



2020 California Distinguished Schools Awards Program

**County Coordinator Web Conference
October 29, 2019**



TONY THURMOND
State Superintendent
of Public Instruction

Distinguished Schools Awards Program

- Distinguished School Awards Program 2020 – Elementary Cycle
- Continue to highlight model program practices,
- CDE's DS Web page will post:
 - DS launch letter
 - Program Information
 - Eligibility Criteria
 - Application
 - Sponsor Information
 - County Coordinator Contact Information
 - Past Awardees



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2020 Distinguished Schools Award Elementary School Eligibility Criteria

(K-8 designation or any other elementary designation is accepted)

Category 1: Closing the Achievement Gap

- Poverty Rate of at least 40% in the 2016-17 and 2017-18 school years.
- Highest % of growth that met standard in ELA OR Math between the 2016-17 and 2017-18 school year for the targeted students groups (AA, Homeless, Foster Youth, HI, SED, SWD and/or EL).
- The ALL student group must be Blue/Green for ELA and Math on the 2018 Dashboard.
- The ALL student group must be Blue/Green/Yellow on Suspension Indicator on the 2018 Dashboard.
- The ALL student group must be Blue/ Green/Yellow on the Chronic Absenteeism Indicator on the 2018 Dashboard.
- 95% participation rate in the 2016-17 and 2017-18 school year for both ELA and Math.



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2020 Distinguished Schools Award Elementary School Eligibility Criteria

Category 2: Exceptional Student Performance

- The ALL student group must be Blue in both ELA and Math on the 2018 Dashboard.
- The ALL student group must be Blue on the Suspension Indicator on the 2018 Dashboard.
- The ALL student group must be Blue on the Chronic Absenteeism Indicator on the 2018 Dashboard.
- 95% participation rate in the 2016-17 and 2017-18 school year for both ELA and Math.



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Distinguished Schools Award Elementary School Application

Email Application Submission:

- Email application submission only
- Certification of Principal and District Superintendent prior to submission of application
- All required application components must be completed
 - Clear, concise, and evidenced-based
- No bullets, tables, charts, graphs, or photos.
- The school overview must be answered in a narrative format.
- Hard deadline of December 6, 2019
- Must submit a school photo showing school name.



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Distinguished Schools Award Elementary School Application

Application Components:

- School Information
 - Must be filled out completely
- Eligibility Certification
 - I certify that I have reviewed the information contained in this Application and, to the best of my knowledge, it is complete and accurate. I further certify that:
 - The Office for Civil Rights does not have any outstanding findings of civil rights statute violations by the school or district that may affect the school;
 - There are no pending lawsuits by the Department of Justice against the district alleging that the school, or the district as a whole, has violated one or more of the civil rights statutes or the Constitution's equal protection clauses; and
 - The school or district is addressing or has addressed any identified areas of noncompliance under federal or state laws and regulations.
- School Demographics
 - Must be filled out completely



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School Overview

- School Overview
- School Overview Narrative: Limit response to 800 words
 - Provide a narrative describing an overview of your school, include each of the following:
 - The nature and context of the community, including a description of the students and families served within the surrounding area.
 - Include an overview of the student and community demographics, and what challenges or opportunities they provide.
 - The traditions, milestones, and/or the history of the school.
 - The key strategies used within the school that have encouraged and challenged all students to develop their full potential academically, emotionally, physically, socially, and/or culturally. For example, strategies could include curriculum, programs, initiatives, student and school supports, and leadership.
 - Include concrete examples of how the school helps students develop in all aspects of their lives. Curriculum, supports, unique initiatives, etc. should be included and show how they contribute to success.



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School Overview

- Additionally, if your school has previously received the California Distinguished Schools or Gold Ribbon Schools Award, describe how the recognition has been leveraged or served your school and its community. Address any changes that may have taken place with regard to curriculum and instruction, school climate and culture, professional development and capacity, school leadership philosophy, and family and community engagement.

Do not include bullets, tables, charts, graphs, and photos. The school overview must be answered in a narrative format. School personnel should always be referred to by their roles, rather than by their names. Acronyms must be spelled out the first time they are used.

Use the space available for the school overview narrative wisely, as you would for a news release. If your school is recognized as a California DS Awardee for 2020, your Application may become public and be posted on the CDE California DS Program web page. Please keep in mind that your eventual audience will likely include people who are unfamiliar with your school. Readers may include the media, parents (from your school and other schools), and other education professionals.



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Model Program and Practice

- Model Program Practice Summary
 - Provide the name and description of the **singular** Model Program and Practice: academic, assessment-related, or socio-emotional; that has been the **most instrumental** to your school's success.
- Model Program Practice Narrative
 - Provide a narrative describing your school's Model Program and Practice, for each of the following:
 - » Overview: **Limit response to 500 words**
 - » Implementation and Monitoring: **Limit response to 500 words**
 - » Results and Outcomes: **Limit response to 500 words**
- **Do not include bullets, tables, charts, graphs, and photos. The response must be answered in a narrative format.** School personnel should always be referred to by their roles, rather than by their names. Acronyms must be spelled out the first time they are used.
- **Use the space available for each of the Model Program and Practice Narratives wisely, as you would for a news release.** If your school is recognized as a California DS Awardee for 2020 your Application may become public and be posted on the CDE California DS Program web page. Please keep in mind that your eventual audience will likely include people who are unfamiliar with your school. Readers may include the media, parents (from your school and other schools), and other education professionals.



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School Photograph

- School Photograph
 - Provide a high-quality photograph of your school. The photograph must include the school name. For example: signage on the school building, a signboard, or banner.
 - The photograph must be: in a jpeg (.jpg) format, may not exceed 5 megabytes, and must be a minimum of 800 pixels wide. Please ensure you have signed releases, maintained at your school, from students and adults photographed that permit broad use of the photograph.
 - Submit your photograph with your completed Application. The school photograph file name should be the same as the Application file name—School Code followed by School name. For example: “0132704 Dublin High.jpg.”
 - Your school photograph will be displayed during the California School Recognition Program Awards Ceremony.



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Timeline of Activities

Date	Activity
October 31, 2019	Distinguished School (DS) Program Award Announcement and Application Release Date
December 6, 2019	DS Award Online Application Due Date
December 7-15, 2019	DS Application Review/Evaluation
December 16, 2019	DS Awardee Announcement/CSRP Awards Ceremony Registration Information
February 10, 2020	CSRP Award Ceremony held at the Disneyland Hotel and Conference Center



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2020 California Exemplary Districts

- This award will not be administered in 2020