



South Dakota Association for the Education of Young Children

## Early Childhood Education Teacher Award

\*\*\* SDAEYC membership required \*\*\*

1. Individuals who are teaching children birth through age 8 (3rd grade.)
2. Has shown exceptional skills in teaching developmentally appropriate lessons, being an advocate for young children, and/or a thoughtful and caring relationship with children, families, and other professionals in the field.
3. Individuals who work directly with children in child care and early education programs.
4. In an effort to recognize the diversity within the field of early childhood, SDAEYC encourages applications from full-day child care centers, half-day preschool or nursery school programs, school-age child care, kindergarten and primary education, infant and toddler classrooms, in-home child care programs, home visiting programs, and classrooms serving young children with special needs.

	1	2	3	Score
<b>Innovation</b>	1. Teacher takes new ideas, methods, products, or solutions into the Early Childhood setting in a significant positive way causing impact and value seen inside and outside of the Early Childhood setting.	<b>Meets criteria 1 and:</b> 2. Communicates and shares new ideas, methods, products that have made a positive impact within their setting.	<b>Meets criteria 1 &amp; 2 and:</b> 3. Is passionate, and eager to learn new ideas, methods, products or solutions while implementing them in an intentional and meaningful way.	
<b>Leadership</b>	1. Teacher influences and guides people to join an Early Childhood Educational organization, society, or team.	<b>Meets criteria 1 and:</b> 2. They successfully have raised group interest or attendance.	<b>Meets criteria 1 &amp; 2 and:</b> 3. Strives for, and maintains a position within an organization, society, or team.	
<b>Advocates</b>	1. Teacher is improving the lives of children and families by using their knowledge of DAP by making recommendations and/or creating adjustments based on the needs of each child in their care.	<b>Meets criteria 1 and:</b> 2. Moves beyond the student, and helps support the families by informing of community support, and resources that could improve home life.	<b>Meets criteria 1 &amp; 2 and:</b> 3. Advocates for all children and families by being involved in community and state events that support children and families.	
<b>Relationships</b>	1. Teacher is making meaningful connections with children in their care as well as families.	<b>Meets criteria 1 and:</b> 2. Strives to build bonds with co-workers, and others in the Early Childhood field.	<b>Meets criteria 1 &amp; 2 and:</b> 3. Interacts, and works closely with local groups and events within the community.	
<b>Total</b>				