



Breaking Traditions Award Application Instructions **Outstanding Non-Traditional Student or Instructor**

What is a Non-Traditional Student or Instructor?

Non-traditional training and employment is defined as fields of work for which individuals from one gender comprise less than 25 percent of the individuals employed in that field. Career planning without the influence of gender stereotyping, "breaking traditions," is essential for the potential growth of individuals and necessary for our state's economic growth.

What is the Breaking Traditions Award?

The Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education supports the Breaking Traditions Award for individuals who have chosen specific training programs because of their interests and abilities; those who have not let their gender influence their decisions to prepare for "non-traditional careers".

What happens after the nomination is made?

Awardees selected will be notified by mail and recognized during the spring student organizational state conferences.

Who can nominate and how?

Organizational members, students, staff and instructors are encouraged to make nominations. Nominations should be for a nontraditional student or instructor who also serves as an outstanding role model. The staff member nominated should be one that contributes to furthering nontraditional student enrollments or recognition and support of nontraditional students or programs.

To nominate someone please follow these instructions:

- Read the application form thoroughly
- Complete all 4 sections of the nominations form, choosing the appropriate information to categorize your nomination (High School, BPA, HOSA, etc.)
- Complete the Narrative page
- Provide all information required in Section 1 – do not send a photograph, only an article that included a photo
 - Suggestions for the article's content includes:
 - The student's reasons for enrolling in the program that is nontraditional for their gender
 - The student's accomplishments in the student organization
 - Other activities in which the student or staff member is involved
 - The student or staff member's goals and aspirations
 - The student or staff member's views on gender stereotyping
 - The article should focus on the student or staff and not on the class, instructor, school or program
- Scan and email all the information to the email address on the application form OR mail hard copies to the address on the application form
- All nominations will be reviewed and winners will be selected from each category, high school and adult being judged separately
- Winners and their nominators will be notified before the state conferences
- Awards will be presented to each winner at their state conference

Thank you for taking time to make a difference!!