



2025-26
Montana ProStart® Educator of Excellence
Award Application

The Montana

ProStart® Educator of Excellence Award is awarded to an outstanding Montana ProStart teacher who has made a significant contribution to the Montana ProStart program, their school and community.

A candidate may be self-nominated, nominated by a colleague, or nominated by a member of their administration. Previous winners are eligible to apply.

Please complete the application below in its entirety and submit with a photo of the candidate to director@mtfccla.org by the deadline.

DEADLINE: February 15, 2026

Name:		
Address:		
City:	State:	Zip:
School Phone: include area code	Cell: include area code	
E-mail:		
School Name:		
Supervisor's Name:		
Supervisor's E-mail:	Supervisor Phone:	
How long have you been a teacher?		
How many years have you been a Montana ProStart Teacher?		
How many years have you participated in the Montana ProStart competition?		
Are your students participating in the 2025-26 Montana ProStart competition?		

What continuing education have you received? (i.e. Summer Institute, college, workshops, etc.) If you were registered for a Summer Institute that was canceled, please provide the location registered.

Are you currently a ProStart Certified Educator through the NRAEF certification program (CSFE)?

If yes, when do you need to renew your CSFE certification? (Must renew every 5 years)

If no, at what point in the process are you currently? (Must attend the three levels of the Summer Institutes and accrue 120 hours working in the industry.)

Do you hold additional certifications in other subject areas?

yes or no:

If yes, which ones?

What community activities have you been involved in for the past year? What achievements or awards did you receive?

In what ProStart® activities have your students been involved? (Examples: catering-events, meetings, etc; attending hospitality events; school-based food service-snack bars, on-site restaurants, etc; hospitality field trips; competitions)

What involvement have you had with the Montana Restaurant Association?

Please answer **only one** of these questions in **300 words or less**

1. **Industry Connections:** Describe the **meaningful connections** you have made with representatives of the restaurant and foodservice industry to benefit your ProStart students. Explain why and how you first reached out to industry representative(s), who they were, what role they fill for you and your students and explain how these connections have **created opportunities** for your students.
2. **Moving Experience:** Share your most **moving ProStart experience**. This can be overcoming an obstacle, reaching a goal, something that made you proud, sad, happy etc.; it can involve one student, a class, an industry mentor, another teacher, your school etc.
3. **Innovation/Creativity:** Describe the most **innovative/creative** thing you have done to **enhance your students' experience** in ProStart. Why did you do it? Did it achieve what you intended? How did it impact your students?
4. **Student Motivation:** Describe an approach you took to **motivate your students** to make the most of their ProStart experience. How did you come up with the idea? How did your students respond? What were the **results**?