NEWS RELEASE

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Benchmark Education Company Wins Four Tech & Learning Awards of Excellence for Back to School 2024

Benchmark Advance and *Adelante, Foundational Skills Assessments, and eBook Library* are chosen for honors by edtech industry experts

NEW ROCHELLE, NY, Sept. 19, 2024—Leading educational publisher Benchmark Education Company (BEC) is pleased to announce that it has received four awards in the 2024 Tech & Learning Awards of Excellence for "The Best Tools for Back to School," which were announced on September 18. All four awards were in the "Primary Education" category, with one going to each of BEC's core language arts programs, *Benchmark Advance* and *Benchmark Adelante*, one going to the early literacy skills evaluation solution, *Foundational Skills Assessments*, and the other going to the company's *4,500+ eBook Library*.

The Tech & Learning Awards of Excellence for "The Best Tools for Back to School" recognize the best products in the education technology industry from the last 12 months and are intended to help readers of *Tech & Learning* Magazine find the solutions that will support their work in any learning environment. Eligible products include hardware, software, curriculum, and more, all divided by grade level. Tech & Learning judges evaluated nominated products based on versatility, value, and solutions to specific problems to support innovative, effective teaching and learning.

"With emerging technology like AI exploding just as ESSER funds are dwindling in schools nationwide, our readers count on Tech & Learning to curate the best products out there to support an equitable, effective learning environment," Tech & Learning Content Director Christine Weiser said in a statement. "The winning products met our evaluation criteria to qualify for this prestigious list."

Benchmark Advance and *Benchmark Adelante* align with Science of Reading research and provide a cohesive structure for the development of literacy skills and content knowledge, along with equitable materials that reach the needs of each learner and ensure cultural inclusivity. Delivering explicit and systematic phonics instruction developed with Wiley Blevins, Ed.D., these high-quality resources promote biliteracy with parallel programs and tools to support dual language implementation models. In 2024 *Benchmark Advance* also received an SIIA CODiE Award in the category of Best English Language Arts Solution for PK-8.

Foundational Skills Assessments, offered in both print and digital formats, helps educators gain precise and valuable insights into students' progress in decoding, encoding, and phonological awareness skills. It features assessment tools developed with Wiley Blevins, Ed.D., and Jan Hasbrouck, Ph.D., and is designed to deliver data that will help drive instruction and placement decisions for Tier 2 or 3 intervention.

BEC's *eBook Library* offers 24/7 access to more than 4,500 fiction and nonfiction eBooks in English and Spanish, searchable across grades K-8, all content areas, and instructional needs. Each interactive, customizable eBook comes with corresponding resources to support teacher instruction and empowers educators to implement whole-class, small-group, or one-on-one independent learning, utilize embedded instructional materials, increase the home-to-school connection, and engage students with high-interest texts.

"We're very pleased to have received these honors from the Tech & Learning Awards of Excellence," BEC President Sera Hoffman said. "Our central mission has always been to create products that support educators and students to the fullest, and these four awards affirm the effectiveness of our products, our commitment to quality, and our dedication to innovation."

ABOUT BENCHMARK EDUCATION COMPANY

Benchmark Education Company (BEC) is a leading publisher of core, supplemental, and intervention literacy and language resources in English and Spanish. BEC is also a provider of exceptional professional development to educators.

BEC is recognized as a responsive publisher that offers equally rigorous and engaging digital, print, and hybrid learning materials grounded in the Science of Reading research. BEC monitors research outcomes carefully to create effective foundational resources that include strong decoding materials with systematic and explicit instruction and high-quality resources focused on language development and comprehension. BEC's content-rich and authentic texts offer instruction in close reading and analysis, multiple perspectives, and authentic literature while building world knowledge and reflecting the individuality of every student in each diverse classroom.

Family owned and operated, BEC is committed to partnering with educators to provide the best for all students through resources of exceptional quality, world-class professional learning, and effective and dedicated customer support.