



Le D.I.V.E. Teacher Award 2026

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ANNOUNCEMENT

“Le D.I.V.E.” (Donne Italiane che Vivono all’Estero = Italian Women Living Abroad), a non-profit association founded in Washington, D.C. in 2001. Exclusively based on volunteering, it was registered in 2012 as a 501(c)(3) organization and is recognized by the Italian Embassy in Washington, D.C. The mission of our organization is to promote Italian language and culture abroad.

AWARD

Le D.I.V.E. Teacher Award is presented annually to one or more high school educators of the Italian language within the public school system of the greater DMV area. The award, funded by Le D.I.V.E., ranges from \$500 to \$1000.

The award's purpose is to provide financial support for scholastic activities or professional development in the field of Italian language instruction. It serves to recognize and support educators who have exhibited a dedication to enriching the Italian language learning experience within their classrooms.

Application Requirements

To be considered for the award, teachers must submit a *1-2 pages document* with the following information.

1. Professional Background: A concise biographical profile or curriculum vitae highlighting their pedagogical experience and previous initiatives that have fostered a deeper understanding of the Italian language among their students. This information must include **a)** name of the school where they are teaching, **b)** the number of courses taught per semester and per year, **c)** the nature of these courses, **d)** the number of students enrolled per semester, and **e)** the date and title of their most recent professional development course.

2. Plan for the award: A clear description of the school activities or professional development activity that will be supported with this award and how these activities **3.** would advance the promotion of the Italian language. When submitting an application to continue previous activities or projects, include a link or brief documentation of the completed work.

Key qualifications: A description of how the teacher’s relevant skills, experience, and accomplishments and the proposed plan directly align with the intent of this award.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: August 1, 2026

PROCESS

Applications will undergo a review process by a committee comprising at least three D.I.V.E. members who are themselves Italian language educators. The recipient(s) of the award will be announced on or around September 1, 2026, and the award will be conferred directly by the D.I.V.E. President and Award Committee by September 2026.

Award Rules

The formal submission of the application implies acceptance, without any conditions or reservations, of this announcement, as well as the terms and regulations of the award process. It includes explicit authorization to verify the truthfulness of the declarations made.

We encourage applicants to submit their applications in Italian, using the format provided in the announcement. If the application does not satisfy the requirements or include the mandatory accompanying documents, the interested party will be asked to remedy the deficiency or provide the documents within a maximum of 5 calendar days. If they do not comply, the application will be considered withdrawn.

The selection criteria and decision-making bases, including the awarding of the scholarship to the selected candidates, are at the exclusive discretion and knowledge of the promoters of the initiative. The decisions of the Committee are final and indisputable. There will be no ranking or justification provided for the award assignment.

The award amount may vary among recipients and will be determined by the Committee based on the teacher's past and planned activities, their contributions, and their professional development courses.

Selected award beneficiaries will lose their right to the award in the following cases:

- Omission of information that, if known, would have led to the non-awarding of the scholarship or its assignment to another candidate.
- Submission of false information or documentation.
- Submission of an incomplete proposal.
- Exclusion of individuals who have already received **Le D.I.V.E. Teacher Award**.

Le D.I.V.E. Teacher Award represents a significant opportunity for Italian language educators to receive acknowledgment and support for their endeavors. It stands as a testament to the significance of Italian language and culture within the greater DMV region.

Applicants must submit the following information via email to ledivedc@ledive.org