Native American Heritage Month 2026

"Celebrating Florida's Native American Heritage"

Governor Ron DeSantis' and First Lady Casey DeSantis'
Native American Heritage Month Excellence in Education Award

Official Rules and Guidelines and Nomination Form

Governor Ron DeSantis' and First Lady Casey DeSantis' Native American Heritage Month Excellence in Education Award Contest is open to any full-time educator who works in an elementary, middle or high school in Florida (including public, charter, private, home or virtual). Nominations may be submitted by a principal, teacher, parent/guardian or student.

Entry Dates: Entries can be mailed to Volunteer Florida, Native American Heritage Month Committee, 1545 Raymond Diehl Road, Suite 250, Tallahassee, Florida 32308, or submitted electronically at www.floridanativeamericanheritage.com. **All entries must be *received* no later than 5:00 pm Eastern Time on Friday, November 13, 2026.**

Awards: Four winners will be selected and will receive a $2,500 monetary prize from Volunteer Florida. Once the winners are announced, the decision is final.

Nominee Information

Name of Nominee:		
Subject(s) Taught:	Grade(s) Taught:	
Nominee's Florida Educator Certificate Number:		
Nominee's Email:	Nominee's Cell Phone Number:	
School Name:	County:	
School Mailing Address:		
City:	State: Florida	Zip Code:
School Phone Number:	School Email Address:	

Nominator Information

Name of Nominator:
Nominator Type: *(student, parent/guardian, teacher, principal)*
Nominator Cell Phone Number:
Nominator Email Address:

In 250 words or less, explain why you think this educator should receive the Native American Heritage Month Excellence in Education Award.

In 250 words or less, describe how the nominee has made an impact in your life, school and/or community.

Educator Award Checklist

- ☐ Completed, legible nominee information
- ☐ Completed, legible nominator information
- ☐ 250 words about why the educator deserves the award
- ☐ 250 words about impact(s) the educator has made
- ☐ Applications must be received by Volunteer Florida by **5:00 pm Eastern Time on Friday, November 13, 2026.**