

Educating Georgia's Future

National ESEA Distinguished Schools

All Title I Distinguished Schools that operate as school-wide programs are invited to submit an application for one of the two schools to represent Georgia as a National ESEA Distinguished School. These two schools are recognized at the National ESEA conference sponsored by the National Association of ESEA State Program Administrators (NAESPA).



Recognition

The two schools named Georgia's National ESEA Distinguished Schools receive:

- \$20,000 from state Title I funds to facilitate participation in the NAESPA conference and participate in the National ESEA Distinguished Schools recognition ceremony.
- The two nationally identified schools may also receive recognition paraphernalia (flags, certificates, etc.) from the NAESPA organization.
- National Distinguished Schools are listed on the Title I website.

Qualifying Criteria and Selection Process

- Invite all Title I Distinguished Schools operating as school-wide programs to make application for the National ESEA Distinguished award.
- Applications are submitted for review in one of the following three categories:
 - Exceptional student performance and academic growth for two or more consecutive years
 - Closing the achievement gap between student groups for two or more consecutive years
 - Excellence in serving special populations of students
- Applicants describe how the school incorporated each of the following components to support student achievement:
 - Instructional Program
 - Professional Learning
 - Collaboration
 - Use of Federal funds to support interventions
- Applications received are assigned a number and identifying information redacted to provide complete anonymity to all reviewers.
- Applications are read blindly and scored on the scoring rubric by multiple reviewers. The average of the scores is then added to points given based on the poverty percentage of the school. These points are included in the scoring rubric of the applications.
- The top two schools with the highest scores are named as Georgia's representatives for the National ESEA Distinguished School Award sponsored by NAESPA.