



DISTINGUISHED E D U C A T O R

Distinguished Educator application for those who joined PDK on or after January 1, 2002

"When I received my invitation to apply for membership in Phi Delta Kappa, I recognized it as the highest honor an educator could obtain."

— Joel Berg, PDK member since 1951

BACKGROUND

Throughout our first several decades as an organization, induction into Phi Delta Kappa was a demanding process. Potential members had to be tapped by a Phi Delta Kappa member in good standing and meet rigorous criteria to join our ranks. To be a part of PDK was an exclusive honor for the most established and distinguished educators in the field. The tenets of Research, Leadership, and Service were promoted by these leaders to advance the field of education.

In 2002, in the interest of expanding its mission, the PDK Association opened its ranks to any educator interested in advancing the field under these tenets.

HONORING OUR BEST

Today, we have established the **PDK Distinguished Educator**, an honorific designation reserved to highlight our most prestigious members and recognize them for their achievements and contributions to our profession and their commitment to the Phi Delta Kappa Association core values.

The cost to apply for Distinguished Educator designation is \$25, yearly. Members who meet the eligibility criteria will be issued a certificate of recognition. In addition, Distinguished Educators will get first access to new PDK resources such as the PDK primers, public recognition on the PDK website, the chance to be highlighted in upcoming Heritage Newsletters and access to exclusive Distinguished Educator merchandise.

ELIGIBILITY

If you joined PDK in 2002 and on, you are eligible to join the ranks of the Distinguished Educator by meeting the following criteria:

1. Be a current member of Phi Delta Kappa in good standing.
2. Be nominated by a Phi Delta Kappa member in good standing to the nominations committee.
3. Have 5 years of employment at a school district or university or employment in service to an education organization.
4. Attest to having no convictions for violent crimes and/or crimes against children.
5. Demonstrate advancement of education in at least two of the three Phi Delta Kappa Association core values of Research, Service, and Leadership.

• *If a candidate does not have evidence of the activities listed below but believes they can still demonstrate commitment to the core values, they have the opportunity to detail that commitment and make a case for why it should count towards Distinguished Educator eligibility criteria in the form of an essay.*

APPLICATION

BACKGROUND INFO

FIRST NAME	MIDDLE NAME	LAST NAME
DATE OF BIRTH		PDK MEMBER ID NUMBER
STREET/P.O. BOX		
CITY		STATE/PROVINCE
ZIP/POSTAL CODE		COUNTRY
PRIMARY PHONE		EMAIL
NAME OF NOMINATING PDK MEMBER*		PDK MEMBER ID OF NOMINATING MEMBER*

*Please note, if you have 3+ years of current, continuous membership with PDK, this criteria is waived and you do not need to be nominated in order to qualify for the Distinguished Educator designation.

RECOMMENDATION LETTER FROM NOMINATING PDK MEMBER ATTACHED

I ATTEST THAT I HAVE NO CONVICTIONS FOR VIOLENT CRIMES AND/OR CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

To qualify for the Distinguished Educator designation applicants must have a minimum of 5 years of employment in a school district or university, or employment in service to an education organization. This employment does not need to be current.

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COMMITMENT TO CORE VALUES

To be eligible for the Distinguished Educator designation, applicants must provide evidence of work towards **two** of the three PDK Association core values of Research, Service and Leadership. Acceptable activities are outlined below, along with any required documentation.

RESEARCH IN THE FIELD OF EDUCATION

Check ONE activity to demonstrate your contributions to education research and provide supporting documentation, if necessary.

- Educators Rising National Conference presenter
- Kappan publication contribution
 - Provide issue volume and number _____
- Education Research journal article
 - Provide copy of article
- Research presentation at national conference
 - Provide copy of program listing
- Research project participation
 - Provide proof of authorship on paper or draft

If you do not have evidence of one of the above mentioned activities but still believe you meet the PDK core value of dedication to “research” in education, please attach a brief essay to your application outlining how you demonstrate this core value and why it should count towards your eligibility as a Distinguished Educator.

SERVICE TO SCHOOL AND/OR THE FIELD OF EDUCATION

Check ONE activity to demonstrate your contributions to education research and provide supporting documentation, if necessary.

- 40 hours of PDK chapter volunteer work
- Service on PDK Taskforce
- Service as PDK scholarship reader
- Service as Educators Rising National Competition judge
- 40 hours of volunteer work as related to school/education
 - Provide letter of recommendation
- PDK Service Key Award
- Involvement in education advocacy group
 - Provide letter of recommendation
- Educators Rising Teacher Leader
- School Board service
 - Provide official documentation of service
- Professional writing, print or online (i.e., education blog)
 - Provide evidence of 5 or more years of publication

If you do not have evidence of one of the above mentioned activities but still believe you meet the PDK core value of dedication to “service” in education, please attach a brief essay to your application outlining how you demonstrate this core value and why it should count towards your eligibility as a Distinguished Educator.

LEADERSHIP IN EDUCATION

Check ONE activity to demonstrate your contributions to education research and provide supporting documentation, if necessary.

- Service on PDK Board
- Service in PDK Chapter leadership role
- National Board certification
 - *Provide copy of certification*
- Education leadership award
 - *Provide letter or recommendation or copy of award*
- Teacher of the Year award (district, state, national)
 - *Provide copy of award*
- Leadership role at a school (Instructional Coach, Department Head, etc.)
 - *Provide principal letter of recommendation*
- Selection as a PDK Emerging Leader
 - *Provide year selected _____*
- Leadership on school improvement initiative
 - *Provide principal letter of recommendation*
- Professional development facilitator
 - *Provide verification from principal/district*

If you do not have evidence of one of the above mentioned activities but still believe you meet the PDK core value of dedication to "leadership" in education, please attach a brief essay to your application outlining how you demonstrate this core value and why it should count towards your eligibility as a Distinguished Educator.

PAYMENT INFORMATION

Dues for the Distinguished Educator designation are \$25 each year.

check payable to PDK International in the amount of \$25 is enclosed

Please bill my VISA MASTERCARD DISCOVER AMERICAN EXPRESS

_____/_____/_____/_____
CREDIT CARD NUMBER

CVV CODE

____/____
EXPIRATION DATE (MM/YY)

CARDHOLDER NAME

CARDHOLDER SIGNATURE

MAIL APPLICATION TO:

PHI DELTA KAPPA INTERNATIONAL
P.O. BOX 13090
ARLINGTON, VA 22219

QUESTIONS? EMAIL MEMBERSERVICES@PDKINTL.ORG OR CALL 800-766-1156