



## School Health Service Provider of the Year Overview

### Purpose

The Louisiana Department of Education recognizes that student health plays a vital role in education and that school health providers are the critical link in ensuring health service delivery to students. Through the School Health Service Provider of the Year program, the Department recognizes and celebrates some of the state's most exceptional school health providers. This program provides an opportunity to acknowledge school health service providers who demonstrate superior provision of health services in schools and support the expansion of health services in schools.

### Nominations

Through October 12, we are inviting [nominations](#) of any of the following school employees or contractors: occupational therapists, physical therapists, speech-language pathologists, audiologists, nurses, nurse practitioners, licensed practical nurses, and licensed behavioral health providers (LCSW/LMSW, LPC, and psychologists).

### Criteria

The school health service provider of the year will demonstrate both high quality health service provision and the ability to improve the school health climate in their district or school. This [rubric](#) will be used to evaluate candidates.

### Timeline

The following outlines the nomination and application process through recognition of finalists.

Date	Activity
September 12, 2023	Nomination window opens
October, 12, 2023	Nomination window closes
October, 19, 2023	Nominees notified
November 30, 2023	Applications due by nominated providers
January 16, 2024	Semifinalists are contacted and interviews are scheduled
January 29 - Feb. 8, 2024	Semifinalists panel zoom interviews
March 4-8, 2024	Finalists are recognized and announced
March (week of March 18)	School Health Provider of the Year announced
April 10, 2024	School Health Provider of the Year winner and finalists recognized at BESE meeting

### Award

The Louisiana Department of Education will honor five finalists – one each in these areas: Nursing, Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, Speech/Audiology, and Behavioral Health.