

Elementary Program Excellence Awards – General Information

Corporate Sponsor: Paxton/Patterson

Sponsored by ITEEA and NASSP, the Program Excellence Award is one of the highest honors given to Technology and Engineering Education classroom teachers on the elementary, middle, or high school levels. It is presented in recognition of outstanding contributions to the profession and students. The Program Excellence Award provides public recognition at local through international levels. On the state or province level, a certificate of achievement is granted at the affiliated association's annual meeting. At ITEEA's annual conference, the honoree is formally presented an engraved plaque and given other recognition.

Who is Eligible?

Candidates for the Program Excellence Award must be characterized as providing instruction of high quality, learner centered and relevant to a study of technology and engineering.

Elementary Program Excellence

Elementary school programs must be nominated by an ITEEA affiliate association and undergo an assessment procedure. Requirements include that the school must be an ITEEA Elementary School member, or a teacher in the school must be a Professional or Life member; the program must reflect a STEM education philosophy; there must be administrative support for nomination; and requested materials must be provided.

SPECIAL NOTE:

This application information is to be completed and forwarded to the affiliate association's Affiliate Representative, Awards Coordinator, or Designated Official. Click the following link to find the name and contact information of your affiliate representative:

<http://www.iteea.org/Resources/affiliatereps.htm>.

Please pay attention to affiliate association deadlines to allow for review, selection, and submission to ITEEA by December 1st of each year.

Selection Process

ITEEA provides its affiliated associations with recommended selection and criteria procedures to use in choosing its honoree. This information can be found on the following pages. Once nominated, the schedule below is followed.

As Scheduled

Award and public announcement made at affiliated association meeting or conference.

December 1

Names of the Program Excellence winners at the Affiliate level are forwarded to the ITEEA Program Excellence Coordinator by the Affiliate Representative, Awards Coordinator, or Designated Official.

Late March-Early April

Award presented at ITEEA Annual Conference.

Note: Names submitted by December 1 will be printed in the conference program. Names received after December 1 will be honored one year later.

Elementary Program Excellence Awards

Elementary Program Excellence Award nominees may be from any state/province that has an affiliate with the International Technology and Engineering Educators Association. A school is eligible to receive a Program Excellence Award once every three years. Nominations should be submitted to the state or provincial affiliate organization.

Requirements for the Award

The **Program Excellence Award** program is designed to encourage teachers to (1) share experiences and expertise and (2) contribute to the increasing body of knowledge regarding technology and engineering education activities in the elementary school.

The following are minimum requirements for the ITEEA **Elementary Program Excellence Award**. Affiliate associations may add additional requirements.

- The school must hold Elementary School membership in the International Technology and Engineering Educators Association, or a teacher in the school must be a Professional or Life member of ITEEA. (*ITEEA will recognize one school per state or province and one school per country outside North America.*)
- The program must reflect a STEM education philosophy, and it must incorporate contemporary teaching strategies. *It is essential that the teachers in the school recognize the difference between quality technology and engineering education and a mere "hands-on" manipulative experience.*
- The program must have the support of the building and district administration.

The Award Application

Each applicant for the elementary school **Program Excellence Award** must submit a set of materials using the format shown below. These materials must be submitted to the state or province affiliate. The **Program Excellence Award** application must contain the following parts:

Cover page that includes the following:

- Name of the school.
- School address and telephone number.
- Principal's or contact person's name, telephone number, and email.

A one-page **description of the school** that includes the following:

- Characteristics of the school.
- School environment.
- Annual objectives.

A three-page (maximum) summary of **technology and engineering education in the school** that describes:

- The nature of the technology and engineering education activities.
- The extent to which technology and engineering education is incorporated in the overall curriculum.
- How technology and engineering education is integrated with other areas of study.

Support materials must include:

- Four (4) photos in jpg format of students participating in technology and engineering education activities. Photo releases must be provided for any photos submitted.
- Instructional materials used with the technology and engineering education activities.
- Examples of student work developed during the technology and engineering education activities.

Letters showing **program support** from any or all of the following:

- School district or building administrators.
- School patrons - parents, guardians, etc.
- Students.

Table of contents as follows:

I.	Description of _____ School	Page ___
II.	Technology and Engineering Education in the School	Page ___
III.	Support Materials	Page ___
IV.	Letters of support	Page ___

Selecting the Award Recipient

The **Elementary Program Excellence Award** applications are reviewed by the local affiliate. All entries will be judged in light of the definition of technology and engineering education as defined below:

Technology and Engineering Education: A technology, innovation, design, or engineering educational program that helps people develop an understanding and competence in designing, producing, and using technological products and systems and in assessing the appropriateness of technological actions.

In elementary grades it develops an awareness of technology and engineering and reinforces the learning in other subjects.

The materials presented by each applicant will be evaluated using the following criteria that were developed to describe a quality technology and engineering education experience at the elementary school level:

- The program engages students in solving practical problems or learning how practical problems are solved using technical means.
- The program helps students to better understand how people adapt to, change, or use their natural environment to get things they want or need.
- The program is highly experimental; it promotes students' active involvement in safe learning practices.
- The program is relevant to the students at their developmental level.
- The program is integrated and supports concepts from school subjects such as mathematics, science, language arts, social studies, health, fine arts, and physical education.