

Dear Colleagues in Education:

This note is being forwarded to you from the U.S. Department of Education.

The U.S. Department of Education is opening the nomination process for the American Stars of Teaching program. Several members of our team have assisted with this effort, and we encourage you to consider nominating star teachers who have come through your programs.

American Stars is simply meant to recognize and promote the efforts of a representative group of teachers working in a diverse range of areas and circumstances to effectively improve the educational outcomes of their students. It would be good to see teachers who have come through alternative routes to certification programs, midcareer changers and others, acknowledged as a part of this group.

Please consider nominating outstanding teachers with whom you have come in contact in your state and passing this information along to others who will do the same.

If you have any questions about American Stars, feel free to contact Gillian.Cohen-Boyer@ed.gov.

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SEEKS NOMINATIONS FOR 2006 'AMERICAN STARS OF TEACHING'

The U.S. Department of Education again plans to honor outstanding classroom teachers through the American Stars of Teaching program. The Department's Teacher-to-Teacher Initiative is seeking nominations and information about teachers who are improving student achievement, using innovative strategies in the classroom, and making a difference in the lives of their students. Teachers across all grade levels and disciplines will be honored this fall as 2006 American Stars of Teaching. Parents, students, colleagues, school administrators and others can nominate an exemplary teacher who they believe has the qualities to be an American Star of Teaching. One teacher will be recognized from each state.

To learn more or nominate a teacher to become an American Star of Teaching, please visit the Teacher-to-Teacher Initiative Web site at:
<http://www.ed.gov/teachers/how/tools/initiative/index.html>.

All nominations must be completed by April 14, 2006. .

The U.S. Department of Education received more than 2,000 nominations for the 2005 school year.

A list of past years' honorees can be found at:
<http://www.ed.gov/teachers/how/tools/initiative/american-stars-teachers.html>.

