

National Title I Distinguished Schools Award Overview and Materials Costs

A+ Events has assisted the National Title I Association in the management of the National Title I Distinguished School program for a number of years. Because the schools are honored at each annual National Title I conference, A+ Events absorbed the costs of the program into the conference budget. The NASTID 2015 budget moved the costs of materials sent to the schools – as well as the determination for what is included - out of the conference activities and into the purview of the Effective Programs & Quality Outcomes Committee. The 2015 budget includes \$10,000 for the Distinguished School award program.

Over the past several years, the materials sent to schools have included:

- Digital camera to use for photos uploaded to the Distinguished School listings on the National Title I Association website
- Certificate of Recognition
- National Title I Distinguished School Banner
- Professional group photograph (taken during the conference)

2014 Costs

Item	Price Each	Number	Extended Cost
Certificate	\$0.55	63	\$34.65
Banner	\$17.65	63	\$1,111.95
Camera	\$33.00	63	\$2,079.00
Batteries & SD Card	\$7.85	63	\$494.55
Packing Materials	\$4.95	63	\$311.85
Shipping	variable	63	\$1,055.60
Photography			\$2,900.00
Total			\$7,987.60

We are not certain that the camera represents as much of a special award as it did when we first began sending them. Most schools have access to a variety of photography options, including cell phones that now often take better pictures than the inexpensive cameras. Current costs for basic digital cameras (with enough capacity to take photographs of the appropriate quality) are now running about \$40-50 each, including tax and shipping.

A+ Events will continue to manage the program on behalf of the Association, but will do so based on the decisions of the EP&QO Committee about what types of items, if any, should be awarded to the schools upon their selection as a National Title I Distinguished School. A+ Events will continue to cover the costs of all conference-related activities, such as the parade, and food and beverage offered to Distinguished School participants in advance of it.

Because states now have the option of naming schools throughout the year, with those named now through November 30 honored at the 2016 conference in Houston, the timing for award item decisions critical. We would like to begin accepting Distinguished School selections, but first must update the information distributed to schools as they are selected to let them know what happens next, including what items they should expect to receive.