



Honoring *outstanding* teachers in *any* subject area who show assessed increases in Economic and Financial Literacy of our state's students.

## 2009 Annual U.S. Senator Thad Cochran Mississippi Economics Teacher Award

### AWARDS

**Entries are judged in three categories:**

Primary (K-4)

Intermediate/Middle (5-8)

Senior High (9-12)

**Award winners receive inscribed plaques and cash prizes:**

Each Finalist will receive \$500  
One Finalist will be selected as Overall Winner and receive an additional \$500 and an all-expenses-paid trip to the National Council on Economic Education/National Association of Economic Educators Annual Conference

The Purposes of the U.S. Senator Thad Cochran  
Mississippi Economic Teacher Awards Program

- To stimulate improvement in economic and financial education teaching practices
- To encourage educators to develop descriptions of their successful teaching practices
- To recognize outstanding educators who effectively teach economic and financial education principles.
- To encourage replication of successful teaching by fostering a widening and continuing exchange of ideas in economic education among educators throughout Mississippi in every level of education.

The Mississippi Council on Economic Education (MCEE) initiated the program to recognize highly skilled classroom teachers who devote their creative energies to assure that their students become effective economic decision-makers.

Award-winning teachers gain recognition, earn cash awards and are honored at an awards ceremony planned to held in Jackson on November 18, 2009. Being an Award Winner reflects the teacher's ability to effectively teach basic economic concepts, principles and understandings. Students involved in these projects not only show cognitive growth but also experience many exciting and interesting activities they will long remember. Demonstrated success of students is essential.

## RULES

1. All K-12 certified teachers from public, private or parochial schools may enter. Winners, regardless of category, may reapply after a two-year waiting period.
2. No more than four teachers may form a team. One of the team members may be a supervisor or administrator and must be directly involved in the economic teaching.
3. Educator may only enter the grade category in which they teach or have significant responsibilities.
4. Eligible teachers are limited to one entry per year. Award winning entries from previous years' competitions may be revised and re-taught for submission. Previous first place or category winning entries may *not* be resubmitted.
5. Entries must follow, precisely, the instructions outlined on the Entry Forum, Parts I, II, & III. Follow the order presented and limit your responses, as noted. Do not omit or add sections.
6. The instructional program or activity must be taught in the period August 1, 2008 to July 31, 2009. The entry must be postmarked by August 31, 2009.
7. The entry must be the teacher's or team's own work. All references and resources used must be cited. Adaptation of another's work must be indicated.
8. The MCEE selects outstanding educators and economist to serve as the Committee of judges. The decisions by the judges are final. Number of prizes awarded in each category is at the discretion of the judges.
9. All entries and accompanying materials become the property of the Mississippi Council on Economic Education and may be disseminated to educators throughout the state. Entrants must submit a written request to the MCEE for permission to use the materials for publication and/or other professional or commercial purposes.

## JUDGING CRITERIA

### **An award-winning entry will:**

- \*Provide correct economic content;
- \*Emphasize teaching basic economic concepts and developing economic reasoning skills;
- \*Teach content appropriate for the maturity and learning ability levels of students;
- \*Provide logically sequenced instructional procedures that can be adapted by other teachers;
- \*Show new and better ways to teach key economic understandings;
- \*Use evaluation instruments and techniques to assess learning outcomes;
- \*Provide evidence of assessed increases in economic and financial literacy of students and
- \*Offer documentary evidence that the instruction made a difference in students' economic understanding and attitudes.

### **Your entry will be judged on the following criteria:**

Abstract	5 percent
Chronology	15 percent
Economic Standards and Student Learning Objectives	20 percent
Lesson Plans	20 percent
Evaluation including assessed increases in student learning	20 percent
Overall entry: Correct Economic Content, Quality of Presentation, Adaptability for Other Teachers, All Resources Cited, Format Correct and Complete.	20 percent

U.S. Senator Thad Cochran  
Mississippi Economic Teacher Awards Program  
2009

**Part I: Official Entry Form**

*Note: The following information, plus signature, must be provided for each entrant. Photocopies are acceptable.*

Name: (exactly as it should appear on award) \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_ Principal: \_\_\_\_\_

School District: \_\_\_\_\_ Superintendent: \_\_\_\_\_

District Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Project Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade(s) taught: \_\_\_\_\_

Please Circle Project Category:

Primary: K-4      Intermediate/Middle: 5-8      Senior High: 9-12

Your signature affirms that you have supplied truthful and accurate information in all parts of your entry. Further, it affirms that the activities, exercises, projects, tools, materials and/or lessons submitted are your own original work (except where credited otherwise). By signing this entry, you are giving the MCEE permission to place portions of your entry on the MCEE web site as a Best Practice in Teaching Economics by Mississippi teachers.

