

# Description and Nomination Requirements

## 2019 Shirley Igo Advocate of the Year Award



### Description:

In 2008, National PTA marked the passing of one of PTA's greatest child advocate leaders, former National PTA President Shirley Igo (2001-2003). Shirley was a model of public service and volunteerism throughout her life. She was an impassioned and compassionate leader, dedicated to moving PTA forward and committed to ensuring that others would follow. Formerly National PTA's designated federal advocate on Capitol Hill, Shirley ensured that PTA had a voice in federal legislation. In 2001, Shirley lobbied Congress to include PTA's definition of parent involvement, as well as provisions for parent participation, in the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act—No Child Left Behind Act (ESEA-NCLB). In 2003, Shirley led the way in lobbying for mandatory funding for the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and ESEA-NCLB, applauding parent involvement provisions but expressing concern about ESEA- NCLB's strong emphasis on testing as primary tool for assessing school performance.

To honor Shirley, National PTA presents an annual award to one individual who most exemplifies the qualities that made Shirley a true advocate for all children. The 2019 Shirley Igo Advocate of the Year award will be presented to an individual PTA member, who through their leadership and advocacy efforts, affected federal, state, or local policy priorities within National PTA's annual public policy agenda. The person chosen to receive this award will receive one all-expense paid\* trip to the 2019 Legislative Conference March 12-14 and will be recognized at an awards ceremony at the conference in Arlington, VA.

\*Expenses include and are limited to the winner's round-trip airfare, hotel accommodations, ground transportation, conference registration and materials, and per-diem food expenses for the approved dates.

### Nomination Requirements:

The nominee must be a current PTA member whose unit/council/district/state is in good standing. Additionally, the nominee's advocacy efforts must have taken place within the last year and documentation of these efforts must be provided. Nominations will be reviewed by the Legislative Committee and the PTA National President. Incomplete applications will not be considered. Nominees may self-apply for consideration and please note PTA leaders may be contacted. **To submit a nomination, please fill out [this form](#).**

### Complete [nomination forms](#) must include:

- Contact and PTA membership information for both the nominee and submitting unit;

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- A brief narrative for each question below concerning the nominee's advocacy on behalf of PTA (500 words or less per question);
- At least one reference with a letter of recommendation (3 maximum)
- Documentation of advocacy efforts, such as Op-Eds and Letters-to-the Editor written by nominee, awards received, blog posts, action alerts, etc.

**The deadline for nomination is December 14, 2018 at 11:59 PM EST.** Please contact National PTA Government Affairs Coordinator, Hannah Engle, at [hengle@pta.org](mailto:hengle@pta.org) or at 703-518-1262 with any questions or concerns about the award process or nomination form. Award winners will be notified by mid-January 2019.