



**Wyoming Department of Education**

Cindy Hill, Superintendent of Public Instruction  
Hathaway Building, 2nd Floor, 2300 Capitol Avenue  
Cheyenne, WY 82002-0050  
Phone: (307) 777-7675 | Fax: (307) 777-6234 | [edu.wyoming.gov](http://edu.wyoming.gov)

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**MEMORANDUM NO. 2014-129**

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

**FROM:** Jennifer Peterson, State Title I Director  
Federal Programs Division

**DATE:** October 20, 2014

**SUBJECT:** Title I-A 2014-2015 National Title I Distinguished Schools Application

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## **APPLICATION FOR NATIONAL TITLE I DISTINGUISHED SCHOOLS AWARD PROGRAM**

**CHEYENNE** - The Wyoming Department of Education (WDE) would like to announce the release of the 2014-2015 National Title I Distinguished Schools Program application. The National Title I Distinguished Schools Program honors Title I schools across the country for their innovation in helping Title I populations achieve high educational standards. These outstanding schools are selected from each state by members of the National Title I Association. They represent superior Title I programs and demonstrate a wide array of strengths. These schools offer focused and innovative professional development opportunities for staff, strong community involvement, and high success with individualized student programs.

Based on applications received, the Wyoming Department of Education will select one qualifying school, if applicable, for this honor in each of the following categories:

1. Exceptional student performance for two or more consecutive years; or
2. Closing the achievement gap between student groups.

In order to qualify under the above categories, the school must have:

1. A poverty rate of at least 35% for the selected year;
2. Demonstrated high academic achievement for two or more consecutive years;
3. Met or exceeded Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) for at least two consecutive years;

4. Clearly demonstrated that it has met the criteria for the category it is applying for; and
5. Not been recognized as a Distinguished School during the previous two years.

The [application](#) and additional information are available on the WDE website. The deadline to submit applications is November 14, 2014.

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*For questions, please contact Jennifer Peterson at [jennifer.peterson@wyo.gov](mailto:jennifer.peterson@wyo.gov) or 307-777-6216.*

Attached: Distinguished Schools Application



## National Title I Distinguished School Award Program Application

School Information		
School Name	Grade Range	School District
Address		Telephone
Contact Person		Fax
Address		E-Mail Address

**Criteria**

Schools must have:

- ✓ Demonstrated high academic achievement for two or more consecutive years;
- ✓ Met or exceeded state standards for making adequate yearly progress (AYP) for two or more consecutive years;
- ✓ Demonstrated a high poverty rate (based on Free and Reduced Lunch Count of 35% or higher for the nominated year);
- ✓ Clearly demonstrated that they have met the criteria for the category they are applying for and have provided documentation to support their qualifications; and
- ✓ **Not been recognized as a Distinguished School during the previous two years.**

1. The school would like to be nominated in the following category (schools can choose both categories, but documentation must be provided for each area):		
[ ]	Exceptional student performance (i.e. met or exceeded AYP) for two or more consecutive years (NCLB, Section 1117 (b)(1)(B)(ii))	
[ ]	Significantly closed the achievement gap between student groups (NCLB, Section 1117 (b)(1)(B)(i))	
2. Which area is your school emphasizing?		
Exceptional student performance (i.e. met or exceeded AYP) for two or more consecutive years:	[ ] Mathematics	[ ] Reading

Significantly closed the achievement gap between student groups:	<input type="checkbox"/> Mathematics	<input type="checkbox"/> Reading
3. Provide PAWS/ACT and other data (other assessments, district assessments, etc.) to document improvement in student learning in the area your school has selected above.		
4. How has your school used Title I funds to support improvement in student achievement? What new initiatives or innovative programs has the school implemented?		
5. Cite specific strategies and how they led to your school's success in student achievement in the area emphasized and what will be done to continue the trend. Required components to include in the response: curriculum and use of research-based instructional strategies; opportunities provided for each student to succeed; coordination of Title I with other programs; professional development; and partnerships with parents/families/communities.		
6. Please provide any additional data or documentation to support your school's selection for this honor.		

**Completed applications should be forwarded to the attention of:**

Title I State Program Consultant  
Wyoming Department of Education  
2300 Capitol Avenue, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Hathaway Building  
Cheyenne, WY 82002

**Applications can also be e-mailed to:**

[jennifer.peterson@wyo.gov](mailto:jennifer.peterson@wyo.gov)

**Applications due: November 14, 2014**