



## 2012 Oklahoma Award for Outstanding Achievement in Alternative Education

### General Information

The Oklahoma Foundation for Excellence is a privately-funded statewide nonprofit organization with a mission to recognize and encourage academic excellence in Oklahoma's public schools. Among its efforts to recognize exceptional educational programs, the foundation annually presents the Oklahoma Award for Outstanding Achievement in Alternative Education to a public school alternative education program in recognition of its effectiveness and impact on student learning. The winner will be selected by an independent committee and will receive a \$5,000 cash prize to be presented at the state Alternative Education Summer Conference.

#### **Basic Criteria:**

1. Nominee must be a public school program in Oklahoma and in operation for *at least three full years* at the time of nomination.
2. Nominations may be made by any individual familiar with the program.
3. Award winners may apply again after five full award cycles.

#### **General Directions:**

1. ***ALL NOMINATION MATERIALS MUST BE POSTMARKED ON OR BEFORE MONDAY, MARCH 19, 2012.*** Please note that only information submitted *by this deadline* will be considered.
2. Submit only the materials requested. Nomination materials will not be returned.
3. Answers to all questions *must be typed, double spaced*, on 8 ½" x 11" sheets of paper. Recommendation letters *may be single-spaced*.
4. The first page of the nomination *must* be the "Program Information Form." *Staple* all pages together in the upper left-hand corner. Exhibits may be included or attached.
5. Retain one copy of the nomination for your records. *Mail a total of six sets* of the nomination materials, postmarked on or before *Monday, March 19, 2012*, to:

**Alternative Education Selection Committee  
Oklahoma Foundation for Excellence  
120 N. Robinson, Suite 1420-W  
Oklahoma City, OK 73102-7434**

6. If you have questions regarding the nomination process or need additional copies of the nomination forms, please check our Web site at [www.ofe.org](http://www.ofe.org) or call the Foundation office at (405) 236-0006.



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## Program Information Form

This page must be the first page of each set of the nomination materials. Please staple each set of materials in the upper left-hand corner.

### **Information about the Program** (Please type):

Name of Program \_\_\_\_\_

Name of District \_\_\_\_\_

Program Director (Mr. Ms. Mrs. Dr.) \_\_\_\_\_

Program Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

### **Information about the Nominator** (If different from above):

Name (Mr. Ms. Mrs. Dr.) \_\_\_\_\_

Position with or Relationship to Program \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

List two individuals familiar with the program who would be willing to be contacted by the Selection Committee.  
(These may include, but are not limited to, those writing letters of recommendation.)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Position or Relationship \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Daytime Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Position or Relationship \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Daytime Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_



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## Outline for Responses

### **Directions:**

Respond to the following questions on *double-spaced typewritten pages*. Be sure to indicate the question number before each response.

1. Program description:
  - a. What is the mission of the program and what year did the program begin?
  - b. What are the goals and expected results of the program?
  - c. Whom does the program involve (parents, teachers, community representatives) and how does it involve them?
  - d. Who serves as the site manager on a daily basis and how does he/she manage the program?
  - e. How are students identified for admittance to the alternative education program?
  - f. Who funds the program (federal or state government, school district, community contributions or foundations) and what is the current funding level? What were the funding levels for each of the previous three years?
  - g. What did this program cost last year per student enrolled in the program? How did you arrive at these figures?
2. Successful Strategies:
  - a. What innovative strategies are being used and what best practices are being modeled that are different from those used in the traditional classroom setting?
  - b. How does this program demonstrate excellence in alternative education?
  - c. Give three specific examples of your accomplishments, student projects or partnerships with the public. You may use narrative text, graphics, photos, etc., *not to exceed five pages*, or DVDs or other digital media, *not to exceed five minutes*.
3. Measurements of Success:
  - a. How is program success measured? Please provide (i) external evaluation data for each of the previous three years, or, if not available, other evaluation data that is pertinent to the program, and (ii) a summary explanation of this data.
  - b. What percentage of the students served in this program are recovered drop-outs?



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- c. What is the program attendance rate? What was the total student population for each of the previous three years, and what was the average length of stay for each student? How many students dropped out of the program each year over this same period?
  - d. What are program graduation numbers?
  - e. Provide evidence of successful transition of students in this program to post secondary education or to the workforce.
4. Reference Letters. Please address salutations to the Selection Committee.

a. Student responses

Attach three letters from students, each of which must be limited to *one typewritten page in length* and may be single-spaced, addressing the following statement: "Why I was successful in this Alternative Education Program and the difference it has made in my life."

b. Additional reference letters

Attach three letters of recommendation, each of which must be limited to *one typewritten page* in length and may be single-spaced. The recommendations *must include a parent, a teacher involved in the program and an individual from your community partnership* who would be willing to be contacted by the Selection Committee. In identifying the person writing the recommendation letter, please include his/her relationship to the program.

***ALL NOMINATION MATERIALS MUST BE POSTMARKED ON OR BEFORE  
MONDAY, MARCH 19, 2012***