



Excellence in
Education[®]
Awards

in cooperation with the
Texas Association of Secondary School Principals
Texas Elementary Principals and Supervisors Association
Texas Association of School Administrators
Texas Parent Teacher Association
Texas Association of School Boards

2015 Early Childhood
Application



Helping Here.[®]

Purpose

The H-E-B Excellence in Education® Early Childhood Award is designed to support public or private schools that focus on the care and education of children under the age of five. The purpose of the award is to offer support to help create or enhance Kinder Readiness programs that prepare children to enter Kindergarten socially and academically ready to learn.

Eligibility

Eligible institutions include: all public schools or private schools working directly with children under the age of five, who are currently located within the H-E-B service area.

For the purpose of this Early Childhood Application, schools located within 60 miles of an H-E-B or Central Market store are considered in the H-E-B service area.

Criteria

To apply, applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Demonstrate both a passion and historical commitment to offering quality early childhood education and care in the community.
- Be successful in preparing students to enter Kindergarten both socially and academically ready to learn.
- Exhibit innovation and creativity in the classroom or program setting.

Evaluation Process

All complete, submitted applications will be screened and then scored by a panel of professional judges comprised of educators, administrators and community leaders.

Five (5) applicants will be selected by the panel and recognized as finalists.

Applications from the five (5) finalists will then be reviewed by a statewide selection committee.

The overall statewide winner will be announced during a recognition dinner and celebration to be held in May 2015.

Awards

The five (5) finalists will each be presented with a check for \$5,000 to apply towards enhancing their existing Kinder Readiness activities or creating new programs for the target population. A representative from each finalist will receive an all-expense paid trip to the awards celebration in May 2015. This includes a special reception in their honor. At the recognition dinner, the overall state winner will be announced and awarded an additional \$25,000 grant to apply towards either enhancing existing Kinder Readiness activities or creating new programs for the target population.

Application Guidelines

Applications may be submitted online or mailed in.

To complete an online application, please visit heb.com/education. The online application will be available until midnight on January 11, 2015.

If an applicant is mailing in an application rather than completing it online, please follow the guidelines below:

- Campus or Agency Name must be at the top of each page.
- Use no more than two pages (8.5" X 11") to answer each question.
- Use no smaller than 10 pt. type and no less than 1.5" line spacing.
- Please retain a copy of the application for your records, as materials will not be returned.
- Applications must be postmarked by midnight on January 11, 2015, to be eligible.

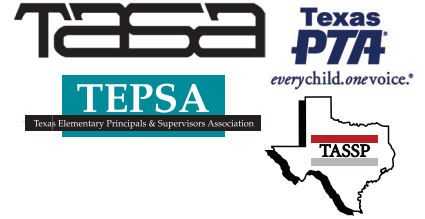
Please submit your completed application to:

H-E-B Excellence in Education Awards
6929 Airport Blvd. Suite 176
Austin, TX 78752

Once we have received your application, you will be notified via E-mail.
Please allow 3 - 5 days for processing.

**EARLY CHILDHOOD AWARD
APPLICATION FORM**

Type or clearly print your answers.



School/Organization Name: _____

Type of School: Private Public Not-For-Profit

Contact Name _____

Dr. _____ Mr. _____ Mrs. _____ Ms. _____

Title: _____

E-mail address: _____

Address: _____

_____ City State Zip

Phone: () _____ E-mail Address: _____

School District Information

School District Name (if applicable): _____

UIL Rating (if applicable): _____

TEA District Rating Small District (1A, 2A, 3A or 4A): _____ Large District (5A or 6A): _____

Classification: _____ Urban _____ Suburban _____ Rural

Early Childhood Facility Information

Ages of Children enrolled in early childhood program: _____

Total number of students enrolled throughout school/organization _____

Number of campuses or early childhood sites _____

Demographic breakdown of the student population:

Hispanic/Latino _____%

White _____%

Black or African American _____%

Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander _____%

American Indian or Alaska Native _____%

Asian _____%

Other _____%

Free & Reduced Lunch _____%

English Language Learners _____%

Special Needs _____%

Name of Person completing Application (if different than contact name above) _____

Title: _____

E-mail: _____

Phone: _____

PROFESSIONAL QUESTIONS

Directions: Please answer these questions as specifically as possible. Include data and supporting details about your program. Responses are limited to 1 page per question.

Program Description and Population Served

- 1. Describe your early childhood program, its unique setting, and the historical commitment to quality early childhood education.*
- 2. Describe the unique challenges the population served faces.*
- 3. Describe how the program addresses children with special needs.*
- 4. Explain how families are engaged in the early childhood program, especially in social and academic readiness areas.*
- 5. Describe any unique partnerships between the program, other local providers, and/or community based organizations.*

Curriculum Readiness

- 6. What curriculum and innovative/creative instructional strategies does the program use in the areas of social, emotional and academic readiness to ensure success in kindergarten?*
- 7. What tools are utilized to measure the program's success and children's readiness in the areas of social, emotional and academic areas needed for kindergarten? Provide specific data over a three year time-frame that confirms successful kindergarten readiness.*

Staff

- 8. Discuss the qualifications of the program staff, including the minimum requirements. Describe specialized training available for staff, especially in the areas of academic and social readiness for kindergarten.*

Program Enhancement

- 9. If selected as a regional finalist and/or the state winner, describe how the funds would be used to enhance existing activities or new programs for children and their families?*