

Golden Apples

Frequently Asked Questions

What are Golden Apples?

Golden Apples are given to faculty to acknowledge the hard work and effort of they exhibit that has directly and positively impacted students. They are designed to show how much students appreciate what faculty do.

How does a teacher win? Do we get to vote? When are elections held?

There really aren't 'winners' per se. This is not a voting process or a competition. Everyone who receives a nomination will receive an certificate. Don't try to stuff the ballot box because it won't change anything!

I have more than one really great teacher – can I nominate more than one?

You can nominate more than one teacher, within reason. Don't go nominating a dozen different faculty members, though – try to focus on the one or two who are really important to you as educators.

Does my teacher know I nominated them?

If you nominate your teacher, they will receive an certificate. The forms are anonymous (we don't put your name). If your nominating statement includes something they may recognize, it is possible they might figure out who sent that particular nomination. If you want a teacher to know you appreciate them, then feel free to write them a letter or thank them in person.

Can I find out who nominated a faculty member for an award?

The nomination process is confidential – names are required and are maintained in a database by the TCLT but will not be released to students or faculty.

Do you screen these things? How do I know someone is not receiving a joke-award?

We don't screen them or contact students to verify their justifications; we do read over all of them to catch any potential issues.

So how many students have submitted a nomination?

The Golden Apple Program has been occurring each Fall and Winter semester since Winter 2004. Each academic year, several hundred nominations are received. Considering that this means a student has taken time out of his or her busy schedule to nominate a teacher and explain what that teacher has done that is important on several hundred occasions annually, we think this is pretty good!