



TERMS AND CONDITIONS

The ECDA Awards for Excellence in Early Childhood Development ('ECDA Awards') recognises exemplary early childhood (EC) infant and early years educators, preschool educators, early intervention (EI) professionals, leaders, as well as preschools that have excelled in teaching and learning and in their innovative practice.

General Notes on Submitting for the ECDA Awards

- Before submitting a nomination, please ensure you read all terms and conditions listed in this document.
- All eligible nominations received¹ will remain valid for two-years.
- Please submit a separate nomination form if you wish to nominate more than 1 educator.
- For duplicate submissions by the same nominee, the latest submission will be used.
- Incomplete or late submissions including inaccessible links for the Google Drive folder will not be accepted.
- Any documentation altered or modified after the submission deadline will be not accepted.
- The judges' decisions are final. Any correspondence regarding the panel's decision will not be entertained.

¹ Applicable for Individual Awards and Outstanding Centre for Teaching & Learning Award only. This does not apply for the Early Childhood Innovation Award.

PRESIDENT'S AWARD FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD PROFESSIONALS

The President's Award for Early Childhood Professionals is the highest individual honour under the ECDA Awards framework. It recognises exemplary early childhood and early intervention professionals whose sustained excellence and leadership have had a meaningful impact beyond their own organisations.

There will be no separate nomination process for the President's Award. Candidates for the President's Award will be shortlisted from the nominees of the Outstanding Award across the individual ECDA Awards categories.

OUTSTANDING / PROMISING INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

- The **Outstanding Award**[^] is for individuals with **more than 5 years of trained experience**.
- The **Promising Award** is for individuals with **3 to 5 years of trained experience**.

**ECDA may consider good candidates for a commendation award on a case-by-case basis.*

^There is a time bar of three (3) years for past outstanding award winners before they may be nominated for the same Award again. However, they may be nominated for the other award categories (subject to meeting the eligibility criteria).

A. Categories

1. Outstanding / Promising Infant Educator and Early Years Educator Award

This Award recognises Infant Educators (teaching 2 months to 18 months) and Early Years Educator (teaching >18 months to 4 years).

Key Criteria	Provides curriculum and pedagogical quality, inclusive practices to support children's diverse learning and developmental needs, and strong partnerships with families
Eligibility	• Be a Singapore Citizen or Permanent Resident • In-service at a licensed Early Childhood Development Centre Infant Educator • ECDA-approved Infant Educator teaching infants aged 2 months to 18 months • Possess a valid Letter of Notification (LON), e.g EY1/EY2 • Possess relevant early childhood qualifications or State Registered Nurse (SRN) with Early Years Development Framework (EYDF) certification Early Years Educator • ECDA-approved Early Years Educator teaching children aged >18 months to 4 years

	• Possess a valid Letter of Notification (LON), e.g EY2/L1/L2 • Possess relevant early childhood qualifications (e.g., ACEY, ACECCE, DECCE-T or equivalent)
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2. Outstanding / Promising Preschool Educator Award

This Award recognises the exemplary achievements of Preschool Educators (teaching children 5 years to 6 years).

Key Criteria	Provides curriculum and pedagogical quality, inclusive practices to support children's diverse learning and developmental needs, and strong partnerships with families
Eligibility	• Be a Singapore Citizen or Permanent Resident • In-service at a licensed Early Childhood Development Centre or MOE Kindergarten • Teaching children aged 5 years to 6 years • Approved on One @ ECDA • Possess a valid L2 Letter of Notification (LON) • Possess relevant early childhood qualifications (e.g., DECCE-T or equivalent)

3. Outstanding / Promising Early Intervention Professional Award

This Award recognises the exemplary achievements of Early Intervention Professionals supporting preschool children (ages 6 years and below) with developmental needs.

Key Criteria	Delivers high quality learning support and early intervention support, exemplification of professional behaviours and fostering of strong partnerships with families and the community.
Eligibility	• Be a Singapore Citizen or Permanent Resident • In-service Early Intervention Educator, Learning Support Educator or Educational Therapy Professional whose core job function is to support preschool children (ages 6 and below) with developmental needs • Meet the qualification requirements: ○ Early Intervention Educators: To possess a valid Specialist Diploma in Early Childhood Intervention (Special Needs) (SDESN) or relevant qualifications in Special Needs/Early Intervention ○ Educational Therapy Professionals and Learning Support Educators: To possess a valid Specialist Diploma in Early Childhood (Learning Support) (SDELS) or relevant degree qualifications in Special Needs/Early Intervention/Early Childhood/Education. ○ For Early Intervention Educators working in autism: To possess a valid Certificate in Autism (CIA) or Higher Certificate in Autism (HCIA) offered by the Autism Resource Centre (ARC)

4. Outstanding / Promising Early Childhood Leader Award

This Award recognises the exemplary achievements of early childhood leaders of childcare centres and kindergartens who are role models excelling in organisational, curriculum and collaborative leadership.

