

NATIONAL DISTINGUISHED PRINCIPALS PROGRAM

2012 PUBLIC SCHOOL SELECTION PROCEDURES

Elementary and Middle Level Principals



Sponsored by
The National Association of Elementary School Principals
in corporate partnership with
VALIC

The National Distinguished Principals program does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, ethnicity, age, religion, county of origin, or sexual orientation.



NATIONAL DISTINGUISHED PRINCIPALS SELECTION GUIDELINES

A Program to Recognize Excellence Among Elementary and Middle Level Principals

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The National Distinguished Principals Program, begun in 1984, is based on three premises:

- Children's attitudes toward learning and perceptions of themselves as lifelong learners are established in the beginning school years. By high school and college, patterns are formed, and interventions may be too late.
- The scope and quality of children's educational experiences are determined primarily by the principal who, with the important work of teachers and support of caring parents, establishes the character of a particular school's program.
- It is important that the dedication and enthusiasm of principals who guide children's earliest educational experiences be acknowledged to both reward their accomplishments and allow their work to serve as models of excellence for others to follow.

Public School Selection Procedures

The National Association of Elementary School Principals (NAESP), in corporate partnership with VALIC, is proud to sponsor the annual National Distinguished Principals (NDP) program. The NDP program is designed to recognize the outstanding leadership of **active, on-line principals**. It is not recognition of service at retirement, nor is it a program to reward current state or national association leaders. The program honors principals who have exhibited extraordinary leadership, commitment to their students and staff, service to their communities, and contributions to the overall profession, including their professional associations. The NDP **Criteria for Selection** are attached; the **Nominee's Application Packet** is a separate document and may be duplicated as necessary for obtaining nominations.

All eligible public school principals are encouraged to participate in the program. The following components and processes were developed by public school educators and are to be used to guide public school participation in the program.

Please carefully review the **Criteria for Selection** included in these guidelines to make certain that each nominee is eligible for the National Distinguished Principal award.

SELECTION COMMITTEE COMPOSITION

Each state executive director will appoint an NDP chairperson and assist him/her in selecting the state NDP committee members. Persons selected must have outstanding records and be recognized as leaders within the state. Both the chairperson and the state NDP committee must be formally approved by that state affiliate's Board of Directors.

The committee will include, but not be limited to, the following individuals:

- A minimum of three (3) principals who, to the extent possible, represent various geographic and demographic areas of the state (i.e., rural, urban, suburban), as well as racial and ethnic diversity;
- At least one (1) former National Distinguished Principal award recipient.