

Grazer Outstanding Achievement in Learning Award

Application Documents

Purpose:

To highlight best practices and “what is working” in California for students with disabilities, the California Advisory Commission on Special Education (ACSE) is seeking to recognize exemplary local educational agencies (LEAs), schools, school-systems, initiatives, programs, and practices, (hereby referred to as “Program”) that result in positive outcomes for students with disabilities in the State of California. Established by the ACSE with financial support from Hollywood producer Brian Grazer and his family, the Grazer Outstanding Achievement in Learning (GOAL) award recognizes these innovative and replicable Programs with a monetary award, and encourages implementation of these Programs throughout California.

Guidelines for Grazer Outstanding Achievement in Learning Applicants:

1. Applicant must be a district, charter LEA, or school initiative, collaboration, program or practice that meets the following criteria (A–D):
 - A. Innovative, highly effective, and replicable Program that results in demonstrable positive outcomes for students with disabilities.
 - B. Unique, creative, and effective Program to ensure that students with disabilities and their families have full access to and success in the most inclusive educational environment within one or more of the following areas:
 - Access to and success in the general education curriculum (e.g., instruction in the California Common Core State Standards, assessments, College and Career Standards)
 - High quality supports and services and specially designed instruction (e.g., use of assistive technology, augmentative communication, instruction in Braille or American Sign Language)
 - Student self-determination, social skills instruction, community based instruction and involvement, transition planning, and career and college learning activities and opportunities
 - Inclusive and authentic family engagement programs and practices

- C. Sustainable design that includes implementation, fiscal, and evaluation plans which are clearly established and replicable.
 - D. Interconnected approach to serving students with disabilities that includes active engagement with district, county, charter school, Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA) personnel and systems, families, and community stakeholders.
2. Application Process:
- A. Complete entry form
 - B. Attach two testimonial letters or documented stories exemplifying the success of the Program (may submit one testimonial and one story)
 - C. Describe the Program (maximum of three typed pages, 12 point font, single spaced) with clear subheadings and information that includes: Brief historical context; mission and vision; goals and objectives; details of innovative, exemplary, evidence-based practices; engagement of stakeholders; description of implementation, funding, and evaluation (including a student outcome summary and other relevant data); plans for continued development, sustainability, and potential for replication. (See scoring rubric for reference.)

No later than 5:00 p.m. Friday, March 29, 2024, submit entry form and supporting documentation via email to: California Advisory Commission on Special Education at acse@cde.ca.gov.

**Grazer Outstanding Achievement in Learning Award Entry Form for
2023–24**

Program Name

School(s)

District or County Office of Education

Superintendent

Phone

Lead Person(s) Responsible for Submitting the Entry Form:

Name

Title

Phone

Email

Address of Program

Signature

GOAL Award Scoring Rubric

(For ACSE GOAL Reviewer Use Only)

Criteria: To what extent does the application demonstrate that the Program accomplishes the following?

1. The Program demonstrates success for students with disabilities:
 - Goals and outcomes are clearly stated and measurable
 - Promotes student achievement (e.g., academic, transition, social, etc.)
 - Utilizes inclusive and evidence based practices
 - Demonstrates commitment to serving and providing access to students with disabilities
 - Uses ongoing evaluation of program success (e.g., student outcome data, family surveys, other)
2. The Program incorporates innovation or highly effective design elements:
 - Design is unique
 - Demonstrates use of creative/effective approaches in one or more of the following areas:
 - Access and support in general education curriculum
 - Access and support utilizing specially designed instruction
 - Access and support in transition or social goals
 - Demonstrates a detailed implementation plan
3. The Program is easily replicable and sustainable:
 - Demonstrates success over a significant period of time
 - Demonstrates stable source of funding
 - Demonstrates administrative, family, and/or community support
 - Design can be replicated readily in other programs

4. The Program establishes connections with district, county, charter, families, and/or community stakeholders:
 - Demonstrates a clear mission and vision that shows its interconnectedness
 - Demonstrates a strategic plan that shows its interconnectedness
 - Demonstrates stakeholder input in establishing goals, program design, implementation, and/or evaluations
 - Collaborates with others to improve services
 - Communicates goals and outcomes to stakeholders
5. The Program demonstrates overall effectiveness in serving students with disabilities. (This is a subjective rating based on the opinion of the GOAL Committee member)

Total Score: