

State Coalition of the Year Award Criteria

PURPOSE:

To recognize outstanding achievements at the state level over the past year, along with a commitment to collaboration and the financial literacy mission. While the award singles out one state, it draws attention to the great work of the entire network.

ENTRY PROCESS:

Effective 2021-22, any Jump\$start affiliated state coalition may ask to be considered for the award by completing the online application. There is no longer a nomination process for this award.

ELIGIBLE TO SUBMIT NOMINATIONS:

Employees or officials of Jump\$start national partner organizations; officers of affiliated state coalitions; and the current awards committee.

DEADLINE: Nomination deadlines will be announced each year.

SELECTION:

The State Coalition of the Year will be selected by a committee of Jump\$start Board and Partner representatives.

PARTICIPATION:

The State Coalition Leader or other representative will be invited to receive the award at the Jump\$start Coalition Awards Luncheon in Washington, D.C. every April (Financial Literacy Month). The representative will be invited to address guests, including leaders from the business, finance, and education communities, as well as government agencies and the media.

PREVIOUS HONOREES:

Wisconsin, 2005; Utah, 2006; Louisiana, 2007; Virginia, 2008; Tennessee, 2009; California, 2010; Iowa, 2011; Washington State, 2012; Colorado, 2013; Maine, 2014; Montana, 2015; Connecticut, 2016; Idaho, 2017; Washington State, 2018; New Jersey, 2019; Rhode Island, 2020-21; and Louisiana, 2022; Alabama, 2023; Maine, 2024.

CRITERIA:

The committee will consider:

- Quantitative and qualitative accomplishments in promoting the importance of financial literacy and the need for financial education.
- Demonstration of collaboration and cooperation within the coalition itself, with the national Jump\$start Coalition, and with other stakeholders.
- Quantitative and qualitative accomplishments in conducting and supporting effectiveness in financial education, especially among PreK through college-age students and especially to advance financial equity and inclusion.
- Demonstration of commitment to the unique needs of students, educators, and families in the state.
- That the state coalition is active in pursuing and fulfilling its mission.
- A history of successfully supporting financial education in their state.

BACKGROUND: Jump\$start's State Coalition of the Year Award was first suggested by Dr. Lew Mandell, one of the Jump\$start Coalitions founding board members, and was introduced in 2005. The award recognizes the significant contribution from affiliated state coalitions and is an opportunity to show our appreciation for these grassroots coalitions, which operate almost entirely with volunteers.