

CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION FOR BILINGUAL EDUCATION

CABE 2026



CABE Strong: United for Equity & Empowered by Our Cultures and Multiplicity of Languages
MARCH 4 – 7, 2026 • SAN FRANCISCO MARRIOTT MARQUIS, SAN FRANCISCO, CA



ADMINISTRATOR OF THE YEAR

TEACHER OF THE YEAR

PARAEDUCATOR OF THE YEAR

PARENT OF THE YEAR

STUDENT WRITING

SEAL OF EXCELLENCE SCHOOL

BILINGUAL TEACHERSHIPS

HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIPS

AWARD NOMINATIONS

SUBMISSION DEADLINE:

DECEMBER 5, 2025

**SEAL OF EXCELLENCE SCHOOL
SUBMISSION DEADLINE:**

SEPTEMBER 28, 2025

JOIN US IN SAN FRANCISCO! REMEMBER TO STAY
CONNECTED WITH CABE WWW.CABE2026.ORG

CABE invites you to submit candidate applications for Administrator of the Year, Teacher of the Year, Paraeducator of the Year, and Parent of the Year, as well as applications for the Seal of Excellence School Award, Teachership Awards, and High School Student Scholarships for Future Dual Language Education Teachers. This is an opportunity to honor individuals and schools in each category for their excellence, dedication, multicultural competency, educational equity for all multilingual and English learner students, and the promotion of dual language education.

CABE also invites you to encourage students to submit their essays for the Student Writing Award for TK-12 which focus on the many advantages of being bilingual/biliterate. Please review the grade levels, prompts, and requirements in the Student Writing Award information.

ADMINISTRATOR OF THE YEAR

An outstanding administrator who has demonstrated exceptional dedication and leadership in advancing bilingual education for multilingual and English learner students will be honored.

The recipient will receive their award on Thursday, March 5, 2026, during the Educator and Parent Award Luncheon. The official notification letter will include the time and additional details.

Criteria

- Must be a current CABE member through April 30, 2026
- Must be a California resident
- Currently an administrator (TK-12)
- Minimum of 5 years serving multilingual and English learner students as an administrator
- Has made outstanding contributions to bilingual/biliteracy education and English learner and dual language programs as an educational leader
- Possesses an educational leadership philosophy that reflects multicultural competency and has high expectations for multilingual and English learner students
- Evidence of leadership in the promotion of bilingual/biliteracy programs with proven and research-based programs
- District has implemented the Seal of Biliteracy and/or pathways to the Seal of Biliteracy

TEACHER OF THE YEAR

An outstanding classroom teacher who has made significant contributions to the education and equity of multilingual and English learner students through excellence, dedication, and advocacy will be honored.

The recipient will receive their award on Thursday, March 5, 2026, during the Educator and Parent Award Luncheon. The official notification letter will include the time and additional details.

Criteria

- Must be a current CABE member through April 30, 2026
- Must be a California resident
- Must be a current dual language and/or ELD teacher serving multilingual students (TK-12)
- Minimum of 3 years serving multilingual and English learner students as a bilingual/biliteracy teacher
- Possesses a bilingual teacher authorization (TK-12) or certification
- Has made outstanding contributions to bilingual education
- Has an educational philosophy that reflects multicultural competency and high expectations for multilingual and English learner students
- Evidence of advocacy for bilingual/biliteracy programs and multilingual students

PARAEDUCATOR OF THE YEAR

An exemplary bilingual paraeducator—such as an instructional assistant, community/family/parent liaison, teacher's aide, or classroom assistant—who has gone above and beyond to support bilingual education and multilingual and English learner students will be honored.

The recipient will receive their award on Thursday, March 5, 2026, during the Educator and Parent Award Luncheon. The official notification letter will include the time and additional details.

Criteria

- Must be a current CABE member through April 30, 2026
- Must be a California resident
- Currently a non-credentialed bilingual paraeducator (TK-12) or classified support staff
- Minimum of 3 years serving multilingual and English learner students
- Has made outstanding contributions to bilingual education
- Has an educational philosophy and approach that reflects multicultural competency and has high expectations for multilingual and English learner students
- Evidence of advocacy for bilingual programs

PARENT OF THE YEAR

An exemplary parent leader who has made significant contributions to their child's school on behalf of biliteracy and multilingual and English learners students will be honored.

The recipient will receive their award on Thursday, March 5, 2026, during the Educator and Parent Award Luncheon. The official notification letter will include the time and additional details.

