



EL CIVICS: MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN THE COMMUNITY AWARD

About the Award:

The federally-funded English Literacy and Civics Education (EL Civics) program in California is designed for adult students to acquire the language and literacy skills to become citizens, exercise the rights and duties of citizenship, and enrich the communities in which they live. This award recognizes EL Civics programs that teach skills required for citizenship and empower students to take the initiative to make a difference in the community.

In conjunction with the WIA Title II program specialists and the Program Evaluation Team, CASAS staff and the California Department of Education identify programs that are making a difference through EL Civics lessons and activities. To be recognized as a Making a Difference Award recipient, agencies must meet specific data collection criteria, document the effectiveness of their project, and show that the project goes beyond the classroom to affect the community in a positive manner. This award is open to all EL Civics (Citizenship Preparation and/or Citizenship Participation) programs in California.

To be eligible for a Making a Difference Award, agencies must fulfill the following requirements:

- Data Requirements:
 - o Must have submitted all WIA Title II data submission requirements for the last four quarters in a timely manner
 - o Must be at or above the 2011-12 California state student performance levels for EL Civics programs, or show significant improvement over the last program year
- Complete all nomination and verification requirements. This includes the nomination form, a follow-up validation form, and a phone or in-person interview.
- Agency must show that their EL Civics program or activity takes lessons beyond the classroom to positively affect the community-at-large.

What can Making a Difference Award winners expect?

- Recipients are presented with the award by the CDE Administrator at the 2012 CASAS Summer Institute's California Consortium Meeting
- Agencies are invited to present a poster at the CASAS Summer Institute Poster Session, and be part of an EL Civics Panel Discussion session
- Information about award recipients is posted on the CASAS website and in printed marketing materials
- Agencies are invited to present their award-winning project/activity at various conferences and meetings throughout the program year
- Agencies serve as a model for other programs seeking to implement successful EL Civics projects

How to Apply: **DEADLINE- March 30, 2013**

- Complete the attached application and fax, mail or email to CASAS by March 30, 2013.
- If your practice fulfills all data and student performance requirements, you will be asked to fill out a validation form and set up a phone or in-person interview with a member of the Award Review Team
- Agencies are then subject to final approval from CDE, and winners are contacted via mail and email.
- ***To learn more about the Making a Difference Award, and to view previous award recipients, visit the CASAS website (www.casas.org), or click the following link [Making a Difference Awards](#).***



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NOMINATION FORM DEADLINE: March 30, 2013

Project/Activity Title:

Agency:

Program Contact Name, Phone and Email:

Administrator / Principal Name, Phone and Email:

Summary Description of Project/Activity (3-4 sentences):

Goals of the Project/Activity (3-4 sentences):

EL Civics Learning Objective(s) Addressed with this Project/Activity:

How does this project/activity use EL Civics lessons to positively affect the community-at-large (3-4 sentences)?

Mail (Attn: Kimberly Franci), fax (858-292-2910) or email as attachment (programeval@casas.org) by March 30, 2013.