



2015 Arizona ELL Teacher of the Year

The Arizona English Language Learner (ELL) Teacher of the Year award is a program developed by the Arizona Department of Education's Office of English Language Acquisition Services (OELAS) to honor teachers of English language learners. Here are some basic facts about the award:

What is the Arizona ELL Teacher of the Year Award?

It is an annual award that recognizes a teacher who demonstrates exemplary teaching of ELL students in the state of Arizona. This prestigious honor includes recognition from educators throughout Arizona, a generous cash award, and additional prizes.

How is it judged?

Finalists will be selected from the nominations received and asked to complete a full application for the award. These applications will be reviewed by a judging panel of distinguished peers with lengthy careers in education and extensive experience teaching ELL students. The judging panel will make a selection based on a rubric that is applied through numerous rounds of blind judging. Classroom visits may also be scheduled for finalists.

How is the honor announced?

The recipient's principal will be notified and OELAS staff members will schedule a surprise visit to the recipient's school. In addition, the Arizona ELL Teacher of the Year will be celebrated at a banquet in his/her honor held at the annual OELAS Conference. The 2015 OELAS Conference will be held December 9-11, 2015 at the JW Marriott Starr Pass Resort in Tucson, Arizona.

What are the duties?

The Arizona ELL Teacher of the Year will be asked to share his/her insights on ELL instruction via speaking engagements and collaborations.

Timeline:

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| • Call for Nominations: | May 2015 |
| • Nominations Due: | August 2015 |
| • Applications for Finalists Due: | September 2015 |
| • Judging Panel Convenes: | October 2015 |
| • Classroom Visit(s): | November 2015 |
| • Winner Notification: | November 2015 |
| • Presentation: | December 2015 |

How should you apply?

The nomination forms will be posted in May at <http://www.azed.gov/oelasconf/>. Nomination forms should be submitted by an administrator in the ELL teacher's school or district to Candis Middlebrook at Candis.Middlebrook@azed.gov. Nominations are due by August 17, 2015.