

The Georgia Department of Education
Star English Learner and Star ESOL Teacher
Recognition Program

The GaDOE ESOL Unit seeks to identify and recognize outstanding junior or senior high school English Learners and ESOL teachers for their "Excellence in Achievement."

Guidelines and Qualifications

2018 Star ESOL Teachers must satisfy all the following requirements:

- Is nominated by the winning Star English Learner or the current district ESOL/Title III Coordinator.
- Is the subject of a paragraph (250 words minimum) that highlights how he/she made a difference in the Georgia ESOL community generally or specifically in the Star English Learner's Life.
- Must be a current certified or endorsed contractually employed Georgia classroom ESOL teacher (K-12).
- Must have taught at least one verified ESOL (K-12) subject that appears in the curriculum and for which English Learners in Georgia received credit.

2018 Star English Learner nominees must satisfy all the following requirements:

- Currently enrolled in a Georgia public high school as a junior or senior on track for graduation with their graduating class
- Verified ESOL status for at least one year in his/her K-12 education (monitored and/or served)
- Minimum 3.0 student GPA (not rounded) based on cumulative high school grades (9-12) through the fall 2017 semester
- Good character reflected in good behavior and attendance affirmed by the local high school principal (or designee)
- Participation in at least one extra-curricular activity (school, sports, clubs, job, community service, etc.)
- The ESOL teacher or coordinator nomination of the Star English learner was approved by the school principal (or designee)
- Submission of all required documents by the deadline

The Process

- Local high school winners will be selected by a local committee that is led by the district Title III director/ESOL Coordinator. The winners should be announced and recognized by their local school districts.
- System winners will then be nominated to the State by the Title III/ESOL coordinator. Ten state winners representing the three zones and the state-wide consortium will be selected by a committee based on a rubric. The winners will be recognized at a ceremony held at the GaDOE in Atlanta.

Prescribed State Zones			
	Total Number of ELs Reported	Number of Awards	Number of LEAs
Zone I	22242 - 1180	4	17
Zone II	832-404	3	25
Zone III	394 -77	2	51
Consortium	≥76	1	97

The Timeline

- March 7, 2018, the ESOL teacher in each high school receives the criteria for the nomination(s) of the Star English Learner and the Star ESOL Teacher.
- March 26, 2018, with the approval of the school principals and the ESOL Coordinators, the high school ESOL Teachers submit their nominations via the electronic application to the State.
- April 9, 2018, The State Selection Committee meets and selects the ten Star English Learners and the ten Star ESOL Teachers.
- April 16, 2018, Star English Learners and Star ESOL Teachers are notified by the GaDOE ESOL Unit through the Title III/ESOL Coordinators.
- April 30, 2018, State Superintendent's office is notified of the winners.
- Award Ceremony and Reception at the GaDOE Monday, May 7, 2018.