Applications to TMA Ernest and Sarah Butler Awards for Excellence in Science Teaching must include the following required information in the order presented:

EDUCATIONAL HISTORY AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

List the following (including dates for all), **in this order:**

- Colleges, universities, and post-graduate studies, with degrees earned and dates attended;
- Teaching employment history, with time periods, grade levels, and subject areas;
- Professional association memberships, offices held, and other relevant activities;
- Continuing education completed in past two years with dates (identify those required by the district);
- Meaningful science-related professional development sessions presented (e.g., collaborative efforts with colleagues) and attended in past two years;
- Awards and other recognition (identify those required by the district);
- Grants received; and
- Involvement outside the classroom through activities such as before- and after-school tutoring, extracurricular programs, guiding independent research experiences for students, or monitoring students.

LETTERS OF SUPPORT

Include one (1) letter of support from **each** of the following that reflects your teaching skills, leadership, and other demonstrations of "excellence in science teaching" whereby
you cultivate student interest/understanding of science. Letters must include specific examples of why you are considered outstanding and be **signed by the author**.

- A principal, vice principal, or area superintendent, and
- An on-campus colleague (teacher or peer).

Optional- You may include one letter from a student (current or former) or a parent (current or former).

PROFESSIONAL ESSAY **(Maximum of 2,000 words. Please proof your work!)**

- Describe your passions and beliefs about teaching as they pertain to how your philosophy of teaching developed. Include your own ideas about what makes you an outstanding science teacher with specific examples or outcomes that point to "excellence in science teaching." The examples should include (1) your assessment of lesson expectations, (2) a lesson plan you personalized, and (3) student outcomes.
- Describe the rewards you find in teaching.
- How are your beliefs about teaching demonstrated in your personal teaching style? Be specific.
- How do you know what your students know and what they need to know next?

PORTFOLIO **(Please limit the portfolio to a reasonable length. Max individual file size: 20 MB.)**

Submit supporting materials that best demonstrate your own science knowledge, exemplify your philosophy of teaching, and display how you engage your students in science-related classroom lessons. We want to understand how you teach, so please be specific. These items MUST be in **electronic format**.

- **Provide a one-page narrative** explaining your portfolio items and name your materials to correspond to the order outlined in the narrative.
- Include one high-quality, focused lesson plan you developed (or include a narrative of how you made a lesson your own to align with your school's science standard).
- Defend the lesson, describing how it increases students' scientific and/or engineering literacy, involves students in the scientific processes, and addresses your school's science standards. The lesson should show student engagement and include the student work product.
- We strongly suggest the inclusion of PowerPoint presentations, lab or field investigations, and video (not to exceed five minutes).
- These materials will be duplicated for the selection committee and will not be returned. No scrapbooks.

Judge Name: _____

TEXAS MEDICAL ASSOCIATION'S
ERNEST AND SARAH BUTLER AWARDS
FOR EXCELLENCE IN SCIENCE TEACHING
SCORING RUBRIC

Name of Teacher Reviewed _____

Name of School _____

Category *(mark with X)* _____K-5 _____6-8 _____9-12

EDUCATIONAL HISTORY AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Evaluation Criteria	Exceptional	Highly Effective	Acceptable	Poor	Points Earned
Has consistently pursued formal continuing education and/or related avenues.	3 points	2 points	1 point	0 points	
Evidence of involvement in community programs related to science education that goes beyond the call of duty.	3 points	2 points	1 point	0 points	
Description of professional activities including association affiliations, awards & recognition history, and leadership endeavors.	3 points	2 points	1 point	0 points	
Comments:					

LETTERS OF SUPPORT

Evaluation Criteria	Exceptional	Highly Effective	Acceptable	Poor	Points Earned
Addresses the candidate's:					
Cultivation of student interest and understanding of science	3 points	2 points	1 point	0 points	
Demonstrated leadership by impacting science education beyond the scope of their classroom.	3 points	2 points	1 point	0 points	
Community involvement distinguishing the candidate from his or her peers.	3 points	2 points	1 point	0 points	
Specific examples of excellence are science related	3 points	2 points	1 point	0 points	
Comments:					

Name of Teacher: _____

PROFESSIONAL QUESTIONS (ESSAYS)

Evaluation Criteria	Exceptional	Highly Effective	Acceptable	Poor	Points Earned
Demonstrates a genuine passion for teaching and learning.	5 points	3 points	1 point	0 points	
Express a desire to impact the lives of students by helping them find their potential.	3 points	2 points	1 points	0 point	
Examples of "excellence in science teaching" include own assessment of (1) instructional plan, (2) lesson plan, and (3) student outcome	5 points	3 points	1 point	0 points	
Stimulates students' interest and understanding of science.	3 points	2 points	1 points	0 point	
Challenges students' problem-solving skills and engages students to actively participate; involves more than just regurgitation of facts. Demonstrates how they know what students know and what they need to still learn.	5 points	3 points	1 point	0 points	
Comments:					

PORTFOLIO/SUPPORTING MATERIALS

Applicants were asked to provide supporting materials that exemplify their philosophy of teaching and demonstrate how they engage students in the classroom. This option is required.

Evaluation Criteria	Exceptional	Highly Effective	Acceptable	Poor	Points Earned
Knowledge of science content	6 points	4 points	2 points	0 points	
Explains how they teach by exemplifying a creative & innovative approach to teaching	5 points	3 points	1 point	0 points	
Quality of lesson plan addresses scientific standards	5 points	3 points	1 point	0 points	
Demonstrates student engagement and student work product	4 points	3 points	2 points	0 points	
Comments:					

TOTAL SCORE: _____

Completed by Judge: _____ **(62 points max)**