



## EXTRACORPOREAL LIFE SUPPORT ORGANIZATION

### ELSO Award of Excellence in Life Support: Roadmap to Platinum



This tool serves as a framework and timeline for ECLS centers to evaluate and refine their programs, driving sustained quality improvement. By emphasizing deliberate planning, execution, and evaluation, it prepares centers for successful application or reapplication for the Excellence in Life Support Award.

The Roadmap to Platinum is specifically tailored for recognized centers aspiring to advance from Silver to Gold or Gold to Platinum levels.

#### Essential Tips for Platinum Success

- **Multidisciplinary Approach:** Include medical, educational, and administrative leaders
- **Data-Driven Analysis:** Use ELSO Registry, ELSO Quality Reporting Platform and quality improvement tools
- **Plan Ahead:** Robust projects need time to execute and assess

If you have any questions, please contact the Award Committee at [Award@elso.org](mailto:Award@elso.org)



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### 3 Years to Application: Preparation Phase

**Focus:** Laying the Foundation

#### 1. Evaluate and Benchmark

- Analyze program outcomes, complications, and team satisfaction using ELSO Quality Reporting Platform (e.g., Domo).
- Complete sections 4–6 of the ELSO Award Application Worksheet and Award Center Evaluation Improvement Tool:
  - Section 4 - Multidisciplinary Education
  - Section 5 - Quality-Centric Program Management
  - Section 6 - Process Optimization

#### 2. Identify Gaps

- Engage ECMO leadership and quality teams to find areas for improvement

#### 3. Launch Projects

- Initiate quality/research projects with evidence-based methods
  - These projects should be used for sections 5 and 6 of the COE application

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### 2 Years to Application: Development Phase

**Focus:** Implementing Quality Improvements

1. **Refine Processes:** Continue filling out sections 3 & 7 of the worksheet and Award Center Evaluation Improvement Tool:
  - Section 3 - Workforce Focus (Ethics, Stress Management)
  - Section 7 - Patient & Family-Centered Care
2. **Team Education:** Train team members on new processes and regularly validate changes
3. **Enhance Care:** Use QI techniques to strengthen patient-family involvement and workforce support



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### 1 Year to Application: Consolidation Phase

**Focus:** Finalizing and Reviewing

1. **Analyze Results:** Evaluate quality projects and iterate processes using PDSA cycles
  2. **Focus on System & Environment:** Address sections 1 & 2 of the worksheet and Award Center Evaluation Improvement Tool:
    - Section 1 - System Focus
    - Section 2 - Environment Focus
  3. **Prepare for Submission:** Consolidate section documents and combine in shared space for all team members involved in filling out the Award Application to ensure readiness for site visits
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### Year of Application: Submission

**Focus:** Completing the Application

1. **Download and Assign**
  - Retrieve the current ELSO Award Application Worksheet in October during your award cycle
  - Assign sections to team members; designate an editor
2. **Finalize**
  - Assign 1 team member within your ECLS center to fill out the online application in January
    - Transfer answers previously compiled from your center's ELSO Award Application Worksheet to the online application tool
  - Complete the online application in January when it opens
  - Proofread thoroughly and attach all required documents
3. **Submit by March 1st**