

## **FAPEL SPRING AWARDS**

### **Excellence in Educational Leadership Award**

The Excellence in Educational Leadership Award recognizes outstanding individuals who have demonstrated exceptional commitment, innovation, and impact in the field of educational leadership within the state of Florida. This prestigious award honors leaders who inspire excellence, foster equitable learning environments, and create sustainable systems that enhance student achievement and community engagement.

#### **Eligibility:**

To be eligible for the Florida Education Leadership Excellence Award, nominees must meet the following criteria:

Nominee must be a current member of FAPEL in good standing for at least 3 consecutive years.

Nominees must have a minimum of 5 years of experience in a Florida college or university with assigned responsibilities in teaching, research, and service for educational leadership development. Nominees must hold a current membership in FAPEL.

Demonstrated contributions to improving educational outcomes, fostering innovation, or addressing critical issues in Florida's educational system, such as equity, access, and leadership development.

#### **Nomination Requirements:**

Nominations are welcomed from faculty members of FAPEL member institutions and other higher education institutions that prepare administrators in Florida. Self-nominations are also welcomed.

#### **Nomination Packet:**

1. Nomination Letter: A detailed letter outlining the nominee's qualifications, specific contributions to educational leadership development, and their impact on the education community in Florida.
2. Professional Resume: A current resume or CV highlighting the nominee's experience, roles, and key achievements.
3. Recommendation Letters: Two recommendation letters from individuals who can speak to the nominee's leadership, vision, and impact on the educational leadership community.

**Submission Guidelines:** All nominations, including self-nominations, must be submitted via the [nomination form](#) to by 5pm on January 30, 2026. Late or incomplete submissions will not be considered.

## **FAPEL Distinguished Service Award**

The FAPEL Distinguished Leadership Award recognizes an exceptional member of the Florida Association for Professors in Educational Leadership (FAPEL) who has demonstrated transformative leadership, outstanding service, and a commitment to advancing educational leadership in Florida. This award honors individuals whose contributions have elevated the association's mission, inspired the next generation of educational leaders, and strengthened the professional community through scholarship, mentorship, and advocacy.

Nominations are welcomed from faculty members of FAPEL member institutions and other higher education institutions that prepare administrators in Florida. Self-nominations are also welcomed.

### **Eligibility:**

To qualify for the FAPEL Leadership Excellence Award, nominees must meet the following criteria:

Nominee must be a current member of FAPEL in good standing for at least 3 consecutive years.

Demonstrated significant contributions to the field of educational leadership, including advancing scholarship, improving leadership preparation programs, or addressing critical challenges in education within Florida.

Exemplary participation in FAPEL activities, such as holding leadership roles, serving on committees, organizing events, or representing the association in professional forums.

### **Nomination Packet:**

Nomination Letter: A formal letter describing the nominee's qualifications, their contributions to FAPEL, and their impact on educational leadership.

Curriculum Vitae: A CV detailing the nominee's professional achievements, scholarly contributions, and leadership roles.

Letters of support (minimum of two) from colleagues, students, or community members attesting to the nominee's influence and leadership.

**Submission Process:** All nominations, including self-nominations, must be submitted via the [nomination form](#) to by 5pm on January 30, 2026. Late or incomplete submissions will not be considered.

## **FAPEL Distinguished Research Award**

The award is presented annually to an outstanding educational leadership professor in recognition of his/her significant contributions to the field of educational leadership.

Contributions to the field may include empirical research, theoretical contributions, or a combination of the above.

Nominations are welcomed from faculty members of FAPEL member institutions and other higher education institutions that prepare administrators in Florida. Self-nominations are also welcomed.

Criteria used in selecting the outstanding contribution are:

- innovativeness
- originality
- transferability
- potential impact
- relation to FAPEL goals

### **Eligibility:**

Nominee must be a current member of FAPEL in good standing for at least 3 consecutive years.

Individuals nominated must have been professors for six years or more, and currently serve in an Educational Leadership Program in a Florida University.

Nomination packets should include electronic copies of the following:

Nominee's most recent curriculum vitae

Two letters of recommendation. One letter addressing the contributions of the nominee relative to one or more of the award criteria. This letter can include quotes from other faculty and/or graduate students in support of the nominee. Additionally, one letter of support must be from individuals who can speak directly to the nominee's significant contribution to the field of educational leadership within their years as faculty.

### **Submission Guidelines:**

All nominations, including self-nominations, must be submitted via the [nomination form](#) to by 5pm on January 10, 2026. Late or incomplete submissions will not be considered.

## **FAPEL Distinguished Teaching Award**

The FAPEL Distinguished Teaching Award honors outstanding professors in the field of Educational Leadership who have demonstrated exceptional teaching excellence, innovation, and commitment to student success. This award recognizes individuals who inspire and empower future leaders in education through their mastery of subject matter, creative pedagogy, and dedication to fostering an inclusive and dynamic learning environment.

### **Eligibility:**

Nominations are welcomed from faculty members of FAPEL member institutions and other higher education institutions that prepare administrators in Florida. Self-nominations are also welcomed.

Nominee must be a current member of FAPEL in good standing for at least 3 consecutive years.

To be eligible for this award, the nominee must have been a faculty member or instructor of record in a Florida educational leadership preparation program affiliated with a university during the previous academic year (e.g., 2025 for the 2026 award).

Nominees should demonstrate teaching that promotes inclusive educational leadership by providing a syllabus from a course taught within the past two years.

A cover letter of no more than three pages describing their teaching philosophy and instructional strategies.

One letter addressing the contributions of the nominee relative to one or more of the award criteria. This letter can include quotes from other faculty and/or graduate students in support of the nominee.

### **Submission Guidelines:**

All nominations, including self-nominations, must be submitted via the [nomination form](#) to by 5pm on January 30, 2026. Late or incomplete submissions will not be considered.