

The Colony Brands Foundation recognizes that strong schools are a cornerstone of a strong community and educators play a pivotal role in helping to make our schools great and inspire future community leaders. To recognize the achievements of our educational leaders, the Foundation has created the Colony Brands Foundation Teacher Recognition Program.

The program will recognize educational leaders in the School District of Monroe, Wisconsin that achieve high quality, positive results through teaching excellence and innovation in the district. We are looking for individuals that contribute immensely to student achievement and growth as well as leadership within the school district and community.

Program Details:

- Monetary awards totaling up to \$20,000 may be granted on an annual basis during a 5-year pilot period beginning in 2017. The Program Selection Committee will determine the number of awards and amounts. The awards are considered taxable income to the recipient(s).
- Teachers currently employed in the School District of Monroe are eligible to apply and/or be nominated. For the 2019-20 program, applicants will be notified if they were selected as an award recipient by March 18, 2020 and awards will be disbursed prior to December 2020. Therefore, recipients must be working in the School District of Monroe during the 2020-21 school year to receive the monetary award.
- Past award recipients are not eligible to apply in the school year immediately following their award. For example, award recipients in the spring of 2019 are not eligible to apply again until the 2020-21 school year.
- Applicants in the prior school year who did not receive an award are eligible to apply again in the current year.
- The selection committee has full authority to grant awards based on information provided in the application and interview and reserves the right to limit the number of interviews or to not hold interviews.
- Applications and Nomination forms are available at monroschools.com.

Nomination Process (**please note a nomination is NOT required – teachers may apply directly**):

- Parents, students, educators, administrators and community members are invited to nominate teachers for this award. Nomination forms for the 2019-20 program will be available on November 11, 2019. Nominations will be accepted until December 9, 2019. Nomination Forms are available on the District website: monroschools.com.
- Teachers who are nominated will be notified by December 13, 2019. Teachers who accept the nomination will then be required to complete and submit an application by January 13, 2020.

Application Process:

- **Teachers do not have to be nominated to apply for the award.** Teachers may submit an application on their own behalf **or** be nominated.
- Please complete all sections of the **current year application** and include one letter of recommendation from a parent, student, or member of the Monroe community with your application. Recommendation letters cannot be from an employee of the School District of Monroe. The letter of recommendation is a required part of the application regardless of if you were nominated or applied on your own – the nomination form does not serve as the letter of recommendation.
- Applications are due January 13, 2020. No late applications will be accepted. All applicants will be notified by March 18, 2020 if they were selected as an award recipient.
- Please send your completed application and one letter of recommendation to the address below.

Nominations and applications will be kept confidential to only the School District of Monroe Administrative Exempt Staff

and members of the Colony Brands Foundation, Inc. Board and Selection Committee, with the exception of nominations if the nominator indicates on the nomination form that their name can be shared.

Applications and Nomination Forms should be sent to:
Colony Brands Foundation, Inc.
Teacher Recognition Program
Attention: Cindy Rupnow
School District of Monroe
925 16th Avenue, Suite 3
Monroe, WI 53566