



COMMISSIONER'S RECOGNITION AWARDS

— FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION —

2023-2024 Family and Community Involvement Awards

The Family and Community Involvement Awards are presented annually to innovative school-based programs which cultivate exemplary family, community and school partnerships to enhance student success in Florida's K-12 public schools.

Timeline

- May 10** Applications are distributed to superintendents and district volunteer coordinators.
- May 24** Applications must be submitted online at [2023-2024 Family and Community Involvement Award](#). All documentation must be submitted electronically as part of the online application. Submissions received after **May 24, 2024**, will not be considered.
- May/June** State selection committee reviews nominees.
- June** Announcements of the Family and Community Involvement Award winners are made.

Eligibility

Programs must meet the following requirements to be nominated for the Family and Community Involvement Award:

- 1) Each district may nominate one program in each of two (2) categories: **Elementary** (K-5) and **Secondary** (6-12).
- 2) Nominations must be school-based programs that focus on school-initiated family and community involvement activities and strategies.

Nomination Criteria

A nomination for the Family and Community Involvement Award should demonstrate innovative practices which support Florida students and schools in the following ways:

- Removing barriers between school and family;
- Providing resources for families from all backgrounds;
- Building resiliency;
- Fostering communication between education partners;
- Promoting volunteerism, mentorship and citizenship;
- Supporting unique populations, e.g., military families; and
- Improving student attendance and learning outcomes.

Nominations will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- **Purpose and Innovation:** Consider the capacity of the program to meet specific school needs and goals as identified in the school improvement plan, the innovative strategies used to meet that need, and the improvements to the school community.
- **Outreach and Engagement:** Consider the degree of outreach efforts (e.g., newsletters, social media, flyers, announcements, word of mouth) and the level of success in soliciting family and community member support and participation and establishing ongoing engagement.
- **Impact, Sustain and Replicate:** Consider factors such as cost, time commitment, participation and steps needed to continue and build upon the program; the degree to which families and the community remain meaningfully engaged with the school; in what ways involvement supports student success; and how the program may be replicated.

Application Submission

Once district nominations have been determined, the District Volunteer Coordinator may access the online application at [2023-2024 Family and Community Involvement Award](#). A separate nomination form must be submitted for each category.

Acknowledgement statements from the Superintendent and the Principal with signatures must be submitted. Please name these files “*District-Superintendent Last Name*” and “*District-Principal Last Name*” and upload with the application.

Applications must be received by **Friday, May 24, 2024**, to be considered by the selection committee. The selection committee will consider and review only the required materials, thus additional materials should not be submitted with the application.

SAMPLE SUPERINTENDENT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT

[SCHOOL DISTRICT LETTERHEAD]

[Month XX], 2024

The [SCHOOL DISTRICT] is pleased to nominate [PROGRAM NAME] for the **2023-2024 Family and Community Involvement Award**.

Additional information concerning our nomination may be directed to [NAME], Volunteer Coordinator, at [PHONE] or by email at [EMAIL ADDRESS].

Sincerely,

[NAME], Superintendent
[SCHOOL DISTRICT]

SAMPLE PRINCIPAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT

[SCHOOL LETTERHEAD]

[Month XX], 2024

[SCHOOL] is pleased to nominate [PROGRAM NAME] for the **2023-2024 Family and Community Involvement Award**.

Additional information concerning our nomination may be directed to [NAME], Volunteer Coordinator, at [PHONE] or by email at [EMAIL ADDRESS].

Sincerely,

[NAME], Principal
[SCHOOL]