in cooperation with
Texas Association of Secondary School Principals
Texas Elementary Principals and Supervisors Association
Texas Association of School Administrators
Texas Parent Teacher Association
Texas Association of School Boards

2020 Early Childhood Application
Purpose
The H-E-B Excellence in Education® Early Childhood Award is designed to support public or private schools that focus on the care and education of children under the age of five. The purpose of the award is to offer support to help create or enhance Kinder Readiness programs that prepare children to enter kindergarten socially and academically ready to learn.

Eligibility
Eligible institutions include: all public schools or private schools in Texas working directly with children under the age of five.

Criteria
To apply, applicants must meet the following criteria:
- Demonstrate both a passion and commitment to offering quality early childhood education and care in the community.
- Be successful in preparing students to enter kindergarten both socially and academically ready to learn.
- Exhibit innovation in the classroom or program setting.

Evaluation Process
All complete, submitted applications will be screened and then scored by a panel of professional judges comprised of educators, administrators and community leaders. Five (5) applicants will be selected by the panel and recognized as finalists.

Applications from the five (5) finalists will then be reviewed by a statewide selection committee. The overall statewide winner will be announced during a recognition dinner and celebration to be held in May 2020.

Awards
The five (5) finalists will each be presented with a check for $5,000 to apply towards enhancing their existing kinder readiness activities or creating new programs for the target population. A representative from each finalist will receive an all-expense paid trip to the awards celebration in May 2020. This includes a special reception in their honor. At the recognition dinner, the overall state winner will be announced and awarded an additional $25,000 grant to apply towards either enhancing existing kinder readiness activities or creating new programs for the target population.

Application Guidelines
Applications may be submitted online or mailed in.
To complete an online application, please visit heb.com/education. The online application will be available until midnight on December 9, 2019.

If an applicant is mailing in an application rather than completing it online, please follow the guidelines below:
- Campus or Agency Name must be at the top of each page.
- Use no more than one page (8.5” X 11”) to answer each question.
- Use no smaller than 10 pt. type and no less than 1.5” line spacing.
- Please retain a copy of the application for your records, as materials will not be returned.
- Applications must be postmarked by midnight on December 9, 2019, to be eligible.

Please submit your completed application to:
H-E-B Excellence in Education Awards
8100 Cameron Rd.
Bldg. A, Suite 200
Austin, TX 78754

Once we have received your application, you will be notified via E-mail. Please allow 3 - 5 days for processing.
Early Childhood Center/Organization: _________________________________________________________________

Type of School: □ Private       □ Public       □ Not-For-Profit; Type of Accreditation __________________________

Director / Principal Name: ___________________________________________________________________________

Dr. __________________ Mr. _________________ Mrs. _________________ Ms._________________

Title: _____________________________________

Address: _________________________________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________________________________________

City     State    Zip

Phone: (      ) ________________ E-mail: _______________________  Web Address: ___________________________

School District Information

School District Name (if applicable): __________________________________________________________________

UIL Rating (if applicable):

TEA District Rating Small District (1A, 2A, 3A or 4A): ______________ Large District (5A or 6A): ______________

Classification: ___________ Urban ___________ Suburban ___________ Rural

Early Childhood Facility Information

Ages of Children enrolled in early childhood program: ___________________________________________________

Total number of students enrolled in your early childhood/Pre-K Program ______________

Number of campuses or early childhood sites ______________

Is your early childhood program: □ Full Day       □ Half Day       □ Both

Demographic breakdown of the student population:

Hispanic/Latino_____%                                    White____%

Black or African American_____%                      Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander____%

American Indian or Alaska Native_____%           Asian____%

Other_____%       Free & Reduced Lunch____%

English Language Learners_____%       Special Needs _____%

Is your program affiliated with Head Start?   YES _______  NO _______

Is your program supported with services and funding from the local education agency (a.k.a. ISD)?   YES ____ NO ____

Name of person completing Application (if different than name above) ______________________________________

Title: _____________________________________________________________________________________________

E-mail: ____________________________________________________________________________________________

Phone: ____________________________________________________________________________________________

March, 2019
This award recognizes “Excellence in Education.” While excellent strategies are being implemented in many early childhood programs, the winner of the award in Early Childhood Education becomes a standard-bearer for excellence. As you complete this application, make sure to point out how your program is unique in demonstrating excellence.

**Program Description and Commitment**

1. Describe your early childhood program and its commitment to quality education.

2. What sets your program apart from other early childhood programs?

**Curriculum Readiness**

Consider the ways in which your curriculum is distinctive in its innovation and/or instructional strategies when answering the following questions.

3. Describe how your curriculum is child-centered.

4. How do you adjust your curriculum to meet the needs and interests of your children?

**Family Engagement**

5. What sets your family engagement program apart from others, especially with the development of young children in the following areas: social emotional development, literacy, numeracy, nutrition, and any other areas your school has identified as a focus?

6. Many early childhood programs work with children and families who face challenges. What specific unique challenges does your program’s population face and how is your program addressing these challenges?

**Partnerships**

7. Describe unique/outstanding partnerships between the early childhood program, local providers, community-based organizations and/or school districts.