

Distinguished Districts

Similar to the Distinguished Club Program (DCP) that help measure the health of the clubs, there exists a Distinguished District Plan, which measures the strength of District. And, just like there are three levels of distinction for clubs, Districts are likewise rated with those same three levels: Distinguished, Select Distinguished and Presidents Distinguished.

A District is measured for success by club growth, membership growth, training and growth in the number of education awards earned by the members. Extra credit is earned for the number of clubs and the number of Division Areas that reach the distinguished status. The time period is July 1 through June 30. All calculations are based on the numbers that the District had at the end of the prior Toastmasters year. Given that, here is what it takes for a District to attain each level of distinction:

Distinguished District

1. Planning and Training submitted on time: Submit to Toastmasters International by September 30 both the District Success Plan Matrix and proof that at least 85% of the division and area governors have been trained. This is a required action although no points are awarded for achieving it.

2. Membership Growth: The total membership of the district must grow by at least 2% from the prior Toastmasters year.

3. Club Growth: The net clubs in the district must grow by at least 3% from the previous year.

4. Competent Communicator Award Growth: The number of CC's awarded must be at least 3.5% of the district paid membership for the previous year.

5. Advanced Communicator Award Growth: The number of AC's awarded must equal or exceed 1% of the district paid membership for the previous year.

TO EARN EXTRA CREDIT TOWARDS POSSIBLY ATTAINING EITHER SELECT OR PRESIDENTS DISTINGUISHED STATUS, A DISTRICT CAN EARN THE FOLLOWING POINTS:

6. Distinguished Clubs: The district is given points for the percent of its clubs that achieve distinguished status. The points given range from 1 point for 30% of clubs distinguished to 10 points for 75% of clubs distinguished.

7. Distinguished Areas: The district is given points for the percent of its areas that achieve distinguished status. The points given range from 1 point for 30% of areas distinguished to 10 points for 75% of areas distinguished.

8. Leadership Awards Earned: The district is given points for the ratio of leadership awards earned compared to the base number of clubs. The points given range from 1 point for 50% of areas distinguished to 10 points for 95% of areas distinguished.

Select Distinguished District

The extra credit points for all of the distinguished districts are used to rank the all of the districts. The districts that rank from #7 through #12 are considered as the Select Distinguished districts.

Presidents Distinguished District

The extra credit points for all of the distinguished districts are used to rank the all of the districts. The districts that rank from #1 through #6 are considered as the Presidents Distinguished districts.

District Governors

A District Governor is the chief executive officer for a District. That person should have served as a club President for at least six months and served at least twelve months as either a division governor or lieutenant governor.

The duties of a District Governor include:

- Uphold Toastmasters bylaws and policies
- Promote Toastmasters educational program
- Responsible to the Toastmasters Board of Directors
- Submit to the Board of Directors all required reports
- Report to, and take direction from, the District Council for district organization, programs and procedures
- Uphold and promote to the district the purposes of Toastmasters International
- Preside at all meetings of both the District Council and District Executive Committee
- Fill appointive offices as provided in the district administrative bylaws
- Provide to the district clubs the budget of the district, the audit report, and any other necessary reports
- Participate in the semi-annual leadership training provided at the regional conferences
- Attend the International Convention in August

How it Works

The district is the main basic unit within the Toastmasters organization. Functionally, they are synonymous to a state in the United States. They have an elected governor and for the most part are self-autonomous. A district is the chief source of information, training and activities for the clubs and their members.

The districts in North America are divided into eight Regions. Each region has two International Directors who are responsible for training the District Governor and the two Lieutenant Governors (Education/Training and Marketing).

The District Governor is the chief executive officer of the district. As a servant leader, s/he is responsible for ensuring that all activities, training, contests and educational programs are done to the level of excellence expected by Toastmasters International. The main goal of the District Governor is to help the district and all of its clubs reach distinguished status.

Much is expected of a District Governor. A fountain of Toastmasters knowledge. A sage. An organizer. A builder of membership in existing clubs and a builder of new clubs. An inspiration to the two Lieutenant and the Division Governors. A dynamic leader of leaders. A mentor to all district members. And, an example of a real Toastmaster.

Districts are vital to the success of the Toastmasters International. As the districts go, Toastmasters and its members go.

For More Information

The status of the District and its Areas can be found on the District report called "District Performance Report - Detail". For District 22, the URL on the Toastmasters International website is:

http://reports.toastmasters.org/reports_new/reports.cfm?d=22



A District and the District Governor