

Salvatore J. Natoli Dissertation Award Guidelines

The award recognizes and supports outstanding doctoral research and is given to encourage dissertation research in geography teaching and learning.

Eligibility, Restrictions & Responsibilities:

- Candidates must have completed their doctoral degree within the previous two years.
- Candidates must be an NCGE member in good standing.
- The dissertation should promote the importance and value of geographic education
- The dissertation should enhance the preparation of geographic educators with respect to their knowledge of content, techniques, and learning processes.
- The dissertation should encourage and support research in geographic education.
- Dissertation award winners must present their dissertation at an NCGE Annual conference.

Submission Procedure and Deadlines

Dissertations must be submitted through the [NCGE on-line members' portal](#) by July 20, 2026 at 11:50 pm (EDT). Dissertations submitted after this time frame will not be accepted and no exceptions are made.

Format

- Do not use type size smaller than 12 point.
- Use a standard serif font such as Times New Roman or Garamond.
- Number pages and include the authors name and email on each page in the footer.
- Must be saved and submitted in the following format:
lastname_firstname_SJNatoli_2026.pdf

Award

The Awards Committee will award a 1st place and 2nd place recipient. The 1st place award recipient will receive \$500, a conference registration fee waiver and a certificate. The 2nd place award recipient will receive a conference registration fee waiver and a certificate. Recipients will be notified no later than August 7, 2026 via email. Award recipients will be presented with their certificates during the NCGE Conference Awards ceremony, October 16, 2026 in Richmond, VA. The NCGE Award Committee reserves the right to designate additional submissions as finalists or not make an award in any given year as they see fit.

If you have questions, please contact:

John "Scott" Greene,
NCGE Award Committee Chair
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