



## 2022 CEC Teacher of the Year Award Nomination Information

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

The CEC Teacher of the Year Award recognizes a CEC member teacher who currently provides instruction to students with exceptionalities and is an outstanding member of the profession. His or her work exemplifies the best in special education teaching and reflects significant, documented positive outcomes for students, continued professional development, and the highest standards of educational quality.

Nominations may be made by an individual or CEC-affiliated organization (i.e., unit, chapter, division, or subdivision). Self-nominations are not accepted.

### Award Benefits

The Teacher of the Year Award recipient will be:

- invited to attend the [CEC 2022 Convention & Expo, January 16-19, in Orlando, FL](#) compliments of CEC (CEC will cover the recipient's registration);
- recognized and receive a commemorative plaque at an awards ceremony during the CEC 2022 Convention & Expo;
- given a \$500 cash honorarium; and
- featured in a press release on the CEC website (<https://exceptionalchildren.org>)

### Eligibility Requirements

The Teacher of the Year Award recipient must:

- be a CEC member at the time of nomination **and granting of the award** and have been a CEC member for at least 5 years (these years of membership may be non-consecutive).
- demonstrate CEC's core values, which are:
  - Visionary Thinking: Demonstrated by forward-thinking and courageous decision making dedicated to excellence and influence in an evolving environment
  - Integrity: Demonstrated by ethical, responsive behavior, transparency, and accountability
  - Inclusiveness: Demonstrated by a commitment to diversity, caring, and respect for the dignity and worth of all individuals
- currently provide direct services to students with exceptionalities.
- hold professional certification in the area in which he or she provides services.
- engage in work consistent with CEC's mission statement, as stated above.

Posthumous nominations are not accepted.

## Award Selection Considerations

- The CEC Honors Committee has the authority to give only one CEC Teacher of the Year 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 Honors Committee Staff Liaison. The previous nomination materials can be reused.

## Required Materials

The nomination packet is divided into the following sections:

- Nominee's Work (Responses may be entered online or uploaded).  
Describe how the nominee's instructional practices or programs result in an effective learning environment and how they are appropriate and individualized for students. Include any collaborative efforts with other teachers in which the nominee is involved. (750-word maximum)  
Describe how the nominee provides an engaging environment for diverse students (e.g., different learning styles, exceptionalities, cultural and/or linguistic differences). (750-word maximum)
- Nominee's Statement (Responses may be entered online or uploaded).  
Describe how CEC has positively benefited your practice and the two most critical issues CEC has helped you overcome. (500-word maximum)
- Resumé or Vitae of Nominee
- Letters of Recommendation  
Please include **three letters of recommendation** from colleagues, supervisors, or other professionals documenting the nominee's efforts in meeting the award criteria.
- Testimonials (Responses may be entered online or uploaded).  
**Three testimonials** from students, parents, or colleagues about the nominee's work or positive impact on students.

## Rules and Instructions for Nomination

- All nomination materials must be submitted **by 12:00 pm Eastern, September 8, 2021.**
- The nomination form is available at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/H2SGCC5>
- Supporting materials may be uploaded into the online nomination form as PDF, doc or docx files. If you are unable to upload them, please email them to [Sharon Rodriguez](#).
- Please use the file name to clearly label each section and all nomination materials (e.g., "John\_Smith\_2021\_TOY\_Award.doc" or John\_Smith\_TOY\_Nomination\_Form.doc")
- All materials submitted become the property of CEC and will not be returned.

**For questions, please contact [Sharon Rodriguez](#).**