

Elementary Teacher Excellence Award-General Information

Corporate Sponsor: Goodheart Willcox

The Teacher Excellence Award is one of the highest honors given to Technology, Innovation, Design, or Engineering (TIDE) Education classroom teachers and is presented in recognition of their outstanding contributions to the profession and their students. The Teacher Excellence Award provides public recognition at the local through international levels. On the state or province level, recognition is granted at the affiliated association's annual meeting. During ITEA's annual conference, the honoree is formally presented an engraved plaque and given other recognition.

Who is Eligible?

Candidates for the Teacher Excellence Award must be characterized as providing TIDE Education instruction of high quality, learner centered and relevant to a study of technology. Mandatory requirements include:

- The teacher must be nominated by an educator.
- The teacher must be a current Professional member, or the school must be a current Elementary School member and have held membership for the preceding year in both ITEA and its affiliated state/provincial association.
- The teacher must be certified to teach in Technology Education and must be a full-time TIDE Education teacher (at least four periods a day).
- The teacher's administrator must concur that he/she is a professional worthy of being considered an outstanding educator.

SPECIAL NOTE:

This application information is to be completed and forwarded to the affiliate association's Affiliate Representative, Awards Coordinator, or Designated Official. Click here to find the name and contact information of your affiliate representative - <http://www.iteaconnect.org/Resources/affiliatereps.htm>. Please pay attention to affiliate association deadlines to allow for review, selection, and submission to ITEA by December 1st of each year.

Selection Process:

ITEA provides its affiliated associations with recommended selection and criteria procedures to use in choosing its honoree. This information may 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:

Name of the Teacher Excellence winners at the Affiliate level is forwarded to the ITEA Teacher Excellence Coordinator by the Affiliate Representative, Awards Coordinator, or Designated Official.

Late March-Early April:

Award presented at ITEA 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.

International Technology Education Association **Teacher Excellence Awards**

The **Teacher Excellence Awards** program was established to identify outstanding TIDE teachers who will serve as models for their colleagues and who could form a leadership core to affect change in the field. Separate Teacher Excellence Awards are available for elementary school, middle/junior high school and high school teachers. ITEA will recognize only one teacher at each school level (ES, MS, HS) for each affiliated state or province.

Teachers who are nominated for Teacher Excellence Awards should demonstrate the following evidence:

- Exemplary teaching characteristics including subject-matter competence, enthusiasm for teaching, sensitivity to student learning needs, and good communication skills.
- An understanding of TIDE education as basic education for all students.
- Sustained professional growth in TIDE education and in the art of teaching.
- Ability to engage students in a hands-on/minds-on approach to learning about technology.
- Ability to foster curiosity and generate excitement about learning to understand and apply technology concepts and practices.
- A conviction that all students should and can learn about technology and apply its principles in everyday life.
- An understanding of the relationships between technology and other areas of study in the school.
- An experimental and innovative attitude in their approach to teaching.
- Professional involvement and leadership.

Selection process

Each affiliate will establish a Teacher Excellence Award committee that will solicit, review, and select award winners who meet the ITEA minimum eligibility and award criteria and any additional criteria the local affiliate deems appropriate.

The Selection Process by Affiliate Organizations

The major selection process for **Teacher Excellence Awards** takes place at the affiliate level. Each affiliate is encouraged to select one outstanding technology teacher each year for each school level award. The following schedule is recommended to facilitate this process during the year and three months before the selected name is sent to ITEA.

September 1	A selection committee of at least three members is appointed.
December 1	Criteria and procedures for the award are announced.
February 1	Deadline for nominations.
February 15	Two to five candidates are selected as finalists for the award.
March 15	ITEA membership (two-year minimum) is validated through the ITEA Affiliate Representative.
April 1	On-site visits are scheduled with building principal and teacher candidate.
May 15	On-site visits by a team of at least three people are completed.
June 1	Candidates are notified of their respective status in the award selection process.
As determined locally	Public announcement and affiliate awards are given at an appropriate affiliate conference.
December 1	Teacher Excellence Award National Confirmation Data Form and Award winners' names to the ITEA Teacher Excellence Awards Coordinator.
March/April	Awards are presented at the ITEA Annual Conference.

