

2022 Illinois Teacher of the Year Awardees

First Name	Last Name	Category	Award	School District	County
Abby	Crull	Classroom Teacher	Meritorious Service	Champaign Community Unit School District 4	Champaign
Laura	Wilcox	Early Career Educator	Meritorious Service	Urbana School District 116	Champaign
Gina	Benhoff	Classroom Teacher	Meritorious Service	Central Community High School District 71	Clinton
Amy	Koch	Classroom Teacher	Meritorious Service	Bartelso School District 57	Clinton
Jessica	Acklin	Classroom Teacher	Meritorious Service	Calumet Public School District 132	Cook
Dr. Justin	Antos	Classroom Teacher	Cook County Co-Teacher of the Year	Community High School District 218	Cook
John	Bobek	Classroom Teacher	Meritorious Service	St. Daniel the Prophet School	Cook
Matthew	Cieplucha	Classroom Teacher	Meritorious Service	Lansing School District 158	Cook
Jacque	Clancy	Classroom Teacher	Meritorious Service	North Palos School District 117	Cook
Eric	Coval	Classroom Teacher	Meritorious Service	Maine Township High School District 207	Cook
Marwa	Elmasry	Classroom Teacher	Bilingual Teacher of the Year	Oak Lawn Community High School District 229	Cook
Patricia	Ertl	Classroom Teacher	Meritorious Service	Township High School District 211	Cook
Dana	Fair	Classroom Teacher	Meritorious Service	YCCS-Virtual High School	Cook
Tracie	Fior	Classroom Teacher	Meritorious Service	Palatine Community Consolidated School District 15	Cook
Georgina	Fofana	Classroom Teacher	Meritorious Service	LEARN Charter - Campbell Campus	Cook
Michelle	Hernandez	Classroom Teacher	Meritorious Service	Community Consolidated School District 59	Cook
Ashley	Kannan	Classroom Teacher	Cook County Co-Teacher of the Year	Oak Park Elementary School District 97	Cook
James	Kowalsky	Classroom Teacher	Meritorious Service	Southland College Prep Charter High School	Cook
Rachel	Martin	Classroom Teacher	Meritorious Service	Matteson Elementary School District 162	Cook
Sonia	McKenzie	Classroom Teacher	Meritorious Service	Schaumburg Community Consolidated School District 54	Cook
Christopher P.	Moran	Classroom Teacher	Meritorious Service	Lansing School District 158	Cook
Linda	O'Dwyer	Classroom Teacher	Meritorious Service	Flossmoor School District 161	Cook
Kelsey	Potter	Classroom Teacher	Meritorious Service	Community Consolidated School District 59	Cook
Sarah	Rippe	Classroom Teacher	Meritorious Service	Elmwood Park Community Unit School District 401	Cook
Kristi	Ryken	Classroom Teacher	Meritorious Service	Maine Township High School District 207	Cook
Jillian	Sosnowski	Classroom Teacher	Meritorious Service	Homewood School District 153	Cook
Carly	Spina	Classroom Teacher	Meritorious Service	Glenview Community Consolidated School District 34	Cook
Claire	Trainer	Classroom Teacher	Cook County Co-Teacher of the Year	City of Chicago School District 299	Cook