Criteria

- Must be a current CABE member through April 30, 2026
- Must be a California resident
- A minimum of 2 years of active involvement in parent/family/community engagement within the classroom or on school site or district committees
- Demonstrates leadership, commitment, and dedication to bilingual education at school site and/or district
- Positive community impact beyond the school setting (e.g., cultural events, parent workshops, local partnerships, etc.).

Submission Deadline: December 5, 2025

For more information and to submit application, please visit: cabe2026.org/awards/

For questions and assistance, please contact nominations@gocabe.org



Student Writing

The Student Writing Award for the CABE 2026 Annual Conference, will focus on the many advantages of being bilingual/biliterate.

The prompts for this year's student writing are:

Grades TK-2

How does speaking more than one language help you make new friends and talk with family members? Why do you think learning more than one language will help you when you grow up? Tell a story or give an example that shows how being bilingual helps you today and how it might help you in your future job or travels.

Grades 6-8

In what ways has becoming bilingual and bicultural helped you understand yourself and others more deeply? How have your language and cultural skills helped you build relationships at school or in your community? Explain how your bilingual voice will prepare you to succeed in future careers and to connect across cultures locally, nationally, or globally.

Grades 3-5

How has being bilingual and bicultural helped you connect with people from different places and backgrounds? What does it feel like to speak more than one language at school, at home, or in your community? Describe how your ability to speak another language will help you in the future as a leader, helper, worker, or traveler.

Grades 9-12

Reflect on your journey as a bilingual, bicultural person. How have your linguistic and cultural assets shaped your identity, expanded your worldview, and deepened your respect for others? Explain how being bilingual will open doors for you in your future career, leadership, and participation in global society.

AWARD INFORMATION

CATEGORIES

Grades TK-2

Grades 3-5

Grades 6-8

Grades 9-12

Students will read an excerpt from their essay and receive their award at the Seal of Excellence Banquet on Friday, March 6, 2026

SUBMISSION DEADLINE:

**DECEMBER 5, 2025
AT 11:59 PM (PST)**

For more information or to submit, visit:

cabe2026.org/awards/

Please Note

Students who have received the CABE Student Writing Award within the last three years are not eligible.

Seal of Excellence School

Elevate your school's legacy with the ultimate recognition!

The California Association for Bilingual Education invites you to shine on the grand stage of distinction as we open the doors to nominations for the prestigious CABE 2026 Seal of Excellence Award!

Since its inception in 1996, the CABE Seal of Excellence School Award has stood as a beacon of honor, celebrating exemplary biliteracy programs across the state of California. We applaud and recognize schools that have created and sustained pathways of success for their multilingual and English learner students.

To receive the CABE 2026 Seal of Excellence School Award, your school must embrace and demonstrate excellence by meeting or exceeding criteria that illuminate your school's and community's exceptional achievements, including having an established five-year pathway for elementary schools and a defined pathway between feeder schools (elementary and/or high school) for middle and junior high schools.

Elevate and embody the spirit of bilingual education by receiving the CABE 2026 Seal of Excellence School Award. Your story of dedication, perseverance, and achievement awaits its deserving spotlight and recognition!



AWARD INFORMATION

Awards will be presented during the Seal of Excellence Banquet on Friday, March 6, 2026

SUBMISSION DEADLINE:

**SEPTEMBER 28, 2025
AT 11:59 PM (PST)**

For more information or to submit, visit:

cabe2026.org/awards/

BILINGUAL TEACHERSHIPS

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS

For more information: <https://www.cabe2026.org/awards/>

For questions and assistance, please contact nominations@gocabe.org



California Association for Bilingual Education



AWARD NOMINATIONS

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Important Dates to Remember...

SEPTEMBER
28
2025

Submission Deadline for the Seal of Excellence

JANUARY
15
2026

Award Recipients are notified by CABE

DECEMBER
5
2025

Submission Deadline for Administrator, Teacher, Parent, Paraeducator of the Year, Bilingual Teacherships, High School Student Scholarships for Future (DLE) Teachers and Student Writing Award

MARCH
4-7
2026

CABE 2026 Annual Conference
San Francisco, California

For more information, please visit:
cabe2026.org/awards/



JOIN US AT CABE 2026 FOR THE VERY LATEST & MOST CREATIVE WAYS TO
PROMOTE THE SUCCESS OF ENGLISH LEARNERS AND BILITERACY PROGRAMS!