



State of Arizona
Department of Education

April 30, 2015

To: Arizona School District and Charter School Administrators

From: Office of English Language Acquisition Services

Re: 2015 Arizona ELL Teacher of the Year Nomination

Nominations for the 2015 Arizona ELL Teacher of the Year will open on **May 4, 2015** and close on **August 17, 2015**. A cash award, prizes, and recognition at the Arizona ELL Teacher of the Year Banquet at the 2015 OELAS Conference are included in this prestigious honor. The 2015 OELAS Conference will be held December 9-11, 2015 at the JW Marriott Starr Pass Resort in Tucson, Arizona.

Nominations should be submitted directly from administrators in the ELL teacher's school or district. Finalists chosen from the nominees will be asked to submit a full application.

Nominations should be based on the following criteria:

- Arizona Certified / Highly Qualified Teacher
- Presently employed in an Arizona school (public or charter)
- Currently teaching English language learners (ELLs)
- Three or more years of successful teaching experience with English language learners (ELLs)

The Arizona ELL Teacher of the Year nomination forms can be found online at <http://www.azed.gov/oelasconf/>. The submitted nomination should include:

- 1) Nomination Form / Signature Page
- 2) Letter of Recommendation (you may write this directly on the form)
- 3) Data Template (please complete the appropriate page of the Data Template based on the ELL teacher's grade level.)

You may return the forms electronically to Candis Middlebrook at Candis.Middlebrook@azed.gov. If an electronic signature is not available, please mail the signature page to Arizona Department of Education, 1535 West Jefferson Street Bin #31, Phoenix, Arizona 85007.

After **August 17, 2015**, nominations will be screened and finalists will be selected. The selected finalists and their nominators will be notified, and selected finalists will be asked to submit an Arizona ELL Teacher of the Year application (**due October 1, 2015**).

We encourage you to partake in this opportunity to nominate an exemplary Arizona ELL teacher(s) for this honor. Please contact Candis Middlebrook (Candis.Middlebrook@azed.gov) or Gerry Haskins (Gerry.Haskins@azed.gov) with any questions.

