

Learning Forward Kansas Systemic Learning Award

Deadline for submission for award: January 15

Learning Forward Kansas wants to recognize districts that have made a strong commitment to growth in professional learning and support for change.

Your district can apply—

- Complete this form.
- Answer the questions listed at the end of this application—all 5!
- Complete the District Award staff development rubric, which is posted on the Learning Forward Kansas website.
- Attach evidence.
- Submit all the above items (*postmarked on or before January 15*) to:

Ben Smith, Learning Forward KS Awards Team
Abilene USD 435
1300 N. Cedar
Abilene, KS 67410
bsmith@abileneschools.org

Please limit your answers to two pages, 12 pt. font size. Please make note: *Without evidence, we will not accept the application for consideration.*

Up to two districts will be recognized for exemplary honors at the Learning Forward Kansas Leadership Conference. (*You do not need to be present to win.*) Those exemplary districts will each receive:

- A certificate of recognition
- A plaque for the district office announcing the award
- A one-year agency membership in Learning Forward Kansas
- Two registrations to a Learning Forward Kansas learning opportunity

District Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Contact Name _____ Title _____

Direct any questions concerning this application to Ben Smith, bsmith@abileneschools.org

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“Every educator engages in effective professional learning everyday so every student achieves.”

Calling all Kansas USDs! Systemic Learning Awards

Learning Forward's purpose is that "Every educator engages in effective professional learning every day so every student achieves."

On a separate sheet of paper, please provide brief, but descriptive responses to the following questions considering how the Learning Forward strategic priorities (Affecting the Policy Context, Documenting the Evidence, Narrowing the Achievement Gap, Developing School Leaders, and Engaging Thought Leaders) are being implemented in your school.

On a separate sheet or sheets of paper, please provide brief but descriptive answers to the following questions:

1. How does the district allocate time for staff and professional learning in order to create a culture of learning for the adults? *Please describe the time structures in place and planned in the near future.*
2. How does the district allocate funds for staff and professional learning in order to support district and/or building initiatives? *Please describe strategies for providing for the needs of the adult learners in the district.*
3. What is the system of management of staff and professional learning in the district? What roles do administrators, teachers, and classified staff serve in the staff development program?
4. How does the district go about providing research and other materials to the staff for the purpose of learning to improve student results? *Please describe using concrete examples of what materials have been used and how they were provided to the staff.*
5. How do district level and building level leaders model that the fundamental purpose of school is learning for all learners? It is difficult for professionals to make change without the application of authority, whether that derives from administration, teacher, parent, community, or student leadership. *Please describe how authority serves the learning community in your system.*