

**The Annual Classified School Employee of the Year Award Act**  
**Sponsored by Senator Patty Murray**

Classified school employees provide essential services to America's public schools and institutions of higher education. As an integral part of the public education system, classified employees promote student achievement, ensure student safety, and contribute to the establishment and promotion of a positive instructional environment.

The Annual Classified School Employee of the Year Award Act calls upon the Secretary of Education to establish a Classified School Employee of the Year Award Program to highlight the contributions of classified school employees in supporting the education of public school students in early childhood through higher education.

**Classified School Employee of the Year Program**

- The bill directs the Secretary of Education to establish and administer the Classified School Employee of the Year Award program.
- Nominations for the Classified School Employee of the Year will be submitted by each Chief State School Officer to the Secretary of Education.
- Nominees must be an exemplary public employee serving in one of the following occupational specialties:
  - Paraprofessionals
  - Clerical and administrative services
  - Transportation services
  - Food and nutrition services
  - Custodial and maintenance services.
  - Security services
  - Health and student services
  - Technical services
  - Skilled trades
- The Classified School Employee of the Year award winner will be chosen by the Secretary of Education from the state nominees and will be recognized nationally by the Secretary of Education and the President.