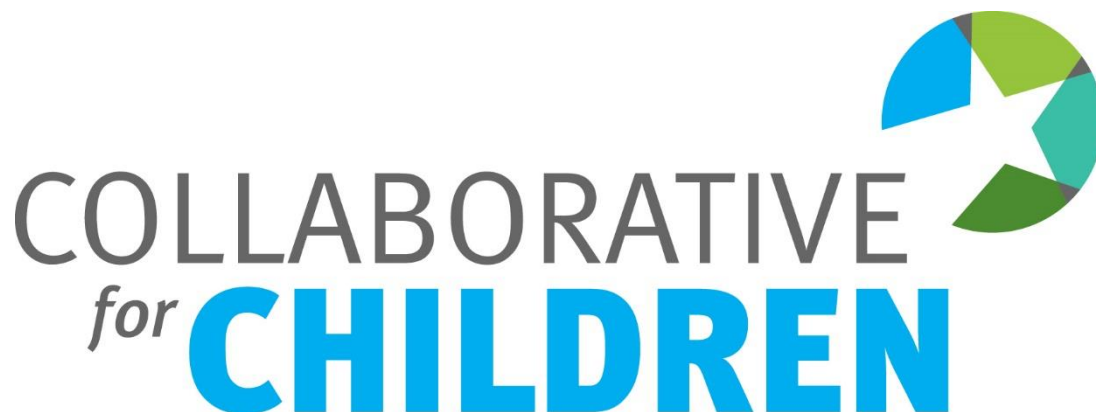


Elsie Samuels Early Childhood Educator Excellence Award
Teacher Application



Application Deadline:
Completed applications must be submitted to
Collaborative for Children no later than:

September 29, 2023

Submit Application with Supporting Documents
by email.
Esamuels@collabforchildren.org

Teacher
A lifelong giver, unconditionally loving of her family and the family of humankind.

APPLICATION PURPOSE AND AVAILABILITY

This application is for teachers to apply for **The Elsie Samuels Early Childhood Educator Excellence Award**. To apply, teachers must first be nominated by their mentor, director, or a parent in their classroom. Eligible teachers exhibit an exemplary commitment to educating a diverse population of young learners with distinction. The recipient will receive a \$2000 scholarship. All awards are contingent upon and subject to appropriation, allocation, and availability of funding through Collaborative for Children.

APPLICATION REVIEW PROCESS

A non-conflicted Award Selection Committee is a diverse group of volunteer stakeholders that will work to select the final recipient of **The Elsie Samuels Early Childhood Educator Excellence Award**. The Award Selection Committee will screen applications to select the final award recipient. The Award Selection Committee will request Educator Showcases from the five semi-finalists and arrange classroom visits of the three finalists.

APPLICATION DEADLINE

Completed applications must be received by **5:00 PM on September 29, 2023**. Applications received after the deadline will not be accepted for review. Email the application with supporting documents.

APPLICANT ASSURANCES and REQUIREMENTS

- A. Award candidates must be a full time employee of a child care center or home.
- B. Award candidates must have been nominated by their mentor, director, or parent in their classroom during the initial nomination period.
- C. Award candidates must be the teacher of record in a classroom that serves children 5 years of age or younger.
- D. Award candidates must hold a High School Diploma; extra credit will be awarded to candidates with a Child Development Associate Certification, Montessori Certification, or an associate's or bachelor's degree in education.
- E. Award candidates must have at least 3 years of classroom experience.
- F. The writing samples and Educator Showcase will be reviewed confidentially by the Award Selection Committee.
- G. Schools must be in good standing with licensing throughout the selection process (not on probation or corrective action).

This signature certifies that the applicant has read the assurances and requirements and agrees to follow the requirements should this application be awarded by the Award Selection Committee.

Teacher Signature

Date

SCHOOL INFORMATION

(to be completed by director)

Name of School:

Facility License Number:

Administrator Name:

Administrator Title:

Email Address:

Street address:

Mailing address:

City:

State:

Zip Code:

Phone Number:

Fax Number:

Site Classification (Check One): Private Non-Profit Child Care Private For-Profit Child Care Center Child Care Center Home

PROGRAM INFORMATION

(to be completed by director)

The nominated teacher works with their classroom of children for at least 32 1/2 hours a week and does not exceed 40 hours a week.

Currently Met Not Met Plan to Meet

Instructional staff (teachers and assistants) require additional time outside of the day-to-day instructional experiences for related instructional activities, including time for planning, meeting with children's families, and/or attending required professional development activities. Do teachers receive time outside the instructional day for related instructional activities?

Currently Met Not Met Plan to Meet

What Professional Development has been offered to staff in the last year? Please list specific training topics:

Is your staff knowledgeable about the Texas Early Learning Guidelines and the Pre-K Guidelines?

Yes No

Curriculum used in the classroom:

Assessment tool(s) used in the classroom:

TEACHER INFORMATION

Name:		
Email Address:		
Street Address:		
Mailing Address:		
City:	State:	Zip Code:
Phone Number:	Phone Number:	
Age group currently teaching:		

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

(Attach additional documentation if needed.)

<i>Certifications</i>	<i>Date Earned</i>	<i>Expiration Date</i>

<i>High School or College/University</i>	<i>Dates attended</i>	<i>Major</i>	<i>Degree</i>

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

(with young children)

<i>Employer</i>	<i>Beginning date</i>	<i>Ending date</i>

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE CONTINUED

Ages of children taught	Years of experience	Total years in Early Childhood Education
<i>Infants</i>		
<i>Toddlers</i>		
<i>Twos</i>		
<i>Preschool (3-4 year olds)</i>		
<i>Pre-K (4-5 year olds)</i>		

Professional Organization Membership

<i>Organization</i>	<i>Dates of membership</i>

Previous Awards

<i>Name of Award</i>	<i>Year Awarded</i>

Are you interested in pursuing additional education?

Yes, and I am enrolled in classes. Yes. Not at this time.

ADDITIONAL REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

Writing Sample

Communicating clearly with a variety of people is an integral part of teaching.

Please write a Personal Statement (double spaced, 12 pt. font) approximately 200 words.

In addition, choose **one** question from the list below and write a 200 word response for **one** question.

- What strategies have you used to encourage family engagement?
- What is your plan for supporting children with identified disabilities or behavioral challenges and their families?
- What strategies do you use to include technology in your daily routine?
- What is your plan for communicating with and supporting children and families who do not speak English or have limited English proficiency?
- What strategies do you use to encourage critical thinking in your classroom?
- How do you plan for children's learning?

Letters of recommendation

Include a letter from each of the people listed below. The letters must be current and reflective of your professional work.

1. your direct supervisor

Educator Showcase

Create a digital version of your Educator Showcase. Include the following:

- Title page
- Artifacts (photos, lesson plan samples, artwork, etc.)
 - a minimum of 3 photos; include description of activity or event
 - a minimum of 1 complete lesson plan; lesson plans should be no more than six months old
- Credentials and Certificates earned within the last year

SIGNATURES

This application is complete, and all information is accurate to the best of my knowledge. I understand that if any information is found to be false, I will be deemed ineligible to participate in the Elsie Samuels Early Childhood Educator Excellence Award.

Teacher Signature

Date

Director Signature

Date

Nominated by

E-mail completed application to:
Esamuels@collabforchildren.org

★ ★ ★ COMPLETED APPLICATIONS ARE DUE BY 5:00 PM ON September 29, 2023 ★ ★ ★