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APPLICATION - Global Teacher Prize

The Global Teacher Prize is a US \$1 million award presented to an exceptional teacher who has made an outstanding contribution to their profession.

The Global Teacher Prize serves to underline the importance of educators and the fact that, throughout the world, their efforts deserve to be recognised and celebrated. It seeks to acknowledge the impacts of the very best teachers – not only on their students but on the communities around them.

Applicant's Full Name

PLEASE NOTE:

AI CONTENT: All prize applications will undergo a thorough check for AI-generated content, and any use of such content could lead to disqualification from the competition.

To support your application you will need to provide the following supporting documents (please see 'Attachments' section of the application form for full details):

- Reference: Your reference should come from the institution where you are employed as a teacher. It should also highlight your credibility as a teacher or serve as a recommendation for the Global Teacher Prize.
- Curriculum vitae (CV) or resume
- Any supporting evidence of official and/or public recognition of your achievements.

In which language are you completing this form?

Please specify the language in which you are filling out the form.

First Name

Last Name

Email address

Alternative email address (optional)

Job title

Date of Birth (optional)
(Year-Month-Day)

Phone number

City

State

Country

Nationality

Language(s)

Please tell us what language(s) you are comfortable speaking.

Please provide links or handles for any social media accounts (e.g. Facebook, Instagram, X, LinkedIn, TikTok).

How would you describe yourself

Classroom Teacher

School Leader / Head

Digital Educator

Leader of an Education Programme

Other

Have you been teaching for over 5 years?

Yes

No

Date you entered the teaching profession

List of schools you have taught at with dates

Please give details of your formal training in teaching (if any)

Teaching Awards or Recognition of your Achievements (maximum 5) (optional)

Please provide specific examples of recognition for your work. Examples may include teaching awards, coverage in media or academic publications, testimonials from students, colleagues, or school leaders, or senior-level membership in external organisations that support education.

Name of your current school

Type of school or institution

Government / State

Private / Independent

Grammar

Faith

Special Educational Needs

Online

International School

Education Programme

Other

Date you joined your current school

How many students attend your school?

Age range of students of school (for example 4-10 years)

Subject taught

How many hours per week do you teach children?

Are you a member of a teaching union?

▼

Yes

No

How did you find out about the Global Teacher Prize?

▼

Social Media

News or media

Word of mouth

School or employer

Search engine (e.g. Google)

Global Teacher Prize or Varkey Foundation communication

Conference or event

Other

PLEASE NOTE:

- All prize applications will undergo a thorough check for AI-generated content, and any use of such content could lead to disqualification.
- You may include up to two web links per answer; responses with more will not be reviewed.

1. YOUR STORY AND YOUR SETTING

500
words

Tell us why you deserve to win the Global Teacher Prize. Begin with your setting — where your teaching takes place, whether physically, online, in a hybrid arrangement, or across more than one of these, and what the relationship is between you and your learners (how you know who they are, what they are learning, and whether they continue to engage with your teaching over time).

Tell us about your background, why you chose to dedicate your career to teaching, and why you believe you have made an outstanding contribution to the profession. Close with the one achievement that you feel, above all others, makes you worthy of winning the Prize.

Draw on specific examples — the challenges you have faced, the innovation you have brought to your teaching, the learning outcomes you have achieved, and the impact of your work in the community beyond your immediate learners.

2. CONTEXT AND CHALLENGES

300
words

Please tell us about the context in which you teach and any particular challenges that your school or students face.

For instance, the personal, health, learning, family, or social and environmental obstacles that your students have to overcome.

3. YOUR TEACHING APPROACH

300

Please tell us about your teaching approach.

words

Where you draw on tried and tested models of practice, describe them and explain how they have proved effective, replicable, and scalable in your hands; where you have developed your own methods, describe what they are and what makes them work. Set out clearly your direct role in designing, authoring, and leading this work. Where the work involves collaborators (e.g. teaching assistants, fellow teachers, researchers, writers, technical staff) — distinguish what is yours from what is theirs. What would be different about the work if you were not personally involved in it?

If you lead a programme delivered by others, describe what is distinctively yours in its design and direction, how you ensure the quality of teaching across those who deliver it, and what the programme would lack without you.

4. INNOVATION

300

Tell us about any creative, unusual or otherwise extraordinary teaching practices you have introduced in your lessons that you believe has made a difference to your students' education or even helped them overcome any particular challenges they may face.

words

(For example, innovative instructional practices such as introducing technology into the classroom, redesigning how you teach the curriculum, working with other organisations, evidence on fostering wider softer skills and personal attributes in young people which support their development for the future labour force and society etc.)

5. CLASSROOM ACHIEVEMENT300 words

Please highlight some of the measurable outcomes that are the result of your teaching practices. Candidates are required to provide evidence that their work has produced sustained learning in identifiable students.

Acceptable forms of evidence include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Examination or assessment results recorded over a sustained period;
- Longitudinal records demonstrating pupil progress;
- Testimony from current or former students, parents, or fellow educators that speaks to specific learning outcomes;
- Formal recognition by an educational institution, regulatory body, or professional standards organisation;
- For digital educators, structured assessments, completion rates, and learner feedback obtained through the platform on which instruction is delivered.

