



Code # _____
(Office use only)

GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL OF EXCELLENCE 2003-2004 APPLICATION COVER SHEET

**Deadline for Submission to County Office:
August 29, 2003**

The Governor's School of Excellence application is a public document. The information that you provide will serve as the official record. Review the application prior to submission to ensure accuracy and adherence to the guidelines. Type information requested on this page.

School District Information			
County			
School District (Proper Name)			
Address	Street/P.O. Box	City	Zip Code
Phone Number			
Fax Number			
E-mail			
Chief School Administrator	Print Name	Signature	Date Signed
Nominated School Information			
School Name (Proper Name)			
Address	Street/P.O. Box	City	Zip Code
Phone Number			
Fax Number			
E-mail			
Principal or Charter School Lead Person	Print Name	Signature	Date Signed
Nominator Information (If other than school or district personnel)			
Name & Official Title			
Phone Number			
Fax Number			
Email			

FOR USE BY COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS ONLY

Received: ___ Yes ___ No County Superintendent's Signature _____ Date Received _____

FOR USE BY REGIONAL OFFICE STAFF ONLY

Complete: ___ Yes ___ No Regional Staff Member Signature _____ Date Received _____

GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL OF EXCELLENCE
2003-2004 GUIDELINES

Eligibility: Any New Jersey public school or charter school (pre-kindergarten to grade 12) is invited to participate. Nominations may come from a variety of sources, including self nomination. Each school may be recognized only once in three years.

Selection Process: There will be a maximum of 25 awards issued this year and those awards shall be \$25,000 per school. Applications will be evaluated by a selection committee co-chaired by the Deputy Commissioner of Education and the Chief of Staff. The selection committee will make recommendations to the Commissioner of Education for action.

Criteria for Evaluation: In order for a school to qualify for the Governor's School of Excellence program, there must be a demonstration of significant improvement in academic achievement over at least a two year period (using the most recent data available) as measured by state test scores, standardized test scores and/or other relevant measures of achievement. Additionally the school must provide evidence of **at least five of the following:**

- ❖ Outstanding growth in literacy measures as evident in state test scores, standardized test scores, and/or relevant measures of achievement;
- ❖ Meaningful improvement for parental involvement in school matters evident in both quality and quantity;
- ❖ Improvement in student attendance, graduation rates, retention rates, and/or dropout reduction;
- ❖ Reduction in measures of violence and vandalism as supported by the Annual Violence and Vandalism Report or other measures;
- ❖ Creative as well as increased and documented involvement with partnerships and/or the community;
- ❖ Creative and increased use of technology as a tool for learning;
- ❖ Demonstrated improvement in the quality of professional development which may include the following: staff development programs, PIPs, evaluations, summary evaluations, and/or teacher improvement procedures;
- ❖ Demonstrated success in providing better learning opportunities for specialized populations such as special education students and second language learners; or
- ❖ Other category – this is an area where a school may provide particular documentation of significant improvement that does not fit any category described above.

Application Requirements:

1. In narrative form, create a case for why your school should be considered for the Governor's School of Excellence award. Give a clear description of your school which includes student demographic information, leadership style and structure, and philosophy of education.
2. The narrative must also include a discussion of how your school fulfills each of the five (5) criterion that you select. Keyboard the complete statements to which you are responding.
3. Your application must be typed on 8 ½ X 11" white paper, portrait format, and using only a twelve-point Times New Roman font.
4. The narrative should not exceed five pages. Additional pages containing supplemental information **should not be included.**
5. The original application cover sheet must be signed by the principal and district chief school administrator or charter school lead person.
6. The original application and 4 copies must be received by your County Superintendent no later than **August 29, 2003.**
7. Applications that are incomplete or that fail to comply with the procedures for submission will not be considered.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT:

Nancy Weiss
New Jersey Department of Education
Office of Innovative Programs and Schools
P.O. Box 500, Trenton, NJ 08625-0500

Phone -- (609) 943-5203

Fax -- (609) 292-3142

e-mail – nancy.weiss@doe.state.nj.us