

New Jersey's 2021 State Employee Recognition Activities:

New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (BPU)

The Board of Public Utilities will have the following activities during State Employee Recognition Week:

The Board President will send out a video message and email to staff recognizing their hard work during State Employee Recognition week.

In addition, the Board will share a word cloud, through email and on our intranet. The word cloud is in the shape of the BPU seal which makes up the employee's names who work at the Board.

NJ Civil Service Commission (CSC)

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, CSC will not be having an in-person state-level celebration and no Governor's Awards will be issued this year. However, we asked each state department/agency to plan at least one activity to recognize the employees within their departments/agencies for any time during the week of May 2-8, 2021, but if possible, on NASPE's recognition day May 5, 2021.

The Civil Service Commission (CSC) plans to promote public awareness via a proclamation by Governor Philip D. Murphy and Lt. Governor Sheila Oliver and other types of promotions via press release, social media and using our intranet and website.

In addition, CSC will issue a special edition of our internal newsletter, to be issued on May 5, 2021, which will spotlight some current employees, retired employees, services provided to the public, and acknowledge employees with certificates who acquired milestone years of service in state government.

Department of Children and Families (DCF)

DCF is planning a ZOOM Employee Recognition Program this year. Along with the Commissioner, members of the Executive Staff as well as the selected individuals with their supervisors are invited to attend the ZOOM Employee Recognition Program. The nominations will be read, and awards given. Certificates will be sent to the employee.

DCF Employee Recognition Program and Instructions are attached which included a letter to all staff from Commissioner Beyer (see below):

March 2021

Dear colleague,

Leadership within the Department of Children and Families (DCF) recognizes that the achievements and success of our agency are directly related to the commitment, performance and morale of our employees. We appreciate and value all staff for their daily contributions to help NJ families be or become safe, healthy and connected.

Therefore, it is with great pleasure that we announce DCF's 7th Annual Employee Recognition Program. A DCF Employee Recognition Committee from the Office of Human Resources has been established to oversee the planning to honor nominees (for their work during calendar year 2020) in a May 2021 ceremony during Public Service Recognition Week.

We know that 2020 was a difficult year for everyone and we appreciate the incredible strength and determination staff throughout the department – in every division and office - exhibited on behalf of the children and families we serve. Nearly every week, during my all-staff Teams calls, I am able to share a sample of the many remarkable stories of compassion and support our staff offered during these unprecedented times. Now, is the time to honor staff, formally.

In addition, DCF Commissioner hosts a zoom call every Friday for all staff. On Friday May 7, she will acknowledge Public Service Recognition Week and thank all DCF staff.

NJ Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)

DEP's Acting Commissioner will be sending out an email to all staff on Monday thanking all DEP employees with a link back to the Governor's proclamation.

DEP's Acting Commissioner will also be thanking all DEP employees during his weekly agency-wide video broadcast on Wednesday.

DEP will be sending a social media post from DEP platforms from Acting Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner thanking DEP employees on Tuesday, which we then feature in our Wednesday's weekly news digest. We are planning to feature some photos of employees from prior social content at this time also.

NJ Department of Labor and Workforce Development (DOLWD)

The NJ Department of Labor and Workforce Development plans to post the Governor's proclamation to the department's internal website (INFORM) as well as issue a message to all employees from the Commissioner with a copy of the proclamation. Since we are in a remote environment, Communications will be issuing a digital poster on our social media sites and well as our internal website to celebrate the week.

Additionally, DOLWD will distribute backgrounds for Zoom and Teams that can be used for the week acknowledging Employee Recognition Week. Additionally, we will be working with our divisions to recognize employees who have shown exemplary service and dedication, especially during this unprecedented time.

NJ Election Law Enforcement Commission (ELEC)

We will be mailing thank you letters from our Executive Director to each person's home address.

New Jersey Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness (OHSP)

OHSP plans to do the following from the suggestions provided:

Place the Governor's Proclamation on state website and forward to each state employee in hard copy on email with message from agency director attached.

Place prominent message on state website and ask agency directors to put an encouraging message or letter to employees on their website.

Thank each employee personally, by note, email or phone call.

Write a letter of recommendation or commendation to be placed in the employee's personnel file.

Office of Information Technology (OIT)

OIT will be sending a recognition letter along with the Proclamation to every employee to their home address. We also plan to make a video thanking our employees for their public service.

Office of the Public Defender (OPD)

For many years, the OPD's Public Defender has been recognizing employees every month, followed by an annual luncheon. We have three categories for the hard work and accomplishments of the OPD employees. The Attorney of the Month identifies attorneys. The Investigator of the Month recognizes investigators. The Employee of the Month distinguishes clerical/support staff and administrative employees.

At the end of the year the OPD has an elaborate luncheon to celebrate all 36 employees. However, due to COVID-19, last year resulted in a virtual luncheon which was still a great time had by all who attended. We will continue to do our monthly recognitions with an annual luncheon to honor our employees.

NJ Department of State

The HR Manager is asking the Directors to send the Governor's Proclamation to all their employees with a note of appreciation.

New Jersey State Parole Board (SPB)

The SPB will be recognizing our 2019 / 2020 awardees this year via eblast from our Chairman. As well as recognizing the week of May 2-8 as State Employee Recognition Week, by posting the Governors Proclamation on our intranet. In the past and hopefully sometime soon, we will recognize our employees through a nomination process/committee which then leads to a ceremony recognizing the awardees with a luncheon/refreshments/awards that is usually held in May. We hope to acknowledge altogether sometime in the near future!