

2014 LEAH MEYER AUSTIN AWARD APPLICATION SUMMARY

Deadline: 11:59 PST, December 20, 2013

Eligible Applicants:

Institutions actively affiliated with Achieving the Dream

Questions? Contact Achieving the Dream staff at;

austinaward@achievingthedream.org

HOW TO APPLY

To apply for the Leah Meyer Austin Award please complete the electronic application form. Information will be collected under four main sections:

1. **Institutional Contacts:** Full Contact Information for three key contacts (Application Contact, CEO, and College Public Information Officer)
2. **College Demographics, Narrative Description, and Evidence List**
 - a. **College Demographics:** Institution Name, College website, Year joined ATD, Urbanicity, Total Enrollment, Enrollment Percentage by Ethnicity, Other Unique Enrollment Characteristics
 - b. **Overview statement:** (maximum 500-word summary) Describe what has led to increased student success, with particular attention to low-income students and students of color. The overview should state the college's overall commitment, strengths, and strategies that have become part of the institution's culture and climate. The overview must also address the following: (a) key components of the college's strategies (b) noteworthy innovations and activities (c) evidence that demonstrates student success and/or equity improvement following the innovation strategies, and (d) a compelling statement about why this institution should be considered for the Leah Meyer Austin Award.
 - c. **Narrative Description:** (maximum 2000-word description) Document effective strategies and outcomes combining committed leadership at multiple levels, use of evidence to improve programs and services, broad engagement, systemic institutional improvement, and equity. It should highlight any challenges and success stories, lessons learned, and policy implications that help explain how the institution meets the goals of the 2014 Leah Meyer Austin Award. A strong narrative will reference supporting evidence in a clear and concise manner, providing thorough explanations of evidence included. Any fluctuations in the data should also be thoroughly explained in the narrative.
 - d. **Evidence List:** List titles or labels for evidence below and include the summary documents of the evidence within this application in the evidence task. Evidence should not exceed 10 pages. (Your application must include these evidence documents as part of the SINGLE PDF file that you submit electronically in the following evidence upload task.)
3. **Evidence Upload:** Evidence should not exceed 10 pages. Title each piece, including institutional name, and include in the *single PDF application file*. Provide clearly labeled documents as evidence of institutional transformation attributable to Achieving the Dream's principles and practices for achieving student success. Evidence must support the story and claims in the narrative and be presented in a clear manner, with references to specific chart/table numbers in the narrative where appropriate. **If documenting percent growth and/or any outcomes data, please include both percentages and actual numbers.**

Examples of evidence may include:

- Data illustrating the achievements outlined in the narrative focusing on ATD's five core indicators of student success (completion of developmental courses; completion of "gateway" courses, particularly the first college-level or degree-credit courses in math and English; successful completion of the courses they attempt; persistence from term to term and year to year; and completion of credentials).
- Data demonstrating faculty development.
- Evidence of changes in institutional policies and practices, focus groups or other stakeholder engagement summaries, and/or evaluation summaries.
- Letters of support from a governing board and/or a community stakeholder are welcome; they must be submitted as part of the SINGLE PDF application and must be part of the 10 pages of evidence. PLEASE NOTE: Testimonials from current Achieving the Dream Leadership Coaches or Data Coaches will not be accepted as evidence.

4. CEO Signature Confirmation Page

NOTE: Please ensure you *save your submission!*

Submissions may be edited until the December 20, 2013, deadline.

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Only electronic applications will be accepted. The application can be accessed at www.conferenceabstracts.com/LeahMeyer2014.htm

The winner will notified by January 16, 2014.