



Introduction

The National Teaching Awards scheme, which was conceptualised and launched in 2000, now enters its second year of national implementation. Through extensive consultation, the scheme has been refined, sharpened and broadened in terms of its framework and categories. This flyer, therefore, welcomes you to the National Teaching Awards scheme for 2001.

Objective

The Ministry of Education wishes to focus public attention on the positive aspects of education, thereby raising the public image of education, through:

- Recognising and promoting excellence in teaching performance.
- Honouring dedicated, creative and effective teachers and schools.
- Encouraging best practice in schools.
- Boosting teacher morale.
- Affording South Africans the opportunity to publicly say thank you to outstanding teachers and schools.

Categories and Awards

The applicable categories are:

- Excellence in Primary School Teaching
- Excellence in Secondary School Teaching
- Excellence in Leadership at Primary School Level
- Excellence in Leadership at Secondary School Level
- Excellence in Early Childhood Development
- Excellence in Special Needs Teaching
- Lifetime Achievement Award

The following awards apply:

- Regional finalists: Certificate of Excellence and the school receives a cash award of R2 500.
- Provincial finalists: Certificate of Excellence and a plaque, and the school receives a cash award of R5 000.
- National finalists: Certificate of excellence plus a trophy, and the school receives a cash award of R10 000.

General criteria

The commitment of educators to the following serves as general assessment criteria:

- Encouraging and engaging learners in the process of learning.
- Contributing to the ethos and morale of the school by inspiring and encouraging colleagues.
- Contributing to both the curriculum and extra curricular activities of the school.
- Communicating effectively with and responding to parents and the wider community.
- Confronting challenges such as poor facilities and inadequate resourcing.
- Coping effectively with diversity in the school and in the community.
- Confronting and dealing with the effects of HIV/AIDS on the school and the community.
- Confronting and dealing with the effects of substance abuse, crime and gangsterism on the school and the community.



NOTE

Those that have received awards in 2000 are not eligible for 2001 nominations.

CONTACT DETAILS

Depending on the province in which you work, the following people may be contacted for more information:

National Office:

Ms SN Nxesi (012) 312 5369
Ms M Matlala (012) 312 5425

Provinces:

EC:	Ms M Nabe	082 730 2128
FS:	Mr M Jacobs	(051) 404 8176
GP:	Ms P Nkumane	(011) 355 0805
KZN:	Ms Z Zulu	(035) 874 3418
MP:	Ms N Mxenge	(013) 282 7328
NP:	Mr S Galane	(015) 297 5085
NC:	Ms K Essau	(053) 839 6500
NW:	Mr H Motara	(018) 290 9415
WC:	Mr D Pillay	(021) 467 2582

Specific criteria:

Excellence in Primary and Secondary School Teaching (criteria are the same)

- Engaging learners through the imaginative implementation of innovative teaching methods to enhance their learning achievement.
- Contributing to the personal development of learners by communicating effectively with them about their performance and progress and enabling them to take control of their own learning.
- Adopting learning and teaching strategies to meet the needs of individual learners effectively.

Excellence in Leadership at Primary School Level

- Demonstrating positive and clear leadership in directing and guiding the school community.
- Creating a stimulating and supportive learning and teaching environment within the school.
- Inspiring, encouraging and empowering staff to be creative and take initiative.
- Fostering links between school and real life, thus enabling learners to apply taught knowledge in real-life situations.

Excellence in Leadership at Secondary School Level

- Demonstrating positive and clear leadership in directing and guiding the school community.
- Creating a stimulating and supportive learning and teaching environment within the school.
- Inspiring, encouraging and empowering staff to be creative and take initiative.
- Creating and fostering a conducive learning environment for learners to achieve quality education and proceed successfully from one level to another.

Excellence in Early Childhood Development

- Encouraging young learners to become independent and confident.
- Fostering links between the school and the community.
- Establishing working partnerships with other sectors (e.g. health, welfare) to the benefit of learners.

Excellence in Special Needs Teaching

- Applying learning and teaching strategies to meet the needs of individual learners effectively.
- Communicating learners' progress effectively to both the learners and their families, and listening and responding constructively to their views.
- Preparing learners to cope in broader society.

Lifetime Achievement Award

- Sustaining a high level of achievement and commitment throughout a long teaching career.
- Encouraging learners to expect the best of themselves.
- Earning the respect of learners and colleagues.
- Between 20 and 30 years of fulfilling teaching experience.
- Demonstrating positive and clear leadership in directing and guiding the school community.

Eligibility

Except for Lifetime Achievement Awards, nominees should:

- Be educators in public schools; and
- have been working for the Department of Education for at least two years.

