



How the EGA Program Works



Individual board members can earn four different levels of distinctions (Commendable, Advanced, Distinguished, and Exemplary in the Exemplary Governance Award Program) by accumulating points for various ISBA or ISBA recognized activities.

As each individual level is attained, the board member is awarded a lapel pin to proudly wear at ISBA and other educational functions. In addition, they are recognized in the ISBA quarterly publication, *The Journal*.

If a majority of a board attains a minimum Commendable Individual recognition, the board is considered a Commendable Board. Once all board members have attained a minimum of Commendable Individual, the board will be recognized as an Advanced Board. Advanced Boards who complete a board self-assessment, and a board development retreat with an outside facilitator will be considered a Distinguished Board.

The highest level of board recognition for participation in professional development is that of Exemplary Board. Exemplary board status is conferred upon boards that complete the designated criteria— [See Exemplary Requirements here.](#)

EGA Recognition Levels
Commendable - 75 points
Advanced - 125 points
Distinguished - 175 points
Exemplary - 225 points

Other Electives
Write an article that is published in an education journal - 5 points **
Officially appointed to represent on an outside board - 5 points **
Serve on an ISBA committee - 5 points **
Attendance at NSBA, AASA, COSSBA or IASBO event - 10 points **
Retreats/Workshops/Seminars outside of ISBA - 1 pt. per hour, 5 pt. max **
Must contain one or more of these subjects:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foundational Statement Development • Strategic Planning • Board Member’s Roles/Responsibilities • Teambuilding • Conflict Resolution • Board/Superintendent Relations

ISBA Core Meetings
*It is mandatory to attend a minimum of one core meeting to advance to the next EGA level
Fall Conference - 25 points
Winter/Summer Leadership Academy - 10 points each
New Board Member Academy - 45 points
Regional Meetings - 5 points

ISBA Electives
Subject Seminar or Retreat/Webinar/Roundtable with ISBA Staff - 1 pt. per hour, 10 pt. max

You can submit EGA points earned outside of ISBA Events [Here.](#)

**** Max point award in a 12-month period**



The EGA Program: First Year Board Members



Board members who take office before July 1

For an entire school board to maintain its EGA status when they acquire new board members 6 or more months before the end of the year, that new member must:

- Earn a minimum of 55 individual EGA points
- Attend at least one ISBA core meeting

Board members who take office on or after July 1

For an entire school board to maintain its EGA status when they acquire new board members 5 or less months before the end of the year, that new member must:

- Attend at least 1 ISBA core meeting
- Attend at least 1 other educational event (this can be with ISBA or outside of ISBA)

If the new members fail to meet these requirements, the board will only drop down to the next lowest level. In the following years, the board has the opportunity to return to its former higher level, if all standard EGA requirements are met by each individual member. Failure to meet the program requirements in the next year will result in dropping another level.

If a board wishes to move to the next highest EGA level during the year they acquire a new board member, all members must meet the standard requirements for that next highest level.

The terms above only pertain to the entire board's status. First-year board members must meet all standard requirements to obtain an individual award level (75 points for Commendable, 125 points for Advanced, 175 points for Distinguished, and 225 points for Exemplary).