

Policy Steering Committee Application (2026-28 Terms)

Application Information

Two positions for a 3-year term are open (Jan. 1, 2026-Dec. 31, 2026). Appointment recommendations are made by the committee chair, subject to approval by the President. Your application cannot be considered unless all steps in the process have been completed.

If you log back in to complete the application once you have initially started, you will need to do so from the same computer.

THE DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF ALL MATERIALS IS 12:00 pm Eastern, Tuesday, November 18, 2025.

Please contact [Sharon Rodriguez](#) if you require accommodations/an alternate application format.

Policy Steering Committee Application (2026-28 Terms)

Applicant Information

* 1. Full Name

2. Other name or nickname you prefer to be called, if applicable

* 3. Preferred email

* 4. Preferred phone number

* 5. City and state/province (or country if outside the US/Canada)

* 6. One practitioner and one higher education representative will be selected to fill the two committee vacancies each year. For which are you applying?

- ☐ Practitioner
- ☐ Higher Education

Policy Steering Committee Application (2026-28 Terms)

Committee Duties

The Committee will collaborate with CEC’s Senior Policy and Advocacy Advisor to:

- **Develop and maintain a multiyear public policy agenda to be endorsed by CEC’s Board of Directors to guide the creation and implementation of annual policy and advocacy goals.**
- **Solicit and be informed by member input on position statements.**
- **Recommend issues requiring information for and action by members to CEC Board of Directors and staff.**
- **Collaborate as needed with CEC staff to create informational materials, such as issue briefs, position statements and analyses.**
- **Assist CEC in developing a process for measuring the effects of policy and advocacy actions on legislative and regulatory outcomes.**

* 7. I have read and understand the committee's duties.

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Other (please specify)

Policy Steering Committee Application (2026-28 Terms)

Committee Co-Chair Responsibility

8. I understand that, if appointed, I will serve as co-chair of the committee in my third year on the committee and agree to perform the following responsibilities:

- Lead meetings, ensuring all members can express ideas and opinions
- Lead discussions and encourage participation by all members
- Seek and recommend changes/additions to the committee’s work plan for the coming year
- Develop meeting agendas, committee reports, and any motions for board consideration, in conjunction with the staff liaison

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Other (please specify)

Policy Steering Committee Application (2026-28 Terms)

Meetings and Time Commitment

The committee meets monthly (one hour), with an addition few hours of outside work required every few months, including for meeting preparation and to provide feedback on written materials/draft documents.

These time commitments are estimated but, in any given month, the committee may be required to provide additional hours depending on specific policy developments.

* 9. I have read and understand the expected time commitment.

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Other (please specify)

Policy Steering Committee Application (2026-28 Terms)

Committee Member Knowledge, Skills and Abilities (KSAs)

Committee members must have the following KSA:

- **Experience with investigating, reporting, developing, and/or implementing policy.**
- **Commitment to fully participating in all planned meetings.**
- **Commitment to developing an understanding of issues relevant to the committee’s work.**

- Takes responsibility for being an informed member of a committees or similar group.
- Comes prepared to value others' time.
- Demonstrates effective communication and the ability to make constructive contributions to meetings/discussions.
- Listens to diverse perspectives.
- Acts in the best interest of CEC as an umbrella organization with units/divisions and members that work on behalf of the wide diversity of professional roles and exceptionalities within the field of special education.
- Understands CEC's Public Statement Endorsement Process for Units and Divisions.

* 10. I have read, understand and possess the necessary knowledge, skills and abilities.

☐ Yes

☐ No

☐ Other (please specify)

Policy Steering Committee Application (2026-28 Terms)

Mission and Core Values

CEC's VISION

High-quality education that is inclusive and equitable for individuals with disabilities.

CEC's MISSION

Cultivating, supporting, and empowering education professionals who work with individuals with disabilities by:

- Advocating for education professionals and for individuals with disabilities, and/or gifts and talents
- Advancing professional practice and scholarly research
- Promoting diversity, equity, inclusivity, and accessibility
- Building networks, partnerships, and communities

Our Core Values

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

* 11. I have read, understand, and support CEC's Vision, Mission, and Core Values.

☐ Yes

☐ No

☐ Other (please specify)

Policy Steering Committee Application (2026-28 Terms)

Applicant Questions

Please respond to the following questions, given that CEC is an umbrella organization representing various professional roles and members working with/within various exceptionality groups.

* 12. What inspired you to apply to the Policy Steering Committee? (Limit 100 words.)

* 13. What experiences have you had that you believe can contribute to the work of the committee? (Limit 100 words.)

* 14. Other than the experiences provided above, how would CEC benefit from your involvement on the Policy Steering Committee? (Limit 100 words.)

* 15. What do you see as the three top policy priorities for CEC in the next one to two years? (Limit 75 words.)

Policy Steering Committee Application (2026-28 Terms)

Current Professional Position(s)

* 16. What is your current primary professional position? Please include the following information:

Current Primary Position Title

Agency, Organization or Institution

17. What is your current secondary professional position, if applicable? Please include the following information:

Current Secondary Position Title

Agency, Organization or Institution

Policy Steering Committee Application (2026-28 Terms)

Education

* 18. Highest degree. Please include degree type (abbreviation), institution, major and year.