Jamie	Arvesen	Early Career Educator	Meritorious Service	Lansing School District 158	Cook
Ailysh	Cooper	Early Career Educator	Meritorious Service	Oak Lawn Community High School District 229	Cook
Ashley	Daniels-Evans	Early Career Educator	Meritorious Service	Homewood School District 153	Cook
Lauren	Haman	Early Career Educator	Meritorious Service	Maine Township High School District 207	Cook
Kelsey	Horvath	Early Career Educator	Meritorious Service	Elmwood Park Community Unit School District 401	Cook
Lily	Moradi	Early Career Educator	Meritorious Service	Schaumburg Community Consolidated School District 54	Cook
Dillin	Randolph	Early Career Educator	Meritorious Service	Niles Township High School District 219	Cook
Karla	Robles	Early Career Educator	Meritorious Service	Township High School District 211	Cook
Maria	Spanos	Early Career Educator	Meritorious Service	Community Consolidated School District 59	Cook
Sydney	Starwalt	Early Career Educator	Excellence	Morton Grove School District 70	Cook
Victoria	Valentine	Early Career Educator	Special Education Teacher of the Year	Leyden Community High School District 212	Cook
Kelly	Voigt	Early Career Educator	Meritorious Service	Maine Township High School District 207	Cook
Monica	Kessinger	Classroom Teacher	Meritorious Service	Clinton Community Unit School District 15	De Witt
Nichole	Binder	Early Career Educator	Meritorious Service	Clinton Community Unit School District 15	De Witt
Rachel	Conover	Classroom Teacher	Meritorious Service	Indian Valley Area Vocational Center	DeKalb
Carrie	Molinero	Classroom Teacher	South Suburbs Regional Teacher of the Year	Hinsdale Community Consolidated School District 181	DuPage
Faith	Pasek	Classroom Teacher	Meritorious Service	School District 45 DuPage County	DuPage
Kimberly	Swaekauski	Classroom Teacher	Meritorious Service	Center Cass School District 66	DuPage
Dominique	Coomer	Early Career Educator	Meritorious Service	Center Cass School District 66	DuPage
Nia	Kerr	Early Career Educator	Outstanding Early Career Educator	Roselle School District 12	DuPage
Stephanie	Schmitt	Classroom Teacher	Meritorious Service	Paris-Union School District 95	Edgar
Greg	Hoener	Classroom Teacher	West Central Regional Teacher of the Year	Illini West High School District 307	Hancock
Nikki	Gahagan	Classroom Teacher	Meritorious Service	Murphysboro Community Unit School District 186	Jackson
Kelly	Owens	Classroom Teacher	Meritorious Service	Woodlawn Unit School District 209	Jefferson
Jessica	Trilling	Classroom Teacher	Meritorious Service	Aurora East Unit School District 131	Kane
Jill	Wilcoxon	Classroom Teacher	Meritorious Service	Aurora East Unit School District 131	Kane
Lena	Burke	Early Career Educator	Meritorious Service	School District U-46	Kane

Anna	Gibson	Classroom Teacher	Meritorious Service	Community Unit School District 308	Kendall
Alexis	Harlow	Classroom Teacher	Meritorious Service	Community Unit School District 308	Kendall
Nicole	Kulbartz	Classroom Teacher	Meritorious Service	Plano Community Unit School District 88	Kendall
Ashley	Porras	Classroom Teacher	Meritorious Service	Community Unit School District 308	Kendall
Claire	Landsteiner	Early Career Educator	Meritorious Service	Plano Community Unit School District 88	Kendall
Lisa	Tassi	Early Career Educator	Meritorious Service	Community Unit School District 308	Kendall
Amber	Beutel	Classroom Teacher	Meritorious Service	Woodland Community Consolidated School District 50	Lake
Tesha	Castillo	Classroom Teacher	Meritorious Service	LEARN Charter School6 North Chicago Campus	Lake
Erika	Cuzick	Classroom Teacher	Meritorious Service	Grass Lake School District 36	Lake
Jaclyn	Ewing	Classroom Teacher	Meritorious Service	Mundelein Elementary School District 75	Lake
Elliott	Hile	Classroom Teacher	North Suburbs Regional Teacher of the Year	Community High School District 117	Lake
Becky	Ingrum	Classroom Teacher	Meritorious Service	Antioch Community Consolidated School District 34	Lake
Ashley	Martinez	Classroom Teacher	Meritorious Service	Prairie Crossing Charter School	Lake
Shannon	Ramirez	Classroom Teacher	Meritorious Service	Lake Forest Community High School District 115	Lake
Ashley	Blennerhassett	Early Career Educator	Meritorious Service	Mundelein Elementary School District 75	Lake
Francis	Fracek	Early Career Educator	Meritorious Service	Community High School District 117	Lake
Courtney	Rieb	Early Career Educator	Excellence	Antioch Community Consolidated School District 34	Lake
Danielle	Rogner	Early Career Educator	Meritorious Service	Community High School District 128	Lake
Theresa	Wright	Early Career Educator	Meritorious Service	Prairie Crossing Charter School	Lake
Regina	Birch	Classroom Teacher	Meritorious Service	Alton Community Unit School District 11	Madison
Carol	Fowler-Dixon	Classroom Teacher	Meritorious Service	Wood River-Hartford Elementary School District 15	Madison
Ashley	Abell	Early Career Educator	Meritorious Service	Alton Community Unit School District 11	Madison