X \_\_\_\_\_

Please send application form and all materials to: U.S. Senator Thad Cochran Mississippi Economic Teacher Award  
Mississippi Council on Economic Education

P.O. Box 23396	or	Millsaps College
Jackson, MS 39202		1701 N. State Street
		Jackson, MS. 39210
(mailing address)		(physical address)

Phone: 601-974-1325 Fax: 601-974-1416 E-Mail: mscee@millsaps.edu Web site: www.mscee.org

**It is strongly recommended that you contact the MCEE after submitting your entry to verify its receipt.**

## **Part II: Entry Format**

In compiling your entry, please follow the order presented below and limit your responses as noted. Text must be 12-point Type, front only, single or double spaced, on 8 1/2 x 11-inch plain white paper. Submit in a three-ring binder. Photos, original or scanned, may be used on **front** of pages only. Identify each section with one tabbed divider page (Name of section only, **no pictures or text**). Page numbers are optional.

- A. Cover Page** (1 page)  
State the title of your entry and your teaching position(s). Provide the grade level(s)/course(s) involved including total number of students and how long the project lasted. Briefly describe your class and school, school district/system and the student demographics of each.
- B. Abstract** (up to 2 pages)  
Provide a concise overview of the project that explains the academic content, the skills, and student outcomes. Discuss the major outcomes of the instruction and its impact on the students. State why this entry is an effective approach to improving economic and financial literacy for your students.
- C. Chronology and Instructional Process** (up to 3 pages)  
Provide a chronological list of all lessons and activities related to the project. Identify economic concepts presented. Include approximate time required and a brief explanation of each session.
- D. Economic Standards and Student Learning Objectives** (up to 6 pages)  
Your entry must identify the National Content Standards in Economics incorporated in your project. You may reference the standards by number. However, for each national standard *write the text* of the benchmarks addressed in the project. State the student learning objectives in relationship to the benchmarks.
- E. Lessons** (up to 20 pages)  
Choose three (3) of your most effective, innovative lesson plans designed for *direct* instruction of economic and financial concepts. Lesson plan refers to work accomplished during 1-3 class sessions. Lessons are to be written in the following format: Lesson Description, Grade Level, National Economic Content Standards and Benchmarks, state Social Studies Frameworks, Student Objectives, Time Required, materials, Procedure, Closure, Assessment, Extension Activities (optional).
- F. Evaluation** (up to 10 pages)  
Describe the student outcomes that directly support the standards and learning objectives (Part II, Section C), *including how you assessed them*. Evaluation tools might include: applications of learning, performance assessments, pre-and post-test results, student portfolios, written work or any other assessment instrument or technique. Provide data supporting student achievement. Be specific. Pre/Post tests should be administered and *must* be included in this section if used.

**G. Overall Entry**

**Economic Content:** The economic content presented must be correct.

**Quality of Presentation:** The entry must be well written. Clarity, correct grammar and punctuation are required.

**Adaptability for Other Teachers:** Teaching strategies and student activities should be easily adaptable by other teachers in comparable grades and courses.

**Resources:** Entry must clearly state resources required for completion of student/teacher activities.

**Format Correct and Complete:** Directions for project presentation must be followed exactly.

**Part III. Attachments**

**(up to 10 pages)**

1. A one page letter of support from a direct supervisor or building administrator (required).
2. A bibliographical listing of all resources and reference materials used (required).
3. May include teacher narrative, student work, newspaper articles, photos, and so on. These materials may not exceed the 8 ½ x 11-inch format and will not be returned. No CDs or videos please.