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## State Coalition of the Year Award Criteria

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

**ELIGIBILITY:** Affiliated JumpStart State Coalitions in good standing.

**ELIGIBLE TO SUBMIT NOMINATIONS:** Employees or officials of JumpStart national partner organizations, officers of affiliated state coalitions, and the current awards committee. Any JumpStart-affiliated state coalition may ask to be considered for the award by completing the online application.

**DEADLINE:** Nomination deadlines will be announced each year.

**SELECTION:** The State Coalition of the Year will be selected by a committee appointed by the JumpStart national board chair.

**PARTICIPATION:** The State Coalition Leader or other representative will be invited to receive the award at the JumpStart Annual Awards Luncheon in Washington, DC, in 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 (as guests).

**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; Tennessee, 2025.

**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 JumpStart 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.

**BACKGROUND:** JumpStart's State Coalition of the Year Award was first suggested by Dr. Lew Mandell, one of the JumpStart Coalition's founding board members, and was introduced in 2005.