Award Description: The Outstanding Earth Science Teacher (OEST) awards are given for "exceptional contributions to the stimulation of interest in the Earth Sciences at the pre-college level."				
	Unacceptable (0 point)	**Fair (1 point)**	**Good (2 points)**	**Excellent (3 points)**
Teaching Ability: What techniques does the nominee/applicant employ? What is their teaching philosophy? Are lessons challenging and comprehensive? Do students enjoy the lessons?	No evidence of teaching ability	Broad statements on teaching ability are given without specific examples; vague mentions of teaching philosophy, quality of lessons and/or students' perceptions of teaching	Compelling evidence of teaching ability is given; specific mention of teaching philosophy, quality of lessons and/or students' perceptions of teaching	Specific statement(s) of teaching ability with clear examples from experiences provided; teaching philosophy, quality of lessons and/or students' perceptions of teaching are demonstrated with multiple examples
Inventiveness: What new ideas, materials, software, instructional strategies, or techniques has the nominee/applicant incorporated or developed?	No evidence demonstrating the use of new ideas, materials, software, instructional strategies or techniques in their teaching	Some commentary on the use of new ideas, materials, software, instructional strategies or techniques in their teaching; no examples given	Compelling evidence of the commitment to use new ideas, materials, software, instructional strategies or techniques in their teaching; at least one example given	Overwhelming evidence of the commitment to use new ideas, materials, software, instructional strategies or techniques in their teaching; multiple examples given
Initiative: How does the nominee/applicant handle new situations and accommodate students of various abilities?	No evidence demonstrating how the nominee handles new situations and/or accomodates students of various abilities	Some commentary on how the nominee handles new situations and/or accomodates students of various abilities; no examples given	Compelling evidence is given to support how the nominee handles new situations and/or accomodates students of various abilities; at least one example given	Specific statement(s) of how the nominee handles new situations and/or accomodates students of various abilities with clear examples from experiences provided; multiple examples given
Strengths: What are the principal strengths of the nominee/applicant?	No evidence demonstrating nominee strengths	Broad evidence is shared that describes the strengths of the nominee with no examples given; strengths vaguely aligned with the purpose of the OEST award	Compelling evidence that supports the nominee's principal strengths that align with the goals of the OEST award; at least one example given as evidence	Overwhelming evidence that supports the nominee's principal strengths with a clear connection to the goals of the OEST award; multiple examples given as evidence
Community Involvement: How is the nominee/ applicant involved in community and/or youth activities?	No evidence demonstrating how the nominee is involved in community and/or youth activities	Broad statements given on how the nominee is involved in community and/or youth activities; no specific examples given	Compelling evidence that supports how the nominee is involved in community and/or youth activities; at least one example given	Overwhelming evidence that supports how the nominee is involved in community and/or youth activities; multiple examples given as evidence
Other Activities: Professional activities and noteworthy accomplishments.	No evidence of professional activites and/or noteworthy accomplishments	Evidence of some professional activites and/or noteworthy accomplishments; no specific examples given	Specific-detailed evidence of professional activites and/or noteworthy accomplishments; at least one specific example given	Specific-detailed evidence of a wide variety of professional activites and/or noteworthy accomplishments with multiple examples given as evidence