

Elementary Teacher Excellence Award – General Information

Corporate Sponsor: Goodheart Willcox

The Teacher Excellence Award is one of the highest honors given to technology and engineering 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 ITEEA'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 technology and engineering education instruction of high quality, learner centered and relevant to a study of technology and engineering. Mandatory requirements include:

- The teacher must be nominated by an educator.
- The teacher must be a current ITEEA Professional member, or the school must be a current Elementary School member and have held membership for the preceding year in both ITEEA and its affiliated state/provincial association.
- The teacher must be certified to teach in technology/engineering education and must be a full-time technology/engineering 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 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 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 ITEEA Teacher 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.

Teacher Excellence Awards

The **Teacher Excellence Awards** program was established to identify outstanding technology and engineering 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. ITEEA 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 Award should provide evidence of the following characteristics:

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

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	ITEEA membership (two-year minimum) is validated through the ITEEA 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 ITEEA Teacher Excellence Awards Coordinator.
March/April	Awards are presented at the ITEEA Annual Conference.

Elementary School Teacher Excellence Award

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/engineering 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 ITEEA at the time of receiving the award and has been a member of ITEEA 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 and engineering education using accepted state/province or national standards.
- Be committed to continuing professional development.
- Contribute to the profession through ongoing service.

The Award Application

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 technology and engineering 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 technology and engineering 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 format showing the applicant interacting with students. Photo releases must be provided for any photos submitted.



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Documentation Checklist

(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 and engineering education units or activities you use. *High ranking is given for goals that emphasize a broad understanding of technology and engineering and their application through problem solving and group work.*
- THE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT:** Include a description of the ways you organize and manage the technology and engineering 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, is accepting of failure, and 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 and engineering 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 and engineering.*

Evidence of technology and engineering education practices: (Maximum 4 pages)

- FUNDAMENTAL CONCEPTS:** Include content outlines for your technology and engineering 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 and engineering 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 and engineering.*
- GLOBAL CONTEXT:** Identify ways your teaching helps students understand the impacts of technology on people, society, and the environment and how technology and engineering relate to citizenship, consumer, and career roles. *High ranking is given to teachers who relate technology and engineering 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)



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Evaluation Form

(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 engineering and their 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, is accepting of failure, and 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 studies of technology and engineering 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 and engineering education practices: (Maximum 4 pages)

Purpose: To assess how the teacher views the knowledge and practices of technology and engineering 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 and engineering.</i> |
| 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | GLOBAL CONTEXT: <i>High ranking is given to teachers who relate technology and engineering 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: <i>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.</i> |
| 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP AND INVOLVEMENT: <i>High ranking is given to teachers who contribute to their profession through involvement with professional associations and societies.</i> |

Comments:

Total Ranking:

_____ ***Evidence of talent in teaching***
_____ ***Evidence of technology and engineering 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:



Elementary School 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: () _____ ITEEA Membership No.: _____

Circle **ONE** of the following:

I am my affiliate's: **Elementary, Middle/Junior High, High School**
winner.

Education: (degrees and institutions)

Teaching Certificates held:

Number of years in education: _____

Number of years teaching technology/engineering 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.)

ITEEA 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/engineering teachers in the building: _____ In the district: _____

Technology and engineering 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 and engineering education in preparing students for their future:

Teacher's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Email: _____

Revised: 4-10 ITEEA

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