

# National Title I Distinguished Schools Recognition Program 2008 – 2009 Application Form

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*Deadline for Submission: November 21, 2008*

## **Background**

The National Title I Distinguished Schools Recognition Program is a project sponsored by the National Association of State Title I Directors (NASTID). The purpose of the project is to highlight Title I schools from each state that have demonstrated significant sustained academic improvement.

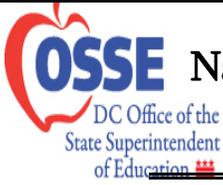
## **How It Works**

Each state may select a total of two schools, which have at least a 35 percent poverty rate, for national recognition. A school must represent one of the following categories:

- **Category 1:** A school that has exceeded its adequate yearly progress (AYP) for two or more consecutive years (NCLB, Section 1117 (b)(1)(B)(ii);
- **Category 2:** A school that has significantly closed the achievement gap among student groups including economically disadvantaged students; students from major racial and ethnic groups; student with disabilities; or student with limited English proficiency for two or more consecutive years (NCLB, Section 1117(B)(1)(B)(i)).

## **Selection Criteria**

- Calculated 35 percent or higher poverty rate for each year indicated;
- Demonstrated high academic achievement for two or more consecutive years;
- Met or exceeded state standards for making AYP for two or more consecutive years; and
- Fully accredited for two or more consecutive years.



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## **Application Requirements:**

In order to be considered for recognition, the application must include the following:

1. School narrative page as described below;
2. School participation form; and
3. Application components as described below.

## *Components of Application*

The following areas must be addressed in the application:

- One page narrative description of the school with one-inch margins, 11 point font size and doubled spaced. The narrative must include verification that the school has a 35 percent or higher poverty rate;
- School participation form; and
- Completion of the evidence of the school's success. One page in 11 point font size describing each evidence must be submitted. *See attached.*

## *Page Requirements:*

This application is limited to eight pages, inclusive of the school participation form, and the school narrative page.

## *Application Due Date:*

The 2008-2009 National Title I Distinguished Schools Recognition Program Application must be received in the Office of School Improvement on or before November 21, 2008. Please mail or hand deliver the completed application to Mrs. Tanisha Brown, Office of the State Superintendent of Education, Office of School Improvement, 51 N Street, N.E., 7<sup>th</sup> Floor, Washington, D.C. 20001

## *Questions:*

Please direct your questions to either Victorie Thomas or Marcus Moore Academic Improvement Specialists at 202-535-1894. They can also be reached by email at [victorie.thomas@dc.gov](mailto:victorie.thomas@dc.gov) or [marcus.moore@dc.gov](mailto:marcus.moore@dc.gov).

## School Participation Form

Nomination Category (Please check one option)

\_\_\_\_\_ Recognition for Sustained Academic Improvement

\_\_\_\_\_ Recognition for Closing the Achievement Gap

Local Education Agency Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Superintendent's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

School Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grades Served: \_\_\_\_\_

School Address, City, State, Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Principal's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

By agreeing to participate as a candidate for nomination to the National Title I Distinguished School Recognition Program, I certify to the best of my knowledge, the following statements are true:

1. The Office of Civil Rights (OCR) has not issued any letter of findings to the LEA concluding that the school has violated one or more of the civil rights statutes or that there is a LEA-wide violation that may affect the school. Or, if such a letter of findings has been issued, the LEA has remedied the violation(s) with a corrective action deemed suitable by OCR.
2. The nominated school has not refused OCR access to information necessary either to investigate a civil rights complaint or to conduct an LEA-wide compliance review.
3. The Department of Justice does not have a pending suit against the LEA alleging that the nominated school or the LEA as a whole, has violated one or more of the civil rights statutes or the Constitution's equal protection clauses.
4. The nominated school has demonstrated adequate yearly progress (AYP) according to the state standard set under Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act.
5. There are no findings or violations of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act in a U. S. Department of Education monitoring report that apply to the nominated school (or LEA as applicable) in question, and if there are such findings, the state (or LEA, as applicable) has corrected, or agreed to correct.
6. The nominated school has an obligation under section of the Rehabilitation Act to ensure that its proposed program(s) "is accessible to persons with disabilities."

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Superintendent (or designee)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



**National Title I Distinguished Schools Recognition Program**  
**SCHOOL NARRATIVE**

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**National Title I Distinguished Schools Recognition Program**  
**EVIDENCE OF THE SCHOOL'S SUCCESS**

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- A. Describe teaching and learning based on approved state curriculum for English/language arts and for mathematics.**

**B. Describe the research-based instruction strategies to support achievement of high standards (Include use of data to make instructional decisions).**

C. Describe the opportunities provided for all children to achieve (Indicate any specific subgroups with significant achievement gains).

D. Describe the coordination of Title I programs with other programs.

E. Describe the implementation of research-based professional development.

F. Describe the established partnerships with parents, families, and the communities.



## National Title I Distinguished Schools Recognition Program REVIEW CRITERIA

Low-Income Percentage: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Reviewed: \_\_\_\_\_

Nomination Category: \_\_\_\_\_ Significantly Closed Achievement Gap  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Exceeded Adequately Yearly Progress (AYP) Targets

School Type: \_\_\_\_\_ School-wide Program School  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Targeted Assistance School

### I. Program Attributes

Indicate with a check the extent the school provided descriptive evidence of:

	Exemplary	High	Moderate	None
A. Opportunities for all children to achieve.				
B. Professional Development				
C. Coordination with other programs.				
D. Curriculum and instruction to support achievement of high standards.				
E. Partnership among schools, Parents, and communities.				

### II. Effectiveness and Achievement

Indicate with a check the extent the school provided descriptive evidence of:

	Exemplary	High	Moderate	None
A. Standards of Learning tests (AYP results for 2 or more years in reading (English /language arts) and mathematics.				
B. Norm-referenced tests				
C. Other criterion-referenced tests				
D. Portfolios				
E. Writing Samples				
F. Description of how school utilizes research-based				

instructional strategies to improve student/school improvement				
G. School has been fully accredited for two or more consecutive years.				

**Overall Assessment:**

1. Did the school indicate factors contributing to its success? If so, please describe.

2. Did the application address all the required areas? If not, please specify areas not included.

NOTE: Only schools that receive an overall rating of **exemplary** or **high** in all categories may be nominated for national recognition.

Signature of Reviewer: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_