

**ARGYLE ISD EDUCATION FOUNDATION**  
**GOLDEN EAGLE TEACHER EXCELLENCE AWARDS**

*Sponsored by the Miles Foundation  
& Lisa M. Zimmerman*

PROGRAM GUIDELINES – Revised 1/31/06

- **Award Range:** Each campus will present a GOLDEN EAGLE Teacher Excellence Award to one teacher, which will include a cash award with no purchasing restrictions. An additional cash award will be presented to a District recipient who will be chosen from the Campus award winners.
- **Available Funding:** The Miles Foundation has pledged to contribute \$1,000 each year to fund a Teacher Excellence Award program. The GOLDEN EAGLE Teacher Excellence Awards are funded as specified by the Temporarily Restricted Gifts Pledge. Award levels are approved by the Argyle ISD Education Foundation Board of Directors prior to the nomination/application period. The cash amount of the Campus awards will be announced prior to the nomination period. The total number of recipients will vary, based on the number of campuses in AISD and the total funds available for the program. The cash amount awarded to the District recipient will be determined by the Argyle ISD Education Foundation Board of Directors prior to the nomination/application period based on the earnings of the Restricted Endowment, called Lisa M-Z.
- **Application Deadlines:** Argyle ISD Education Foundation must receive Nomination Forms no later than the second Friday of March, at 5:00 pm. Teacher Applications must be received in their campus principal's office by the first Friday of April, at 5:00 pm, to be considered for the award.
- **Notification of Recipients:** Upon receipt of a Nomination Form, the teacher will be notified in writing of their nomination. The nominated teacher will have the option of completing a Teacher Application to proceed with the selection process. Award recipients, as well as nominated teachers, will be announced and recognized in May of each year.
- **Applicant Eligibility:** All teachers who have taught in the Argyle ISD for at least two years and for whom a nomination has been received by the closing date, will be invited in writing to participate in the program. Nominated teachers will be asked to complete and submit a Teacher Application outlining their teaching background, experience, and accomplishments by the April deadline. Nomination Forms may be submitted by peers, parents, students, or community members. Self-nominations will not be accepted. A teacher cannot receive the GOLDEN EAGLE Teacher Excellence Award more than once in a five-year period.
- **Award Criteria:** Candidates should be skillful, dedicated teachers who plan to actively continue classroom teaching. They should take an active role in their communities as well as their schools, and demonstrate professional poise and articulateness. Most importantly, candidates will be judged on their ability to inspire a love of learning in students of all backgrounds and abilities. The judges will be looking for a drive to initiate activities that improve instruction for students and for examples of innovations started in the nominee's classrooms. Award recipients will demonstrate the ability and willingness to work cooperatively with colleagues, as well as a desire to stay informed about current educational theories and practices. Additionally, candidates will exhibit a consistently high level of student achievement in their classrooms.
- **Nominee Review:** Both the Nomination Form and the Teacher Application shall be reviewed by an independent (outside of Argyle) Award Selection Committee. The Selection Committee will evaluate each candidate's Nomination Form and Teacher Application based on the above criteria and will select an Award recipient from each campus. Each Campus Award recipient will appear before the Selection Committee for a personal interview. The Award Selection Committee will choose one of those teachers to receive the District Golden Eagle Teacher Excellence Award.
- **Submission of Nomination Forms:** All Nomination Forms must be received by 5:00 pm on the second Friday of March. Electronically submitted proposals will not be accepted. Nomination Forms must be delivered by U.S. Mail, fax, or in person to:

Argyle ISD Education Foundation  
Attn: Programs – GOLDEN EAGLE Teacher Excellence Award  
800 Eagle Drive  
Argyle, TX 76226