



Florida Department of Transportation

RON DESANTIS
GOVERNOR

605 Suwannee Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0450

KEVIN J. THIBAUT
SECRETARY

May 19, 2023

To: Florida Transit Agencies

Subject: Florida Public Transportation Association (FPTA) "Bus Technician of the Year" Program

We are happy to announce this year's Florida Public Transportation Association (FPTA) "Bus Technician of the Year" Program. This award program was adopted by the FPTA to provide recognition to Florida's best transit bus technicians. All corporate FPTA members are eligible to participate by selecting an employee/nominee for the competition. Awards will be made at the FPTA annual conference.

Judging and scoring will be conducted by a thorough evaluation of the information provided on, and with, the nomination form. Information regarding eligibility, scoring categories, and awards is provided with the nomination form. Judging will include an interview of the top three (3) candidates. The interview process may be conducted in person or through an agreed upon virtual platform using audio/video if circumstances prohibit travel. Ample notification will be given to allow for scheduling of the interview and ensuring resources are available. Lodging and travel expenses will be provided by the FDOT if in person interviews are conducted. For more information, please see the Technician of the Year Procedure.

To enter, complete the "Official Nomination Form" (enclosed) and submit by **July 14, 2023**. Please provide all information requested on the form along with any supporting documentation. **Electronic nomination submittals are highly encouraged. Please submit electronic submittals to: Tony.Brandin@dot.state.fl.us.**

If you have any questions, please call me at (850) 414-4736.

Good luck and best regards,
Lynn (Tony) Brandin

Lynn (Tony) Brandin
FDOT Transit Operations Manager



Florida Public Transportation Association Bus Technician of the Year 2023

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

1. Any employee of the corporate member transit system, classified as a bus technician, technician or similar maintenance classification, who performs mechanical repairs, major or minor, to buses, their components or sub-components, with or without supervision. May include bus technicians who perform paint and body repair, unit rebuild of any component or sub-component, seat repair, etc.
2. The employee/nominee may be classified as a lead technician or working foreman provided at least eighty percent (80%) of his/her work time involves hands-on mechanical repairs described in bullet one (1) above.
3. Tire repair, maintenance service work including, but not limited to, bus washer, cleaner, hostler, janitor, parts personnel and supervisor are types of classifications ineligible for nomination.
4. Employees responsible for scheduling or organizing work shifts, repair work or the administration of the disciplinary program are ineligible for nomination.

SCORING CATEGORIES

1. SKILL LEVEL/JOB KNOWLEDGE
2. TRAINING/SELF DEVELOPMENT
 - a. Current ASE certifications.
 - b. Training certificates within the last five years.
3. PROFESSIONAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS
4. SAFETY/ACCIDENT PREVENTION
5. ATTENDANCE/DEDICATION
6. INITIATIVE/PEER LEADERSHIP
 - a. Job proficiency, work quality and work quantity, attitude towards job, initiative, and peer leadership qualities.
7. TECHNICIAN INTERVIEW
 - a. The top three technicians will conduct an interview with the judges. The interview may be conducted in person or through an agreed upon virtual platform if circumstances prohibit travel. Ample notification will be given to allow for scheduling of the interview and ensuring resources are available. Pre-determined questions will be asked related to job performance, maintenance abilities, and transit fundamentals. Additional interview questions may be asked to ascertain information related to how the candidate positively impacts the people around them, the agency, and the community.

AWARDS

Local Award: Each local transit system may provide their nominee for “Bus Technician of the Year” a framed certificate.

State Award: The Florida Public Transportation Association “Bus Technician of the Year” shall receive a plaque inscribed with the winner’s name, winning year, name of Corporate Member transit system and \$300.00. Should travel allow, the winner and spouse shall also receive an all-expense paid trip to the Florida Public Transit Association annual meeting including meals, lodging, registration, and transportation allowance up to \$100.00.

Second Place: A plaque shall be presented to the second place (first runner-up) contestant and \$200.00.

Third Place: A plaque shall be presented to the third place (second runner-up) contestant and \$100.00.



**FLORIDA PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION ASSOCIATION
BUS TECHNICIAN OF THE YEAR 2023**

Official Nomination Form

DIRECTIONS:

Please type or print the information requested below. This nomination form must be completed by the Maintenance Director/Manager and approved by the Transit System Director or General Manager.

DO NOT LEAVE BLANKS:

This information will be used by the judges to review and score contestants. The Nomination Form must be in possession of the FTA "Principal Judge" NO LATER THAN: July 14, 2023. Electronic submittal of the nomination is highly encouraged. Please send electronic submittals to: tony.brandin@dot.state.fl.us.

The FPTA "Principal Judge": Tony Brandin
Florida Department of Transportation
Transit Operations Manager – Central Office
FL Department of Transportation – Transit Office
605 Suwannee Street, MS-26
Tallahassee, FL 32399
850-414-4736

.....
FULL NAME OF NOMINEE: _____
(To appear on award) First Middle Last

List complete name of transit system. Include all names - formal and/or legal.

Corporate Member Transit System: Name

Corporate Member Transit System: Street Address

City State Zip Code

Transit System Telephone Number: () _____

How long has Nominee been a bus technician for the system?

No. of Years Hire Date/Month/Day/Year

Specific garage or division Nominee is assigned to at the system and Badge # and/or Employee #, if any:

Total number of years as a bus technician (all companies): _____

Approximate number of years as a technician (all types of maintenance): _____

Approximate total number of years as an apprentice/ trainee technician: _____

Total number of reportable accidents (driving and shop) with current employer: _____

Number of accidents (driving and shop) resulting in loss of work time: _____

Total number of reportable accidents (driving and shop) during your system's last fiscal year: _____

Number of reprimands during your system's previous fiscal year:
(Informal or Oral Reprimand): _____ (Formal Reprimand): _____

Number of times late for scheduled work time (unexcused) during the system's last fiscal year: _____

Number of commendations during the system's previous fiscal year (attach letter or other documentation):

Number of hours of formal training nominee has received within the **previous five years** while employed as a bus technician for this system (attach listing and/or documentation): _____

Number of **current** ASE transit bus certifications (attach listing and/or documentation): _____

List all proficient skills (those that can be performed without instruction and supervision (i.e. engine rebuild, air conditioning, electrical, etc.) of the nominee:

Briefly describe the nominee's work quality and work quantity: _____

Briefly describe the nominee's attitude towards job, initiative, and peer leadership qualities:

List any active professional or job-related certificates within the **previous five years**: _____

List awards, commendations, or other recognition received for outstanding achievements in school, military service, work, agency collateral duties, and community involvement/volunteer
(Please attach copies if available): _____

Name of Spouse, if married: _____

If single, list name of parents or relatives significant to the Nominee:

Name of staff members at property such as Director of Maintenance, Director of Operations, Director of Marketing, Public Relations, Public Information, etc. that may be contacted for reference or more information about the nominee and the system:

Name	Title	Area Code/Number
------	-------	------------------

Name	Title	Area Code/Number
------	-------	------------------

Name	Title	Area Code/Number
------	-------	------------------

