

# **Christa McAuliffe Award Selection Criteria 2009 Competition**

The Christa McAuliffe Award honors innovative and distinctive teacher education programs that can document the success of their graduates in improving P-12 pupil learning outcomes.

In this age of accountability, teacher preparation programs must be able to document their effectiveness in preparing teachers who can produce learning gains in their students. The Christa McAuliffe Award recognizes programs in order to honor excellence and provide models for other AASCU member institutions seeking to improve their programs. Since 2002, eighteen programs have been honored.

The 2009 selection criteria for the Christa McAuliffe Excellence in Teacher Education Award have been revised. The award will continue to focus on programs that demonstrate learning outcomes for both teacher candidates and the P-12 students they teach. However, the award will now honor programs that are also innovative or distinctive in achieving those learning outcomes.

This new criteria reflects the fact that many AASCU teacher education programs now incorporate increased attention to learning outcomes for both P-12 pupils and teacher candidates in their programs. Therefore, to serve as models for other campuses, award winners this year will need to address learning outcomes in innovative and distinctive ways that distinguish them from the growing number of campuses that now include attention to learning outcomes.

## Application Requirements

To be eligible, programs must:

- Prepare classroom teachers for the P-12 schools; and
- Have operated for at least three years; and
- Be a collaborative effort between the faculties of education, the arts and sciences, and the P-12 schools; and
- Provide evidence that program graduates improve P-12 pupil learning.

*Initial Applications* must be received not later than **Monday, April 20, 2009**

If invited, *Final Applications* must be received not later than **Monday, June 29, 2009**.

## Review Process

A committee of member presidents and chancellors will review initial applications in late spring, and invite selected campuses to prepare Finalist Applications. Please note: The greatest weight in the selection process will be given to programs that demonstrate the ability to positively affect P-12 pupil learning. Up to five programs may be selected as winners. Awards will be presented at AASCU's Annual Meeting in November 2008.

Previous Winners

Previous Christa McAuliffe Award winning programs are listed on the AASCU web page. You may review their final proposals by clicking on the award recipient's name.