Candidates are encouraged to substantiate their response with specific examples and supporting documentation where available.

6. ABOVE AND BEYOND - COMMUNITY IMPACT300 words

Please tell us about what you do “above and beyond” the requirements of your role to ensure your students get the education you feel they deserve. In addition please tell us about work that you do in the community that is separate to your work as a teacher.

For example: creating special programmes outside of school hours, providing additional support to students, community fundraising, volunteering roles, talks, seminars, membership of local organisations, written contributions in media, working with others to tackle specific problems in the community.

7. DEVELOPING GLOBAL CITIZENS300 words

Describe how your teaching prepares your learners for the world they are growing up into — a world in which they will live, work, and engage with people from many different nationalities, cultures, faiths, and worldviews.

Explain your approach to embedding global citizenship in your work, and how you define success in this area. Give concrete examples of how you give young people a sense of responsibility that extends beyond their country's borders, and how you build the life and work skills they will need.

Set out how you prepare your learners to navigate, resolve, and where appropriate prevent the disagreements and conflicts that can arise across such differences — and how your teaching contributes to a more peaceful world, in their classroom, their community, and beyond.

Examples might include connecting with classrooms or learners in other countries, field trips, using technology to reach beyond your community, arranging introductions to the world of work, supporting exchange programmes, or work that explicitly addresses conflict, reconciliation, or peacebuilding.

8. IMPROVING THE TEACHING PROFESSION

300

Share how you are contributing to the improvement of the teaching profession. How are you helping to raise the bar of teaching, sharing best practices with your colleagues and helping them overcome the challenges they face?

How do you incorporate lifelong learning into your professional life, encourage it amongst your peers, and how do you instill it in your students?

(For example, through teaching or mentoring teachers at your school, other schools or teacher training college; contributing to public debates on the teaching profession, whether through speaking engagements, writing articles, blogs, media participation, social media campaigns, events or conferences; or other examples of practice that have elevated the status of teaching in your country.)

9. CLIMATE CHANGE EDUCATION

(optional) 300

Please demonstrate how you have shown a commitment to sustainable education by integrating climate change and environmental topics into the curriculum.

words

(Please tell us: How are you fostering students' understanding of the causes, effects and solutions to climate change? Have you helped your students understand their own impact on the environment? Have you introduced any innovative teaching methods and programs that empower students to take action on climate change, engage with environmental organizations, and advocate and raise awareness on the importance of reducing carbon footprint and promoting sustainable living? What difference did these actions make? Have you also promoted sustainable practices within your own school and the wider community?)

10. USE OF THE PRIZE FUNDS

300

If you were to win the Prize, how do you plan to spend the money in the short term and over the next 10 years?

words

The money would be yours to spend as you wish, however please share any projects that you are passionate about e.g. teaching, school or community related projects that would benefit from the additional funding and worldwide recognition the Prize would bring.

Please also describe your plans to continue working in education with young people following the award, including your intention to remain in educational work for at least the next five years.

SUPPORTING EVIDENCE

GLOBAL TEACHER PRIZE

Please provide the following evidence to support your application

1. Reference Letter: From your current or recent school/institution (within the past 2 years).

It should include:

- The applicant's full name, job title, school name, subject(s) taught, and the length of employment.
- School/institution name and address, referee's full name, job title, and relationship to applicant.
- A statement endorsing the applicant as an educator or for the Global Teacher Prize.

2. Proof of official or public recognition (e.g., from governments, institutions, NGOs, UN, media appearances).

Optional

3. Additional documents

Optional: photos or URLs to support your application

Guidelines:

- Max 5 files total (text, image, audio, or video).
- Supporting files: should be limited to 2 pages each, no links. Formats: JPEG/PDF (other formats accepted), max 5MB each.
- Video: may be hosted on platforms like YouTube. Provide active public URLs.
- Do not upload extra answers to application questions—only responses in the application form will be reviewed.
- All supporting documents can be uploaded in the original language.

GLOBAL SCHOOLS PRIZE

Please provide the following evidence to support your application:

1. Please upload proof of any awards, certifications, accreditations, or other forms of recognition your school has received, whether national or international (e.g., IB, Cambridge, government inspections, UNESCO programs, or similar achievements).
2. Additional documents
Optional: documents, photos or videos to support your application

Guidelines:

- Max 5 files total (text, image, audio, or video)
- Supporting files: should be limited to 2 pages each, no links. Formats: JPEG/PDF (other formats accepted), max 5MB each.
- Video: may be hosted on platforms like YouTube. Provide active public URLs.
- Do not upload extra answers to application questions—only responses in the application form will be reviewed.
- All supporting documents can be uploaded in the original language.

Upload your Reference



Upload your Curriculum Vitae (CV) (optional)



Video URL 1 (optional)

Video URL 2 (optional)

☐ Please confirm you meet our Global Teacher Prize eligibility and criteria requirements and agree to our terms and conditions.

<https://globalteacherprize.org/pages/eligibility-criteria>

<https://globalteacherprize.org/pages/terms-conditions>

☐ By submitting your application you are giving your consent to receiving updates on the prize and the Varkey Foundation. You will be able to unsubscribe at any time.