



Opportunity Through Education

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## MEMORANDUM NO. 2022–122

**TO:** School District Superintendents  
Title I Directors  
Principals

**FROM:** Shelley Hamel, Chief Academic Officer

**DATE:** October 24, 2022

**SUBJECT:** 2022 National ESEA Distinguished School Application

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# 2022 NATIONAL ESEA DISTINGUISHED SCHOOL AWARD PROGRAM APPLICATION

The Wyoming Department of Education (WDE) has released the 2022 National Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) Distinguished School Award Program Application.

The National ESEA Distinguished School Program is a project of the National Association of ESEA State Program Administrators that publicly honors federally-funded schools for positive educational advances and the outstanding academic achievement of their students.

The WDE will select two schools for their success in one of 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 (homeless, English learners, Native American, Hispanic, etc.).

In order to qualify, the school must have:

- a poverty rate equaling at least 35% or equaling the state's 2021-22 average poverty rate equaling 28%;

- met or exceeded 2021-2022 state-determined accountability criteria;
- demonstrated high academic achievement for two or more consecutive years; and not been recognized as a Distinguished School the previous two years.

The application form is [here](#). The deadline to submit applications to the WDE is November 8, 2022.

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*For more information, contact Les Koch, Title I Director and Wyoming's Distinguished Schools State Coordinator, at 307-777-6216 or [les.koch@wyo.gov](mailto:les.koch@wyo.gov).*