Key Criteria	Exemplification of professional behaviours, curriculum and pedagogical leadership, and ability to lead teams to foster community and family partnerships to positively impact children and families.
Eligibility	• Be a Singapore citizen or a Permanent Resident • In-service Principal at a licensed Early Childhood Development Centre (ECDC) or MOE Kindergarten • Approved as a Principal on One @ ECDA (employment title on One@ECDA) • Possesses a valid L2 Letter of Notification (LON) • Possess relevant early childhood leadership qualification.

B. Award Quantum for Outstanding/ Promising Individual Award Recipients

Award Quantum	• Outstanding Award: \$5000 • Outstanding (Commendation) Award: \$2000 • Promising Award: \$2000 ▪ Award winners are encouraged to use the prize money for their professional development and/or well-being. ▪ Award winners will also receive a trophy / plaque and certificate.
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CENTRE AWARDS

The Centre Awards recognises preschools have dedicated to delivering early childhood care and education, and bring creativity and innovation to learning and beyond.

A. Categories

1. Outstanding*^ Centre for Teaching and Learning Award

This Award recognises Early Childhood Development Centres (ECDCs) and MOE Kindergartens with excellent programmes, processes and learning environments that promote outstanding teaching and learning practices, supporting children's learning, development, and well-being.

**ECDA may consider good candidates for a commendation award on a case-by-case basis*

^There is a time bar of five (5) years for past Outstanding winners of the Award before the centre may be nominated for the award again.

Key Criteria	Provides inclusive practices supporting children's diverse learning and developmental needs, collaborative partnerships with families and the community, and delivery of high-quality early childhood education and care.
Eligibility	• Licensed Early Childhood Development Centre (ECDC) or MOE Kindergarten. • Have an excellent track record with ECDA and MOE. • For ECDCs, to minimally have a 24-month licence tenure and compliance with the staffing requirements as per the licence tenure. • Appointed Principals are approved and have the relevant early childhood leadership qualifications.
Award Quantum	• Outstanding Winner: \$10000 • Commendation Winner: \$3000 ▪ Award winners are encouraged to use the prize money for centre's professional development and/or staff's well-being. ▪ Award winners will also receive a trophy / plaque and certificate.

2. Early Childhood Innovation Award

This Award recognises Early Childhood Development Centres (ECDCs), MOE Kindergartens and Early Intervention organisations that foster a culture of innovation and implement innovative practices which enhance programmes, processes, or services to benefit children and families.

Key Criteria	Implementation of innovative practices that enhance programmes, processes, or services, including projects promoting inclusive practices to benefit children and families.
Eligibility	• Licensed Early Childhood Development Centre (ECDC), MOE Kindergarten or Early Intervention organisation providing programmes that support children 6 years and below • Have a good track record with ECDA and MOE. For ECDCs, minimally a 12-month licence tenure. • Nominated project must have been implemented in 2025 and completed at the time of submission.
Award Quantum	• Distinction Project: \$6000 • Merit Project: \$3000 • Commendation Project: 2000 ▪ Award winners are encouraged to use the prize money for centre's professional development and/or staff's well-being. ▪ Award winners will also receive a trophy / plaque and certificate.

Code of Conduct for All Award Winners (Centre or Individual)

All Award Winners must adhere to the following Code of Conduct. Failure to comply with this code will result in **immediate revocation of the Award by ECDA**, including removal from ECDA's website, publications, and notification to relevant parties.

1. Professional Conduct and Integrity

- Award winners must not have been convicted of a criminal offence without pardon.
- Award winners must not have breached ECDA's regulations and been subject to any actions or sanctions by ECDA.
- Award winners must conduct themselves professionally, in accordance with preschool centre standards.
- Award winners must ensure the proper and responsible use of the Award quantum.

2. Media and Commercial Activities

- Award winners may be invited to share their practices at early childhood platforms (e.g., Early Childhood Conference, Beanstalk website and social media, Engagement/Connect Sessions, etc.), and media channels.
- Award winners must respond to queries about the Awards fairly, professionally, and without bias.
- Award winners must not misuse their award status to promote political views.
- Award winners must not make public statements and comments about ECDA or the Awards without prior approval from ECDA. If an Award winner makes public statements about ECDA or the Awards in a private capacity, they must clearly state that their personal views are not those of ECDA or any government departments.

3. Confidentiality

- Award winners must keep all information provided by ECDA confidential where indicated (verbally or written). This confidentiality obligation continues indefinitely unless the information becomes publicly available.