Teacher Excellence Awards Elementary School Awards

Requirement for the Award

Eligibility criteria:

All candidates for the ***Teacher Excellence Award*** must meet the following eligibility criteria:

- Must be a full-time professional employee of the school district.
- Have a full-time elementary school teaching position in a public or private school in the state or province.
- Have taught elementary school technology education units or activities for at least two years prior to nomination.
- Must be recognized by the school's administration as being worthy of recognition as an outstanding teacher.
- Is a current Professional member or the school is a current Elementary School member of the ITEA at the time of receiving the award and has been a member of the ITEA for the previous year also (two-year membership requirement).

Award criteria:

Elementary teacher recipients must:

- Exemplify excellence in teaching.
- Teach activities or units of instruction that would be considered good technology education using accepted state/province or national standards.
- Be committed to continuing professional development.
- Contribute to the profession through on-going service.

Award applications

Each applicant for the elementary school **Teacher Excellence Award** must submit a set of materials using the format shown below. These materials must be submitted to the state/provincial affiliate committee.

- A completed ***Personal Data Form***
- A summary that describes the candidate's philosophy of the role of TIDE education in the elementary school.
- A set of materials as outlined in the **Teacher Excellence Award Evaluation Form**.
- Letters of support for the nomination.
- A sample of a TIDE education activity or unit that is used in the candidate's classroom. The activity or unit must be presented in a format that can be shared with elementary school teachers. The source of the activity must be clearly cited.
- Four (4) color photos in jpg showing the applicant interacting with students. Must have photo releases for any photos submitted.

Teacher Excellence Award Documentation Checklist Elementary School Awards

(Each applicant should prepare the following documentation to support his or her application. The documentation should be submitted in a binder with clearly labeled section dividers.)

Evidence of talent in teaching: (Maximum 4 pages)

- GOALS:** Include the goals for the technology education units or activities you use. *High ranking is given for goals that emphasize a broad understanding of technology and its application through problem solving and group work.*
- THE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT:** Include a description of the ways you organize and manage the technology education activities in your classroom. *High ranking is given to a learning environment that is flexible, accepts a variety of answers to a given technological problem, that is accepting of failure, and that expects students to accept major responsibility in structuring their learning tasks.*
- EFFECTIVENESS:** Identify the ways your teaching meets the needs of a diverse student population. *High ranking is given to teachers who address the needs of varying levels of ability, provide activities that will interest both males and females, and connect the study of technology with other disciplines and the world outside the school.*
- ASSESSMENT:** Explain how you assess student progress. *High ranking is given to teachers who use a variety of techniques to determine what students have learned about and can do with technology.*

Evidence of technology education practices: (Maximum 4 pages)

- FUNDAMENTAL CONCEPTS:** Include content outlines for your technology education activities or units. *High ranking is given for concepts that are fundamental for all students regardless of gender or ability.*
- CREATIVE IDEAS:** Explain how technology education activities you use involve creative use of the classroom. *High ranking is given for activities that show creative use of resources and unique approaches in helping students understand technology.*
- GLOBAL CONTEXT:** Identify ways your teaching helps students understand the impacts of technology on people, society, and the environment and how technology relates to citizenship, consumer, and career roles. *High ranking is given to teachers who relate technology to the world outside the school.*

Background and experience (Maximum 1 page)

- TRAINING AND EDUCATION:** Include collegiate education, professional development experiences, and conference attendance. *High ranking is given to teachers who are academically prepared to teach elementary school and see that they must maintain their expertise through a continuing education program.*
- PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP AND INVOLVEMENT:** Include your involvement with professional associations. *High ranking is given to teachers who contribute to their profession through involvement with professional associations and societies.*

Letters of support (Minimum 3)

**Teacher Excellence Award Evaluation Form
Elementary School Awards**

(This form should be completed by the affiliate review committee)

Candidate's name: _____ **Date:** _____

School: _____

Evidence of talent in teaching: (Maximum 4 pages)

Purpose: To determine what the candidate considers good teaching and how he or she goes about achieving it.

