

2025-2026 KIDSFIRST COOPERMAN-BOGUE AWARDS NOMINATION & SELECTION CRITERIA

Nominations for the 2025 - 2026 KidsFirst Cooperman-Bogue Awards are now being accepted and will run through July 24, 2026. Nominations for exemplary social service professionals can be made at any time during the nomination period and will remain in the running for consideration through the published deadline for the award period. In order for a nomination to be considered, it must meet the criteria outlined below. **KidsFirst Winners will be publicly recognized at JWB's 80th Anniversary Awards Luncheon on Friday, October 23, 2026, from 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM at The Coliseum in St. Petersburg.**

[CLICK HERE](#) to nominate an outstanding
Pinellas County social services professional today!

General Information

- All nominations must be submitted electronically using the [ONLINE NOMINATION FORM](#) or you may print out the form, complete, and mail to: Juvenile Welfare Board/ATTN: Communications Team, 14155 58th Street North, Clearwater, FL 33760
- Additional materials will not be accepted or used in support of the nomination.
- All nominations will be reviewed and judged by a panel of community representatives according to the criteria requested on the nomination form.
- Nominations can be made at any time during the year and will remain in the running for consideration throughout the published deadline for that award period. See next page for nomination, selection, and award schedule.
- For additional information contact: Communications@jwbpinellas.org

Nomination and Selection Criteria

- Nominee consistently performs above and beyond their job description/requirements to serve the children and families of Pinellas County.
- Nominee is an inspiration to co-workers and to clients (children and/or families they serve).
- Nominee's efforts have helped improve the condition of a group and/or individual.
- Nominee is an employee in good standing of an employer with a Pinellas County program.
- The nominee's primary duties are to provide direct services to children and/or families - NOT to supervise, manage, direct, or oversee a program.
- Classroom teachers above the pre-kindergarten level are NOT eligible. However, other public or private school employees, such as social workers and guidance counselors, are eligible.
- The nominee may not be an employee or family member of the Juvenile Welfare Board administration or executive leadership.



2025-2026 KidsFirst Cooperman-Bogue Awards Timeline

Call for nominations are ongoing through July 24, 2026. The nomination criteria and online form are posted on the [KidsFirst Cooperman-Bogue Awards webpage](#).

ROUND #1 – KIDSFIRST WINNER

Nomination Deadline	March 20, 2026
Selection Committee Review	March 23, 2026 – March 30, 2026
Award Winner Surprise Presentation	April 20, 2026 – May 8, 2026
Award Recognition by JWB Board	May 21, 2026

ROUND #2 – KIDSFIRST WINNER

Nomination Deadline	April 17, 2026
Selection Committee Review	April 20, 2026 – April 27, 2026
Award Winner Surprise Presentation	May 18, 2026 – June 5, 2026
Award Recognition by JWB Board	June 25, 2026

ROUND #3 – KIDSFIRST WINNER

Nomination Deadline	May 29, 2026
Selection Committee Review	June 1, 2026 – June 8, 2026
Award Winner Surprise Presentation	June 29, 2026 – July 10, 2026
Award Recognition by JWB Board	July 2026 (TBD)

ROUND #4 – KIDSFIRST WINNER

Nomination Deadline	July 24, 2026
Selection Committee Review	July 27, 2026 – August 3, 2026
Award Winner Surprise Presentation	August 24, 2026 – September 11, 2026
Award Recognition by JWB Board	September 2026 (TBD)

All KidsFirst Winners will receive a framed certificate, \$1,000 check, PSA, and other media/promotional recognition at time of their surprise award presentation.

KIDSFIRST WINNER VIDEO PRODUCTION **September 24, 2026 – September 25, 2026**

JWB'S 80th ANNIVERSARY AWARDS LUNCHEON **Friday, October 23, 2026**

JWB's 80th Anniversary Awards Luncheon
 Friday, October 23, 2026, from 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM
 The Coliseum, 535 4th Avenue North, St. Petersburg, FL

Award Winners will be publicly recognized at the event and will be recognized with a feature video.