



## TERMS AND CONDITIONS

The Early Childhood Development Agency (ECDA) invites nominations for deserving individuals and preschools for the ECDA Awards 2026. Nominations are to be submitted by operators, HQ personnel or centre leaders. Parents interested in submitting nominations for an educator or preschool may liaise with their child's preschool. Nominations may be submitted through the following forms:

<b>Individual Awards</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Outstanding/ Promising Infant Educator and Early Years Educator</li><li>• Outstanding/ Promising Preschool Educator</li><li>• Outstanding/ Promising Early Intervention Professional</li><li>• Outstanding/ Promising Early Childhood Leader</li></ul>	 <a href="https://go.gov.sg/ecdaawards2026-individualawards">https://go.gov.sg/ecdaawards2026-individualawards</a>
<b>Centre Awards</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Outstanding Centre for Teaching &amp; Learning</li><li>• Early Childhood Innovation</li></ul>	 <a href="https://go.gov.sg/ecdaawards2026-centreawards">https://go.gov.sg/ecdaawards2026-centreawards</a>

## **How to Apply**

- Identify your nominee.
- Complete the online nomination form and submit the mandatory documentation through a Google Drive folder. Ensure the submitted documentation highlights the exemplary qualities of your nominee.

## **General Notes**

- Before submitting a nomination, please ensure you read all terms and conditions listed in this document.
- All eligible nominations received<sup>1</sup> will remain valid for two-years, i.e 2026 and 2027.
- 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.

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

## INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

The Individual Awards recognises Outstanding or Promising educators, early intervention professionals and early childhood leaders who are role models in providing high early childhood care and education.

- The **Outstanding Award**<sup>\*^</sup> is for individuals with **more than 5 years of trained experience**. ECDA may on a case-by-case basis consider good candidates for a Commendation Award.
- 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.*

*<sup>^</sup>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).

<b>Key Criteria</b>	Provides curriculum and pedagogical quality, inclusive practices to support children's diverse learning and developmental needs, and strong partnerships with families
<b>Eligibility</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Be a Singapore Citizen or Permanent Resident</li><li>• In-service at a licensed Early Childhood Development Centre</li></ul> <p><b>Infant Educator</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• ECDA-approved Infant Educator teaching infants aged 2 months to 18 months</li><li>• Possess a valid Letter of Notification (LON), e.g EY1/EY2</li><li>• Possess relevant early childhood qualifications or State Registered Nurse (SRN) with Early Years Development Framework (EYDF) certification</li></ul> <p><b>Early Years Educator</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• ECDA-approved Early Years Educator teaching children aged &gt;18 months to 4 years</li><li>• Possess a valid Letter of Notification (LON), e.g EY2/L1/L2</li><li>• Possess relevant early childhood qualifications (e.g., ACEY, ACECCE, DECCE-T or equivalent)</li></ul>

## **2. Outstanding / Promising Preschool Educator Award**

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

<b>Key Criteria</b>	Provides curriculum and pedagogical quality, inclusive practices to support children's diverse learning and developmental needs, and strong partnerships with families
<b>Eligibility</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Be a Singapore Citizen or Permanent Resident</li><li>• In-service at a licensed Early Childhood Development Centre or MOE Kindergarten</li><li>• Teaching children aged 5 years to 6 years</li><li>• Approved on One @ ECDA</li><li>• Possess a valid L2 Letter of Notification (LON)</li><li>• Possess relevant early childhood qualifications (e.g., DECCE-T or equivalent)</li></ul>

### **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.

<b>Key Criteria</b>	Delivers high quality learning support and early intervention support, exemplification of professional behaviours and fostering of strong partnerships with families and the community.
<b>Eligibility</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Be a Singapore Citizen or Permanent Resident</li><li>• 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</li><li>• Meet the qualification requirements:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Early Intervention Educators: To possess a valid Specialist Diploma in Early Childhood Intervention (Special Needs) (SDESCN) or relevant qualifications in Special Needs/Early Intervention</li><li>○ 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.</li><li>○ 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)</li></ul></li></ul>

#### **4. Outstanding / Promising Early Chidlhood 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.

<b>Key Criteria</b>	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.
<b>Eligibility</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Be a Singapore citizen or a Permanent Resident</li><li>• In-service Principal at a licensed Early Childhood Development Centre (ECDC) or MOE Kindergarten</li><li>• Approved as a Principal on One @ ECDA (employment title on One@ECDA)</li><li>• Possesses a valid L2 Letter of Notification (LON)</li><li>• Possess relevant early childhood leadership qualification.</li></ul>

## **B. Award Quantum For Individual Award Recipients**

<b>Award Quantum</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Outstanding Award: \$5000</li><li>• Outstanding (Commendation) Award: \$2000</li><li>• Promising Award: \$2000</li></ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Award winners are encouraged to use the prize money for their professional development and/or well-being.</li><li>▪ Award winners will also receive a trophy / plaque and certificate.</li></ul>
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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.*

<b>Key Criteria</b>	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.
<b>Eligibility</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Licensed Early Childhood Development Centre (ECDC) or MOE Kindergarten.</li><li>• Have an excellent track record with ECDA and MOE. For ECDCs, minimally a 24-month licence tenure and compliance with the staffing requirements as per the licence tenure.</li><li>• Appointed Principals are approved and have the relevant early childhood leadership qualifications.</li></ul>
<b>Award Quantum</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Outstanding Winner: \$10000</li><li>• Commendation Winner: \$3000</li><li>▪ Award winners are encouraged to use the prize money for centre's professional development and/or staff's well-being.</li><li>▪ Award winners will also receive a trophy / plaque and certificate.</li></ul>

## 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.

<b>Key Criteria</b>	Implementation of innovative practices that enhance programmes, processes, or services, including projects promoting <b>inclusive practices</b> to benefit children and families.
<b>Eligibility</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Licensed Early Childhood Development Centre (ECDC), MOE Kindergarten or Early Intervention organisation providing programmes that support children 6 years and below</li><li>• Have a good track record with ECDA and MOE. For ECDCs, minimally a 12-month licence tenure.</li><li>• Nominated project must have been implemented in 2025 and completed at the time of submission.</li></ul>
<b>Award Quantum</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Distinction Project: \$6000</li><li>• Merit Project: \$3000</li><li>• Commendation Project: 2000</li><li>▪ Award winners are encouraged to use the prize money for centre's professional development and/or staff's well-being.</li><li>▪ Award winners will also receive a trophy / plaque and certificate.</li></ul>

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

The Award winner must adhere to the following Code of Conduct, which is fundamental to being selected as an Award recipient. Failure to comply with this code will result in the **revocation of the Award immediately by ECDA**, including the removal of the winner's name from ECDA's website, publications, and notification to any relevant parties.

### **1. Professional Conduct and Integrity**

- Award winners (Individual or Centre) must not have been convicted of a criminal offence in which they have not received a pardon.
- Award winners must not breach ECDA's regulations and should not have been subject to any actions or sanctions by ECDA.
- Award winners (Individual or Centre) must conduct themselves professionally, in alignment with the standards set by the preschool centre.
- Award winners (Individual or Centre) must ensure, to the best of their ability, the proper and efficient use of the Award quantum received.

### **2. Media and Commercial Activities**

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

### **3. Confidentiality**

- Award winners (Individual or Centre) must ensure that they keep confidential any information provided by ECDA that is marked confidential, or otherwise indicated (verbally or written) as confidential by ECDA. This confidentiality obligation continues indefinitely, except for information that becomes public knowledge.