- Commitment to educational quality and student achievement and a vision of learning that is shared and supported by the school community.
- Facilitating a sustainable school culture and instructional programs conducive to student learning and staff development.
- Effective identification of student academic needs and appropriate instructional strategies to achieve measurable student academic improvement outcomes.

Eligibility Criteria

- ARSA Member
- District/school leader with at least two years of experience
- Nominated by a peer recognizing the visionary leadership
- Able to point to a singular innovative achievement transforming the quality of education within their school or district
- Able to articulate the vision grounding their innovative approach to public education
- Able to demonstrate (with testimonials or data) that the innovation implemented positively affected student achievement levels
- Letters of support from at least two staff engaged in the implemented practice

Nominee Information

First and Last Name: _____ School/District: _____

Position: _____ Length of Service in Current Position: _____

Email: _____ Work Phone Number: _____ Home/Cell Phone Number: _____

Home Address: _____ City, State, ZIP: _____

Work Experience / Positions Held with Dates:

Memberships & Offices Held in Professional Organizations with Dates:

Publications/Articles/Presentations with Dates:

Community Leadership with Dates:

Statement of Vision:

Please submit your nomination by emailing **Megan.McDonald.1@asu.edu** and attaching this completed nomination form. In order for your nomination to be considered it must be submitted by August 29, 2025.