

“Heart of the Program” Award

Each year the SNA and MSNA sponsors a *Heart of the Program Award*. This award is designed to recognize the valuable program contributions of school food service and nutrition employees who work with their manager to serve nutritious, appetizing meals to children. These employees can make the difference between an outstanding program and an average program.

Employees influence the quality of school food service programs by customer service, interest in young people, creativity, participation in professional growth and training, and willingness to “go the extra mile” when necessary. These qualities are used to evaluate the *Heart of the Program Award* entries.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

This award is intended to recognize single unit staff, and excludes managers or directors. School food service staff who are assigned to one school, or school that services more than one school may be nominated to win this award. Nominations must originate and be submitted by an employee in the school. Any building staff employee may select one person who meets the criteria described in the nomination instructions to represent their school for the award. You cannot nominate or recommend yourself for the *Heart of the Program Award*.

HOW ARE WINNERS RECOGNIZED?

Heart of the Program winners are recognized at the annual MSNA State Conference. Each winner receives a certificate and a pin. One entry will be chosen to represent Minnesota in the SNA Regional Level competition.

WHAT ARE THE QUALIFICATIONS?

Only one person per school may be nominated for the award. The nominee must be an MSNA/SNA member and employed in a school food service program throughout the entire award process.

WHAT IS THE TIMETABLE?

All entries must be received by the Member Service Chair, Mary Betlach, by March 1st. Judging will be done by a three member panel and completed by March 15th.

AWARD NOMINATION INSTRUCTIONS

There are detailed award nomination procedures that need to be followed. For more information and an award application, please contact your Chapter President or SNA Member Services Chair, Mary Betlach at: 763-535-6674, or email at: mary_betlach@rdale.k12.mn.us

Or, you may download the award application from the SNA website at:

http://SchoolNutrition.org/About_SNA/Awards/Handbook.pdf

Remember, award nominations and documentation must be submitted by March 1 to:

Mary Betlach
5325 Georgia Ave N
Crystal, MN 55428