

Leon A. Brunner Award

2026 Nomination Information

PURPOSE

The Leon A. Brunner Award was established in 1988 by the MEA ESP Caucus Executive Board to recognize Michigan's Education Support Professionals (ESP) who have exhibited a high degree of commitment and dedication to their union while advocating for ESP member issues and promotion of ESP careers.

NOMINATIONS

All nominees, as well as their nominator, must be members in good standing and may be nominated by individuals, local associations, region councils, coordinating councils, committees, commissions and task forces of the MEA. All nomination forms must be signed.

SELECTION OF RECIPIENT

Screening and final selection shall be done by the MEA ESP Caucus Board Awards Committee.

PRESENTATION

Presentation of the Leon A. Brunner Award is a scheduled event at the annual MEA ESP Statewide Conference. The presentation is made to the award recipient by the MEA ESP Awards Committee.

NEA ESPOTY

The winner of the Leon A. Brunner Award will represent MEA at the National Education Association's ESP Conference as the nominee for the NEA ESP of the Year Award.

DEADLINE

The deadline for receiving nominations for the 2026 Leon A. Brunner Award is **by the close of business Friday, April 10, 2026**. All nomination forms must be signed.

Questions and requests for nomination forms can be directed to Heather Traxler at MEA Headquarters, telephone (517) 337-5580, or email htraxler@mea.org. A downloadable nomination form can also be found at mea.org/leon-brunner-award.

If mailing your nomination form and supporting letters of recommendation, please send them to:

MEA ESP Caucus Executive Board Awards Committee
Attn: Heather Traxler
Michigan Education Association
1216 Kendale Blvd., PO Box 2573
East Lansing, MI 48826-2573

Forms and supporting letters of recommendation may also be scanned and emailed to **Heather Traxler** at htraxler@mea.org.



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2026 Application Form

I hereby submit the name of the following person or organization in nomination for the 2026 Leon A. Brunner Award to be presented at the annual ESP Statewide Conference.

Part 1: Demographic/Nominee Information

Nominee: _____

Position in organization: _____

Local association: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip code: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Local president: _____

Please attach a brief biographical sketch of nominee.

Part 2: Record of Success

What activities has this person been involved in to benefit ESP? (For example: developing public relations programs, bargaining, working with other units.)

Please attach a brief description of those activities (awards, letters of commendation received from sources such as UniServ, local leaders, school district administration) forwarding this to:

MEA ESP Caucus Executive Board Awards Committee
Attn: Heather Traxler
Michigan Education Association
1216 Kendale Blvd., PO Box 2573
East Lansing, MI 48826-2573

Nominations submitted for the Leon A. Brunner Award will be evaluated on the basis of award criteria: Michigan Education Association member; dedication to ESP members; compassion for fellow members; and understanding of problems affecting ESP membership. The nominator and nominee must be members in good standing.

Submitted by: _____

Phone: _____ Date: _____