Policy Steering Committee Application (2026-28 Terms)

Vita/Resume/Biographical Information

Please upload your document in pdf format Limit 3 pages.

Key elements for a bio include Education, Experience (Job History/Brief Job Descriptions), Skills/Certifications/Special Training, Community Service/Leadership. The information could also include items such as what led to a career in education, teaching philosophy, etc.

If you come back to edit your responses, you will not see any previously uploaded document.

19. Vita/Resume/Bio Info - PDF

Your resume should not exceed three pages.

Choose File

Choose File

No file chosen

Policy Steering Committee Application (2026-28 Terms)

CEC Membership

* 20. Number years you have been a CEC member

21. Division Memberships

- ☐ Council of Administrators of Special Education (CASE)
- ☐ Council for Children with Behavioral Disorders (CCBD)
- ☐ Chronic and Complex Conditions: Division for Physical, Health and Multiple Disabilities (CCC)
- ☐ Division for Research (CEC-DR)
- ☐ Council for Educational Diagnostic Services (CEDS)
- ☐ Division on Autism and Developmental Disabilities (DADD)
- ☐ Division of Visual and Performing Arts Education (DARTS)
- ☐ Division for Communicative Disabilities and Deafness (DCDD)
- ☐ Division on Career Development and Transition (DCDT)
- ☐ Division for Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Exceptional Learners (DDEL)
- ☐ Division for Early Childhood (DEC)
- ☐ Division of International Special Education and Services (DISES)
- ☐ Division for Learning Disabilities (DLD)
- ☐ Division for Leaders and Legacy (DLL)
- ☐ Division on Visual Impairments and Deafblindness (DVIDB)
- ☐ Innovations in Special Education Technology (ISET)
- ☐ The Association for the Gifted (TAG)
- ☐ Teacher Education Division (TED)

Policy Steering Committee Application (2026-28 Terms)

Demographic and Diversity Information

One of CEC's core values is Inclusiveness. We demonstrate this by a commitment to diversity, caring, and respect for the dignity and worth of all individuals. The CEC Board of Directors is committed to this core value so, while your answers to the following questions are not required, we strongly urge you to respond as they will help CEC in its ongoing efforts to ensure diversity within its volunteer leadership.

22. Age Range

- ☐ 2000s
- ☐ 1990s
- ☐ 1980s
- ☐ 1970s
- ☐ 1960s
- ☐ 1950s
- ☐ 1940s or earlier

23. Ethnicity

- ☐ American Indian, Alaska Native or First Nations
- ☐ Asian or Asian American
- ☐ Black or African American
- ☐ LatinX, Hispanic ChicanX or Puerto Rican
- ☐ Middle Eastern or North African
- ☐ Multi-Racial
- ☐ Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
- ☐ White or European American
- ☐ I'd rather not say
- ☐ Other

24. Gender/Gender Identity

- ☐ Cisgender Female
- ☐ Cisgender Male
- ☐ Transgender Female
- ☐ Transgender Male
- ☐ Gender Queer / Gender Fluid / Gender Non- Conforming
- ☐ I'd rather not say

25. Exceptionality or Disability

26. Country of Origin

27. Native Language

28. There is such a great range of individual backgrounds and experiences that cannot be easily conveyed by answering demographic questions.

CEC's definition of diversity includes the following facets of one's identity - race, ethnicity, culture, language, age, (dis)abilities, family status/composition, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status, religious and spiritual values, geographic location, country of origin, and professional role.

Given that, what facets of your identity and/or experiences provide a context for the perspectives that influence your work and interactions with others. (Statement length: 150 words.)

Policy Steering Committee Application (2026-28 Terms)

Did we miss anything?

29. Is there anything else about you or your experiences would you like to share? (Limit 100 words.)

Policy Steering Committee Application (2026-28 Terms)

Eligibility and Conditions

Committee members must be members of CEC and must maintain CEC membership for the duration of their term. Failure to do so will result in removal from the committee.

Membership on committees is determined by the chair, or chair-designate where one exists, subject to approval by the President.

A committee member may be removed from office for just cause by the committee chair with approval of the President.

Appointed committee members must complete the Committee Member Agreement and Interest and Disclosure Statement and Conflict of Interest and Disclosure

Statement. Please contact Sharon Rodriguez, Director of Governance and Executive Services, should you wish to review the document.

I understand that all committees report to the Board of Directors through an interim and year-end report. I have the right to have the chair include in any report to the board anything with which I may disagree.

* 30. I have read and understand the Eligibility and Conditions information.

☐ Yes

☐ No

Other (please specify):

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We'd like to know...

* 31. How did you hear about the opportunity to apply for the Policy Steering Committee?

☐ *Special Education Today*

☐ CEC Social Media

☐ CEC Website

☐ Unit/Division Communication or Website

☐ Another CEC Member

☐ Other (please specify)

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Thank you.

Should you have any questions, please contact Sharon Rodriguez, Director of Governance and Executive Services.