

# 2011-2012 Educator of the Year (EOY) Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

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**NOMINATIONS DUE THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2011 NO LATER THAN 4:30 PM CST**

## GENERAL QUESTIONS

**Q1: Who is eligible to be nominated for the EOY?**

A1: Please refer to Eligibility Criteria (below)

Eligible	Ineligible
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Educators who have worked in a public and/or non-public school setting as a classroom teacher, librarian, etc. for a minimum of three years.</li> <li>• Demonstrate exceptional instructional skills;</li> <li>• Exceptionally dedicated, knowledgeable, and skilled educator in grades Pre-K through 12 planning to continue in an active teaching status in the subsequent school year;</li> <li>• Demonstrate campus leadership, as evidenced by their availability for participation above what is required;</li> <li>• Demonstrate leadership in the district and education profession, as evidenced by their contributions to the district, education profession, administrative personnel, and their willingness to work with colleagues and share ideas and expertise; AND</li> <li>• Demonstrate outstanding community involvement, as evidenced by their contributions to the community.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Any educator currently on a growth plan (i.e., Teacher In Need of Assistance, etc.);</li> <li>• Educators with unsatisfactory evaluations (below expectations etc.);</li> <li>• Any educator under consideration by Administration or the Northside ISD Board of Trustees for adverse contract action;</li> <li>• Educators who have been returned to “probationary” contracts from “continuing or term” contracts;</li> <li>• Campus and/or District Educator of the Year recipient within the last three years; AND</li> <li>• An educator determined ineligible at the discretion of the campus principal.</li> </ul>

**Q2: Can a campus nominate a CIT for the EOY award?**

A2: Yes. As long as the individual meets the eligibility criteria specified in Q1.

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**Q3: Are campus support teachers (i.e., reading and math specialists, etc.) and rotation teachers (i.e., music, P.E., etc.) eligible to be nominated for the EOY award?**

A3: Yes. As long as the individual meets the eligibility criteria specified in Q1.

**Q4: If a campus' nominee for EOY transfers to another NISD campus after the EOY application has been submitted, is this nominee still eligible to receive the award?**

A4: No. If a campus' nominee for EOY leaves the campus where s/he was nominated, s/he is ineligible for the award. The campus may then submit the name of an alternate.

**Q5: How often can a campus nominate an educator for the EOY award?**

A5: Educators who are **selected** as EOY for their respective campus can only be re-nominated three years after they receive their award. Additionally, any educator who receives the district's EOY award for elementary, middle or high school or the Trinity Prize nominee cannot be nominated again during a three year period.

**Q6: Once we nominate a teacher, can we advertise on our campus?**

A6: No. The list of campus nominees for EOY will be reviewed by the Superintendent's Cabinet and Senior Staff. Campus nominees are not final until approved by Cabinet and Senior Staff. Please notify the nominee early, as you **will** have to work with him/her to prepare the nomination. However, you **may not** publicly advertise (i.e., newsletter, marquee, assemblies, etc.) until given approval. **DO NOT MAKE CAMPUS NOMINATIONS PUBLIC UNTIL APPROVAL IS RECEIVED.**

## **APPLICATION PROCESS/TECHNICAL QUESTIONS**

**Q7: Who can submit a nomination?**

A7: Principal or principal's designee (i.e., Vice Principal or Academic Dean) may submit the application. Please note: due to the nature of the questions, teacher input is necessary to submit a nomination.

**Q8: Can I print application I submitted?**

A8: Yes. Before you submit, click the "Preview" button and print. It is also recommended that you save in a Word.doc before submission so you can save, cut and paste.

**Q9: What happens if I do not know how to complete the on-line application?**

A9: Support is available at the EOY website

<http://www.nisd.net/instruction/grants/recognitions/eoy>, which includes:

- Tutorial videos to guide applicants through the process

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- The Grants Department will host a Webinar that will be recorded and posted on the Educator of the Year website. Details will be available on the EOY website
- Contact the Grants Department at 210-397-8562 or [grants@nisd.net](mailto:grants@nisd.net)

**Q10: Can I edit my nomination after it has been submitted?**

A10: No. Only the first application submission will be accepted.

**Q11: Is there a district standard for nominating teachers?**

A11: No, however, there is a recommended model.

- STEP 1:** Each campus forms an “EOY” committee led by the campus principal.
- STEP 2:** A designated committee member distributes copies of the EOY nomination form to campus staff.
- STEP 3:** Campus staff nominate an EOY by submitting the provided nomination forms to the committee by a date determined by the committee.
- STEP 4:** The committee reviews the submissions and scores according to the EOY rubric.
- STEP 5:** The committee selects the EOY according to the ranking order.
- STEP 6:** The principal or principal’s designee (Vice Principal or Academic Dean) will submit the selected application/s to the Grants & Recognitions department as the campus EOY.

**Please Note: Only educators who meet the eligibility criteria may be nominated.**

**Q12: What awards are available for district EOY winners?**

A12: The EOY Selection Committee will select candidates to represent NISD for each of the following categories:

- 1. Trinity Prize for Excellence in Teaching**  
Nominee with the overall highest score.
- 2. Educator of the Year – Elementary – (PK-5)**  
Nominee with the overall highest score in this category, excluding Trinity Prize nominee.
- 3. Educator of the Year – Middle School – (6-8)**  
Nominee with the overall highest score in this category, excluding Trinity Prize nominee.
- 4. Educator of the Year – High School – (9-12)**  
Nominee with the overall highest score in this category, excluding Trinity Prize nominee.

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## **Q13: What is the Trinity Prize?**

A13: Since 1982, Trinity University, through its Department of Education, has sponsored the TRINITY PRIZE FOR EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING, to recognize and honor outstanding Early Childhood - Grade 12 school teachers in greater San Antonio. The Trinity Prize recognizes and honors teaching as a profession and those outstanding persons who distinguish themselves in their profession. Joining Trinity in sponsoring the prize activities in 2010, are H-E-B and The San Antonio Express-News. The NISD EOY with the highest score will be selected as the Trinity nominee. The Trinity nominee is ineligible to be considered for any of the remaining categories. This nominee will proceed to the regional competition for the Trinity Award.

## **Q14: What is the Texas Teacher of the Year Award?**

A14: Texas Teacher of the Year is the highest honor that the state of Texas can bestow upon a teacher. Facilitated by the Texas Education Agency, the Texas Teacher of the Year Program annually recognizes and rewards teachers who have demonstrated outstanding leadership and excellence in teaching. Excluding the district's Trinity Prize nominee, the highest ranking elementary and secondary educators will be nominated for the regional competition for the Texas State Teacher of the Year award.

## **Q15: What is the KENS 5 ExCEL Award?**

A15: SACU and KENS honors an educator from one of the public school districts with a *Golden Apple* trophy made by the company who creates the Oscar for the Academy Awards, a cash award for \$1,000 and featured airtime on Eyewitness News at 6. Excluding district nominees for the Trinity Prize, Texas State Teacher of the Year and winners of any district Educator of the Year category, the next highest ranking educator will be selected as the recipient of this award.

## **Q16: What is the San Antonio Mayoral Award?**

A16: The Mayoral/County Judge Outstanding Science and Mathematics Teaching Award honors outstanding new mathematics and science public school educators and encourages students and teachers to strive for excellence in these critical areas for the future of our community and our Nation. The overall NISD EOY rankings will help select participants for this award.

## **Q17: Are there other recognition opportunities available to NISD EOY nominees?**

A17: Yes. Previous NISD award winners have also been honored with regional, state, and national recognitions.