RANKING (circle)

high low

- | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | GOALS: <i>High ranking is given for goals that emphasize a broad understanding of technology and its application through problem solving and group work.</i> |
| 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | THE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT: <i>High ranking is given to a learning environment that is flexible, accepts a variety of answers to a given technological problem, that is accepting of failure, and that expects students to accept major responsibility in structuring their learning tasks.</i> |
| 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | EFFECTIVENESS: <i>High ranking is given to teachers who address the needs of varying levels of ability, provide activities that will interest both males and females, and who connect the study of technology with other disciplines and the world outside the school.</i> |
| 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | ASSESSMENT: <i>High ranking is given to teachers who use a variety of techniques to determine what students have learned about and can do with technology.</i> |

Comments:

Evidence of technology education practices: (Maximum 4 pages)

Purpose: To assess how the teacher views the knowledge and practices of technology as an important part of a student's total education.

RANKING (circle)

high low

- | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|--|
| 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | FUNDAMENTAL CONCEPTS: <i>High ranking is given for concepts that are fundamental for all students regardless of gender or ability.</i> |
| 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | CREATIVE IDEAS: <i>High ranking is given for activities that show creative use of resources and unique approaches in helping students understand technology.</i> |
| 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | GLOBAL CONTEXT: <i>High ranking is given to teachers who relate technology to the world outside the school.</i> |

Comments:

Background and experience (Maximum 1 page)

Purpose: To verify that the teacher has a strong educational background and a commitment to continuing his or her professional development.

RANKING (circle)

high low

4 3 2 1 TRAINING AND EDUCATION: *High ranking is given to teachers who are academically prepared to teach elementary school and see that they must maintain their expertise through a continuing education program.*

4 3 2 1 PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP AND INVOLVEMENT: *High ranking is given to teachers who contribute to their profession through involvement with professional associations and societies.*

Comments:

Total Ranking:

_____ **Evidence of talent in teaching**
_____ **Evidence of technology education practices**
_____ **Background and experience**
_____ **TOTAL SCORE**

Letters of support (Minimum 3)

Purpose: To determine the level of support that exists from colleagues, administrators, parents, and/or students for the candidate's nomination for a **Teacher Excellence Award**.

Comments:

International Technology Education Association
Teacher Excellence Award Data Form
(All information must be completed by the candidate. Please type or print.)

Personal Data:

Name: _____

Home Address: _____

City: _____ State/Province: _____ Zip: _____

Home Telephone: () _____ ITEA Membership No.: _____

Circle **ONE** of the following:

I am my affiliates - **Elementary, Middle/Junior High, High School** winner.

Education: (degrees and institutions)

Teaching Certificates held:

Number of years in education: _____

Number of years teaching technology education: _____

Number of years in present teaching position: _____

Present teaching assignment: (courses taught and grade level)

Affiliated participation: (offices held, committee assignments, conference presentations, etc.)

ITEA participation: (offices held, committee assignments, conference presentations, etc.)

School Data:

School Building Name: _____

Principal's Name: _____

School Address: _____

City: _____ State/Province: _____ Zip/PC: _____

School Telephone: () _____

Building enrollment: _____ Grades included in the building: _____

Number of technology teachers in the building: _____ In the district: _____

Technology education enrollment: (students per year) _____

Percentage: Males _____ **Females** _____

School District Name: _____

Superintendent's Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State/Province: _____ Zip/PC: _____

District Telephone: () _____

School Location: ___ Rural ___ Suburban ___ Inner City ___ Other (specify) _____

Statement of Belief: (no more than **50 words**)

This I believe about technology education in preparing students for their future:

Teacher's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Email: _____

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information of your affiliate representative <http://www.iteaconnect.org/Resources/affiliatereps.htm>. Please pay attention to affiliate association deadlines to allow for review, selection, and submission to ITEA by December 1st of each year.