

2021 CEC Special Education Research Award Nomination Information

The Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) is a professional association of educators dedicated to advancing the success of children with exceptionalities. CEC accomplishes its mission through advocacy, standards, and professional development.

The CEC Special Education Research Award recognizes an individual or team whose research has made significant, documented contributions to the education of children and youth with exceptionalities.

Nominations may be made by an individual or a CEC-affiliated organization (unit, chapter, division, or subdivision).

Award Benefits

The CEC Special Education Research Award recipient will:

- Be recognized and receive a commemorative plaque at an awards ceremony during the CEC 2021 Convention & Expo, March 3-6, 2021 in Baltimore, MD.
- Be featured in a press release on CEC's website (cec.sped.org)
- Act as a CEC spokesperson for the media and on CEC's website regarding his or her research findings and area of expertise

Eligibility Requirements

- Nominee must be a CEC member at the time of nomination.
- Nominee may be an individual or research team.
- The research of the nominee must be directed at improving the educational success of children and youth with exceptionalities.
- Posthumous nominations are not accepted.

Award Selection Considerations

- The CEC Honors Committee has the authority to give only one CEC Special Education Research Award or opt not to grant the award in any given year.
- **NOTE:** With their permission, individuals nominated for this award but who are not selected may be included in the pool of nominees the following year. If the nominator who originally submitted the nomination intends to resubmit it for a second year, they may do so by sending a letter of intent to the CEC Honors Committee Chair. The previous nomination materials can be reused.
- Only one nomination may be accepted from a given CEC-affiliated organization in a single year. Therefore, if the nominator intends to submit a brand-new nomination for the following year, then a resubmission of the prior year's nomination may be sponsored by another individual or member of that group, and the previous materials still reused.

Required Materials

- The nomination packet is divided into five sections:
 - Nominee Responses to Areas of Award Relevance
 - Vitae or Resumé of Nominee
 - Published Articles
 - Please include examples of articles published by the individual or research team (three maximum).
 - Letters of Recommendation
 - Please include **up to four letters of recommendation** documenting the nominee's efforts in meeting the award criteria. The letters should describe the impact of the research on the education of exceptional children and youth within programs as well as from the perspective of the research and practice of the broader field.
 - **The letters of recommendation should address the specific research program for which the applicant is being nominated.** They must represent public and private schools, unit education agencies, colleges and universities, or other related field sites.
 - Nominee Photo
 - **One high-resolution color headshot photo** of the nominee in JPG or PNG format. The photo must be print-quality.

Rules and Instructions for Nomination

- All nomination materials (including letters of recommendation and other nomination materials) must be submitted to CEC Headquarters **by July 15, 2020**.
- **Nominations will be accepted electronically** via our website at www.exceptionalchildren.org/awards.
- Supporting materials may be scanned and included as images or PDF files if necessary. If you are unable to upload them in the electronic submission form, you may send them by email to kevinj@cec.sped.org.
- Please use the file name to clearly label each section and all nomination materials (e.g., "John_Smith_2021_Research_Award.doc" or "John_Smith_Vitae.doc").
- All materials submitted become the property of CEC and will not be returned.
- Nominations are accepted from individuals or from a CEC-affiliated organization (CEC unit, chapter, division, or subdivision). Only one nomination will be accepted from each CEC-affiliated organization in a given year.

For questions, please contact Kevin Jacobs at kevinj@cec.sped.org.