



**UNITED SCHOOLS ORGANISATION OF INDIA**

# USO SCHOOL LEADERSHIP CONCLAVE & EXCELLENCE AWARDS 2026

A special initiative under USO's 75 Years Celebrations - USO@75: Seventy-Five Sparks

## AWARD FRAMEWORK & GUIDELINES

### OBJECTIVE:

The awards aim to recognise and celebrate school leaders who demonstrate impactful, innovative, and inclusive leadership in education. This initiative is part of USO's 75-year milestone celebrations under the '75 Sparks' series.

### ELIGIBILITY:

- Open to School Principals, Directors, Founders, and Heads of Institutions.
- Applicable to all boards and school types, including Inclusive / Special Schools.
- Nominees must be currently serving in a leadership role.
- Self-nominations and peer nominations are both accepted.

### AWARD CATEGORIES:

1. Excellence in Educational Leadership
2. Innovation in School Practices
3. Student-Centric Leadership
4. Community Impact
5. Inclusive Education Leadership

*A nominee may apply under one category only.*

### NOMINATION PROCESS:

- Nominations must be submitted via the official online form only.
- Supporting documents are required.
- Each nomination must reflect work within the last 1–2 years.
- Each nominee is required to recommend details of three (3) fellow school leaders.

### TIMELINE:

- Nominations Open: **May 1, 2026**
- Nominations Close: **May 21, 2026**
- Review & Shortlisting: **May 22 – June 10, 2026**
- Conclave & Awards Ceremony: **Friday, June 26, 2026**

*Late or incomplete submissions will not be considered*

### EVALUATION PROCESS:

- All nominations will be reviewed by the USO Executive Council (EC Members).
- The jury's decision will be final and binding on all.
- No correspondence regarding results will be entertained.

### EVALUATION CRITERIA:

Submissions will be assessed based on:

- Impact: Measurable outcomes and change created
- Innovation: Originality and forward-thinking approach
- Leadership: Vision, execution, and influence
- Scalability: Potential for replication or growth
- Inclusivity: Reach across diverse learners and communities

### SHORTLISTING & PARTICIPATION:

- All nominees are invited to attend the Conclave.
- Attendance at the Conclave is mandatory to receive the award.
- Award winners will be announced during the ceremony.
- Awards will be presented only at the event and will not be mailed or dispatched thereafter.

### RECOGNITION & AWARDS:

- Each category winner will receive a cash award of ₹10,000, along with a trophy and certificate.
- All nominees will receive a Nomination Trophy and Certificate of Recognition.

### USE OF INFORMATION:

By submitting the nomination, participants agree that USO may:

- Use submitted content, photographs, and details for promotion and documentation.
- Feature nominees/winners on digital, print, and media platforms.

### ACCURACY & AUTHENTICITY:

All information provided must be true and verifiable. USO reserves the right to:

- Request additional information
- Disqualify entries with false or misleading information

### DISQUALIFICATION:

Entries may be disqualified if:

- Incomplete or incorrect information is submitted.
- Plagiarism or misrepresentation is identified.
- The nominee does not meet eligibility criteria.

### CONFLICT OF INTEREST:

- Members of the USO Executive Council (EC) are not eligible to apply for the awards.
- Immediate family members of USO EC Members are also not eligible to apply.
- Any nominee found to have a direct conflict of interest may be disqualified at the discretion of USO.

### RIGHT TO MODIFY:

USO reserves the right to:

- Modify categories or structure if required.
- Withhold awards in a category if entries do not meet standards.

### GENERAL GUIDELINES:

- Submission does not guarantee selection.
- Participation in the Conclave does not guarantee winning.
- Decisions taken by USO and the jury are final.

**NOMINATE NOW || LIMITED WINDOW: MAY 1–21**

*Scan the QR Code for the Nomination Form*

