

Awards & Scholarship Committee Reports
SDASCOE Spring Board Meeting
Best Western Hotel, Huron SD
February 9, 2015

The NASCOE Website for Awards and Scholarships has all the current forms and information for awards and scholarships available for NASCOE members. **Note:** New scholarship application forms were added to the NASCOE website around February 1st and are encouraged to be used for 2015. However, due to the lateness of these new forms being posted, the old scholarship application forms will be accepted for 2015. Starting in 2016, the new scholarship forms will be required to be used.

Scholarship Changes for 2015: Word was received from Heather Tritt, NWA Scholarship Chairman on February 2, 2015 that there were some changes to the Scholarship Program for 2015.

The Traditional Scholarship of \$1500 will still be issued in the NWA in one payment. However, the national level scholarship of \$2500 will be paid to the winner as follows: \$1000 will be paid in the 1st year and \$500 in the 2nd, 3rd and 4th year of college. If the student is in 2nd year of college then \$1000 will be issued in the 2nd year and \$1000 in the 3rd year and \$500 in the 4th year.

Continuing Education for Members Scholarship is for NASCOE members only and is for \$1000 paid at the national level. If enrolled in a 2 year college then \$500 will be paid each year. If enrolled in a 4 year college then \$250 will be paid each year.

Open Continuing Education Scholarship is a new scholarship this year for NASCOE members and their spouse and children. This is a \$1000 scholarship paid at the National level. If winner is enrolled in a 2 year college then \$500 will be paid each year. If enrolled in a 4 year college then \$250 will be paid each year. Starting in 2016 there will be a \$250 winner in each NASCOE Area for one of the Continuing Education scholarships.

The deadline to submit NASCOE Scholarship applications is February 20, 2015. All scholarships applications received will be forwarded to the NWA for Judging by March 1st. The NWA will select the NWA \$1500 Traditional Scholarship winner by March 30, 2015. The National NASCOE Traditional Scholarship winner of \$2500 and the Members Continuing Education Scholarship winner of \$1000 will be selected by May 30, 2015.

Distinguished Service Award nominations for 2015 were received by the February 1, 2015 deadline. One nomination was for Service to Community. Two nominations were received for Service to FSA-Agriculture and sent to the judges who will select a winner. No nominations were received for Service to NASCOE this year. The SD winners will be forward on to the NWA Area Awards Chairperson, Kim Royer by February 20, 2015 for consideration at the NWA level. The NWA selections should be made by March 15th.

Years Of Service – Approximately 60 FSA Employees will be recognized for **Years of Service** at this year's State SDASCOE Convention in Deadwood.

Sick Leave Certificates will be presented to SDASCOE members who have reached the 1000, 1500, 2000, 2500 and 3000 hours of sick leave as of April 1st, 2015. I will be sending out an email requesting County Offices to submit employee names who have reached these sick leave levels in early March. These Certificates will be presented at the State Convention in Deadwood.

Professional Improvement Award and/or **Extra Mile Awards** are still available. There is no competition or deadline for these awards. Nomination will be accepted through April 1st to be presented at this year's Convention.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Larry Somsen
SDASCOE Awards & Scholarship Chairperson