

# Awards

Each year at the National Forum on Education Policy, Education Commission of the States presents awards to individuals, states and organizations that have made significant contributions to public education.

## JAMES BRYANT CONANT AWARD



Named for the co-founder of Education Commission of the States and former president of Harvard University, the James Bryant Conant Award recognizes outstanding individual contributions to American education. The award was established in 1977 to memorialize Conant, a pivotal figure in the education reforms of the 1950s and '60s that continue to shape schools today. The honor is bestowed upon individuals whose efforts and service create a pronounced and lasting influence on American education and have demonstrated a commitment to improving education across the country in significant ways, such as:

- Providing leadership on groundbreaking task forces or committees.
- Publishing works and/or conducted research that profoundly influenced thinking on public education in the United States and/or had a substantial impact on policy.
- Shepherding groundbreaking education reform through the legislative process.
- Demonstrating exemplary service as a public figure or elected official deeply involved in improving education for all.

## FRANK NEWMAN AWARD FOR STATE INNOVATION



The Frank Newman Award for State Innovation recognizes states and territories for enacting innovative education reforms or implementing innovative programs that go beyond marginal or incremental changes to improve student outcomes on a large scale. In 2005, the award was renamed in honor of the late Frank Newman, who served as president of Education Commission of the States for 14 years. The award recognizes a state for any of the following:

- Education improvement efforts that are replicable and hold valuable lessons for other states.
- Bold and courageous policies, including existing approaches, with evidence of significant impact on student achievement in the state.
- Policies or programs that have bipartisan, broad-based support.

## EDUCATION COMMISSION OF THE STATES CORPORATE AWARD



Education Commission of the States Corporate Award honors nonprofit organizations and for-profit corporations that have demonstrated a sustained commitment to, and investment in, improving public education, particularly efforts that reach those currently not well-served by the educational system. The award was created under the leadership of former Wyoming Gov. Jim Geringer, who served as the 1999-2000 Education Commission of the States Chair.

The Corporate Award is presented to organizations or companies that:

- Support improvement that is consistent with Education Commission of the States' priorities.
- Support promising practices to improve student outcomes.
- Enjoy broad-based support in the states or communities in which they operate.