

Glenview Student Honored With International Award

Arlington, Va., March 1, 2020 — In February, **Mitchell Pritsker** of Glenview, Ill., received the **2020 Yes I Can Award** from the **Council for Exceptional Children (CEC)**.



Transitioning from school to work can be challenging for youth with autism spectrum disorder, but Mitchell, a 21-year-old from Glenbrook South High School, has succeeded.

Mitchell started Transition Services at his high school with minimal independent work experience. Since he began receiving services, however, he has flourished and thrived.

Today, Mitchell independently works at two paid jobs. On Monday and Friday, he works at Northbrook Public Works, where his job tasks include filling the coffee station and organizing blueprints. Most recently, he received an offer to start a new job at HP Millwork, where he makes contact solicitation calls to contractors for the upcoming season. This completely new area for Mitchell has allowed him to continue to grow and expand his skill set by

interacting with new contacts and people over the phone.

Not only does Mitchell work hard to excel at his jobs, but he also takes the Pace Paratransit Bus to his job sites independently. In his free time, he is enrolled in Karate classes and helps his parents watch after his younger brother and sister. A dedicated and successful member of his community, he continues to take on new levels of independence each day.

CEC is proud to honor Mitchell with this award in the Transition category. He received the award at the Yes I Can Award Ceremony on February 7, 2020, at the Oregon Convention Center in Portland, Ore., as part of the CEC 2020 Convention & Expo. The Yes I Can program recognizes the accomplishments of 12 students with exceptionalities in six categories: Academics, Arts, School & Community Activities, Self-Advocacy, Technology, and Transition.

The Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) is the professional association of educators dedicated to advancing the educational success of children and youth with exceptionalities that accomplishes its mission through advocacy, standards, and professional development. Learn more about CEC at cec.sped.org.

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