Kailey	Geiselman	Classroom Teacher	Meritorious Service	McLean County Unit School District 5	McLean
Marielena	Gozur	Classroom Teacher	East Central Regional Teacher of the Year	McLean County Unit School District 5	McLean
Elana	Heinonen	Classroom Teacher	Meritorious Service	Bloomington School District 87	McLean
Joshua	Padilla	Classroom Teacher	Meritorious Service	Olympia Community Unit School District 16	McLean
Jennifer	Brooks	Early Career Educator	Excellence	Bloomington School District 87	McLean
Kirsten	Freeze	Early Career Educator	Excellence	McLean County Unit School District 5	McLean
Kristopher	Ketelsen	Early Career Educator	Meritorious Service	Olympia Community Unit School District 16	McLean
Hunter	Watts	Early Career Educator	Meritorious Service	McLean County Unit School District 5	McLean
Kathryn	Jeck	Classroom Teacher	Southwest Regional Teacher of the Year	Columbia Community Unit School District 4	Monroe
Jacque	Buchanan	Classroom Teacher	Meritorious Service	Meridian Community Unit School District 223	Ogle
Kimberly	Radostits	Classroom Teacher	Northwest Regional Teacher of the Year	Oregon Community Unit School District 220	Ogle
Brandi	Costa	Early Career Educator	Meritorious Service	Oregon Community Unit School District 220	Ogle
Andy	Berg	Classroom Teacher	Meritorious Service	Peoria School District 150	Peoria
Natalie	Lanser	Classroom Teacher	Meritorious Service	Dunlap Community Unit School District 323	Peoria
Amanda	Liaromatis	Classroom Teacher	Meritorious Service	Peoria School District 150	Peoria
Atsuko	Masuyama	Early Career Educator	Meritorious Service	Peoria School District 150	Peoria
Casara	Marsaglia	Classroom Teacher	Meritorious Service	Pawnee Community Unit School District 11	Sangamon
Jennifer	Korak	Classroom Teacher	Meritorious Service	Whiteside School District 115	St. Clair
Kelsey	Schultz	Early Career Educator	Meritorious Service	Whiteside School District 115	St. Clair
Ben	Skipor	Early Career Educator	Meritorious Service	Freeport School District 145	Stephenson
Steve	Strickler	Classroom Teacher	Meritorious Service	Washington School District 52	Tazewell
Stefanie	Echols	Classroom Teacher	Meritorious Service	Valley View Community Unit School District 365U	Will
Stacey	Froeschle	Classroom Teacher	Meritorious Service	Summit Hill School District 161	Will
Megan	Hillegass	Classroom Teacher	Early Childhood Teacher of the Year	Valley View Community Unit School District 365U	Will
Mariangela	Carreon-Facio	Early Career Educator	Meritorious Service	Joliet Public School District 86	Will
Arianna	Mora	Early Career Educator	Meritorious Service	Valley View Community Unit School District 365U	Will
Amber	George	Classroom Teacher	Southeast Regional Teacher of the Year	Herrin Community Unit School District 4	Williamson
David	Bardwell	Classroom Teacher	Meritorious Service	Rockford School District 205	Winnebago
Nicole	Frazer	Classroom Teacher	Meritorious Service	Rockford School District 205	Winnebago
Patty	Read	Classroom Teacher	Meritorious Service	Harlem Unit District 122	Winnebago