

ALTERNATIVE LEARNING PROGRAMS AND SCHOOLS

“PROMISING” SCHOOL/PROGRAM AWARD



Public Schools of North Carolina
State Board of Education
Department of Public Instruction

“Promising ALPS” Award

PURPOSE

As Alternative Education continues to grow in North Carolina, we would like to recognize the efforts of Alternative Learning Programs and Schools showing positive results in student academics and behavior. These successful schools and programs can serve as models for those programs encountering challenges, and in addition, serve as examples to policy makers who have an interest in the progress of Alternative Learning Programs and Schools across the state.

STRUCTURE

NCDPI will recognize schools and programs that excel in exemplifying the “Seven Standards of Effective Alternative Learning Programs/Schools” and demonstrate positive results in student academic growth and behavior.

STATE BOARD AND CONFERENCE RECOGNITION

The “Promising ALPS” Award will be presented during the North Carolina Association of Alternative Educators Conference to three (3) schools/programs. They will also be recognized for their accomplishments during a meeting of the State Board of Education. Additional schools maybe recognized as “ALP Schools to Watch” for making great strides towards becoming a “Promising ALP”.

CRITERIA

The criteria for consideration for the “Promising ALPS Award” are:

1. The school is experiencing success as evidenced by practices in the seven standard of ALPS areas – Clear Mission, Effective Leadership, Positive Culture and Climate, On-going Professional Development, Collaborative Parent/Community Involvement, Effective Instruction And Curriculum, and Frequent Assessment.
2. The school/program has clear goals and objectives as evidence in the School Improvement Plan and Safe Schools Plan.
3. The school has evidence of improved levels of student achievement, evidence to demonstrate student growth and improved student behavior.

PROCESS

Consideration will be given to completed applications returned by the deadline. A team will review the applications and up to 3 schools or programs will be designated as a “Promising ALPS”. A “getting to know you” school visit maybe a part of the process. Recipients will be notified prior to conference.

Program Types

Alternative Learning Program

An alternative learning program is one option for an alternative learning program. It is established in affiliation with a traditional accredited school. The information that is generated by the participants of the program becomes a part of the history and documentation of a traditional school. A program may be housed within a school, on the same site, or at a different location within the district.

Alternative Learning School

An alternative learning school is the second option for an alternative education program. It serves at-risk students and has an organizational designation based on the DPI assignment of an official school code. An alternative school is different from a regular public school and provides choices of routes to completion of school. For the majority of students, the goal is to return to the regular public school. Alternative schools may vary from other schools in such areas as teaching methods, hours, curriculum, or sites, and they are intended to meet particular learning needs.

Each school (including ALPS) in the state of North Carolina is required to develop a school improvement plan that includes a safe school plan. Additionally, programs that are established in accord with or operate as quasi-independent entities should also have school improvement and safety plans. *Reference G.S. (115C-105.27)*

COVER SHEET (5 points)

Name of LEA: _____

Name of School: _____

Address: _____

Primary Contact Person: _____

Primary Contact Phone #: (_____) _____

Primary Contact E-Mail : _____

“Promising ALP” Award for Alternative Learning Program or School
(check one)

Program

School

The following components have been considered and included as part of this application:

_____ *Seven Standards of Effective ALPS*

_____ *Safe Schools Plan*

_____ *School Improvement Plan*

_____ *Demographic Data*

_____ *Academic/Behavior Performance Data (whole school and subgroup)*

LEA Contact Signature

Date

For NCDPI use only:

Received in School Safety and Climate Section: _____

Initials

Date

“PROMISING ALP” AWARD APPLICATION

NARRATIVE (70 points)

The body of your application should be not more than 10-pages narrative specifically addressing the questions below. Follow these formatting guidelines:

- *type using Times New Roman, size 12 font*
- *double space*
- *number pages*
- *provide clear information*

(Please note: applications not meeting the above guidelines will not be considered.)

PART I. - *Demographics*

Describe your student and faculty demographics. Include ethnicity and other pertinent information.
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PART II. – *Seven Standards*

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| 1. Describe how the school or program demonstrates evidence of a clear mission. |
| 2. Describe how the school or program demonstrates evidence of effective leadership. |
| 3. Describe how the school or program demonstrates evidence of a positive culture and climate. |
| 4. Describe how the school or program demonstrates evidence of collaborative parent and community involvement. |
| 5. Describe how the school or program demonstrates evidence continuous professional development. |
| 6. Describe how the school or program demonstrates evidence of effective instruction and curriculum. |
| 7. Describe how the school or program demonstrates evidence of frequent assessment of student progress and school/program progress. |

PORTFOLIO (25 points)

Submit a Portfolio that amplifies and supports your Narrative. The Portfolio should contain evidence of the effectiveness of your program but should not be used as an alternative to answering any of the narrative questions.

Portfolio Guidelines:

- Include a Table of Contents and number the pages 1-20
- Use only one side of 8 ½ by 11 inch paper.
- Items can be reduced in order to include several pieces of evidence on one page
- Reproduced pages should be clear and readable
- Portfolios will not be returned – keep this in mind when send original photographs or samples
- Do not include videos, CDs, or posters

Examples of Portfolio items:

- Mission statement
- Charts and Graphs of Data showing student progress in behavior/academics
- Newsletters
- Calendars
- Volunteer Logs

Applications are due to NCDPI **No Later** than September 1, 2007

**Proposals may be mailed to: NCDPI – School Safety and Climate Section
6350 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-6350
ATTN: Valoria Ingram**

PLEASE DO NOT FAX APPLICATIONS!

For questions related to this application, contact
School Safety & Climate Section at (919) 807-3644.



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