2027 Best Practice Award in Support of Multicultural Education and Diversity

About the Award

Overseen by AACTE's Committee on Global Diversity, this award recognizes schools, colleges, and departments of education that have infused diversity throughout all components of educator preparation and professional development — including issues of culture, language, demographics, ethnicity, race, gender, sexual orientation, religion, socioeconomic status, and exceptionalities.

Eligibility and Selection Criteria

Open to **AACTE member institutions** with school, college, or department of education programs that have infused multicultural education and diversity into educator preparation, addressing these issues throughout curriculum, personnel, policies, and programs.
In the narrative, special attention should be devoted to the following criteria:

- Demonstrable effects on the broader community.
- Evidence that infusion of multicultural and diversity concepts has occurred (manifested in curriculum, content, field placements, numbers of diverse faculty and students, program outcomes, and community collaborations
- Impact on teaching and learning, induction, professional development, etc.

Past winners: May reapply after three years. New applications must clearly demonstrate substantive changes from the previously submitted application, with explanation of improvements made.

Selection note: Competitive preference is given to applications that align with AACTE's strategic priorities.

Submission Requirements

All entries must be made through AACTE's online submissions site. Application materials for this award must include:

- A 300-word abstract of the program's purpose, audience, and format.
- **Narrative (2,500 words max)** - Address each of the following:
    1. **Theory** — as evidenced in the program's conceptualization and design;
    2. **Practice** — as evidenced by curriculum, field placements, faculty diversity, demographic representation data, and community scan/linkages;
    3. **Evaluation/assessment** of the program;
    4. **Impact and transformation** — demonstrable effects on the broader community and evidence of how the program has substantively transformed teacher preparation and/or influenced education within and beyond the institution, including internal/external assessment results and materials produced;
    5. **Critical reflection** on lessons learned;
    6. **Unique contribution(s)** the program makes to the educator preparation profession.
- Submit a minimum of 3 letters, one from each required role below. Up to 2 additional letters (5 total) may be submitted from other institutional or community representatives.
    1. Dean or Department Chair
    2. Student (a testimonial may be submitted in place of a formal letter)
    3. Community Partner/School Partner
- Supplementary Materials (optional): May include syllabi, curricular materials, peer-reviewed publications, relevant URLs, and similar supporting evidence.

For more information about this award, contact Brooke Evans at bevans@aacte.org

Entry Deadline: October 9, 2026

Click here for nomination form