

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

1. Who can apply for the ECDA Awards?

For individual awards, the nomination is open to all Singapore Citizens or Permanent Residents who are in-service ECDA-approved infant or early years educators, preschool educators, centre leaders and Early Intervention teacher or Learning Support educators. They must meet the specific training and experience stipulated in the ECDA Awards nomination forms for the respective Award categories.

For centre awards, nominated centres must be a licensed Early Childhood Development Centre (ECDC) that fulfils the eligibility criteria stipulated in the nomination form.

To find out more about the ECDA Awards, visit <https://go.gov.sg/ecda-awards>.

2. What are the Award categories?

Award Categories			
Individual Awards	Early Childhood Leader Award	Outstanding Early Childhood Leader Award <i>Requires at least 5 years of trained experience</i>	This Award recognises the achievements of EC leaders in areas such as organisational, curriculum and collaborative leadership. They exemplify quality professional behaviours and practices and strive for excellence through continuing professional development. These leaders are committed to delivering high quality early childhood care and education to young children and their families.
		Promising Early Childhood Leader Award <i>Requires at least 3 years of trained experience</i>	
	Early Intervention Professional Award	Outstanding Early Intervention Professional Award <i>Requires at least 5 years of trained experience</i>	This Award recognises the achievements of Early Intervention Teachers, Learning Support Educators and Educational Therapy Professionals who are committed to delivering high quality learning support and early intervention to benefit

		<p>Promising Early Intervention Professional Award</p> <p><i>Requires at least 3 years of trained experience</i></p>	<p>children with developmental needs. They exemplify quality professional behaviours and practices and strive for excellence through continuing professional development. They are dedicated to strengthening partnerships with families and the community to make a difference in the lives of children with developmental needs.</p>
	Preschool Educator Award	<p>Outstanding Preschool Educator Award</p> <p><i>Requires at least 5 years of trained experience</i></p>	<p>This Award recognises the achievements of Preschool Educators committed to delivering high quality early childhood care and education for children aged five to six years old. They strive for excellence in early childhood through continuing professional development to scale up the quality of their curriculum and pedagogical practices. They are dedicated to strengthening partnerships with families and the community as they believe in making a positive difference in the lives of children and their families.</p>
		<p>Promising Preschool Educator Award</p> <p><i>Requires at least 3 years of trained experience</i></p>	
Infant Educator and Early Years Educator Award	<p>Outstanding Infant and Early Years Educator Award</p> <p><i>Requires at least 5 years of trained experience</i></p>	<p>This Award recognises the achievements of Infant and Early Years Educator committed to delivering high quality early childhood care and education for infants, toddlers and children from two months old to four years old. They strive for excellence in</p>	

		<p>Promising Infant and Early Years Educator Award</p> <p><i>Requires at least 3 years of trained experience</i></p>	<p>early childhood through continuing professional development to scale up the quality of their curriculum and pedagogical practices. They are dedicated to strengthening partnerships as they believe in making a positive difference in the lives of children and their families.</p>
<p>Centre Awards</p>	<p>Outstanding Centre for Teaching & Learning Award</p>		<p>This Award recognises Early Childhood Development Centres (ECDCs) which have excellent programmes, processes and learning environments that drive outstanding teaching and learning practices in the centre. These practices support and sustain young children's learning, development and well-being. These are centres committed to delivering high quality early childhood care and education that benefits young children and their families.</p>
	<p>Early Childhood Innovation Award</p>		<p>This Award recognises Early Childhood Development Centres (ECDCs) which have nurtured a culture of innovation and implemented innovative practices to improve existing programmes, curriculum and pedagogical practices, processes or services. These centres are committed to delivering high quality experiences for young children, early childhood professionals and their families.</p>

<p>Commendation Award</p>		<p>This Award is given on a case-by-case basis and acknowledges deserving infant and early years educators as well as preschool educators who are good but not necessarily at the outstanding level of professional excellence.</p>
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3. What would the ECDA Award winners receive?

To recognise individuals and centres for their achievements, credits for professional development, cash, and tokens of appreciation such as certifications and plaques will be given to the ECDA Awards winners.

4. Where can I find more information about the 2023 ECDA Awards winners?

For more information on the ECDA Awards, please visit www.go.gov.sg/ecda-awards.

5. What is SPARK?

The Singapore Preschool Accreditation Framework (SPARK) is a quality assurance framework to help our preschools improve their quality. SPARK aims to recognise and support preschool leaders in their efforts to improve teaching and learning, and administration and management processes to enhance the holistic development and well-being of young children.

It serves as a benchmark for preschools to measure their quality and establish for themselves the extent of their achievement.

SPARK has been implemented since January 2011. Childcare centres and kindergartens may apply for SPARK Assessment via four application windows in a year. To find out more about the SPARK certification, visit <https://go.gov.sg/spark-about>.

6. What is the SPARK (Commendation)?

Introduced in 2015, SPARK Certification (Commendation) is awarded to centres with strong processes in Teaching and Learning, as well as Curriculum, and Pedagogy.

7. What is 'Start Small Dream Big'?

The 'Start Small Dream Big' (SSDB) movement was initiated by ECDA in 2015 to encourage preschools to create platforms for children to give back to the community. It was first launched as part of SG50 and the 15th anniversary of President's Challenge, as an annual series of fund-raising and volunteer activities. Participating preschools design and implement community service projects for the

children over a period of six months. To find out more about SSDB, visit <https://www.startsmalldreambig.sg>.

8. What are the objectives of 'Start Small Dream Big'?

The SSDB movement aspires to nurture each child holistically, including character building, so that they can succeed individually in life and become responsible citizens who care about those around them. Through 'Start Small Dream Big', young children in preschools are encouraged to use their own resources to give back to society, and in the process, instilling the spirit of giving and good values such as care for others, humility, kindness, and compassion.

9. How many preschools and children have participated in SSDB over the years?

Year	No. of preschools participating	No. of children participating	No. of community hours
2015	150	8,000	100,000
2016	300	20,000	500,000
2017	550	36,000	1 million
2018	670	39,000	1.2 million
2019	820	49,000	1.4 million
2020	950	53,000	1.5 million
2021	1,050	71,000	2.1 million
2022	1,090	75,000	2.5 million
2023	1,130	77,000	2.7 million