

Student and Early Career Committee Application for 2026-29 Positions

Application Information

Thank you for your interest in serving on CEC's Student and Early Career Committee and for your willingness to give of your time to serve as a volunteer! You will not only be benefitting CEC, but also the field of special education.

Please complete all items, adhering to indicated word limits. 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 11:59 pm, Thursday, April 30, 2026.

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Applicant Information

* Last Name

* First Name

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

* Preferred email

* Cell phone number

* City, State/Province/Country

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Committee Information

Committee Purposes: The Student and Early Career Committee advises the Board of Directors on ways to recruit, mentor, and support individuals entering the profession, especially those from diverse backgrounds, and enhance the experience of student and early-career CEC members. The committee also directly supports student and early career CEC members through professional development, networking, and the convention event. It also annually selects the student award recipients and periodically reviews the award criteria.

* I have read and understand the purposes of the committee.

Yes
 No
 Other (please specify)

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Committee Job Description

* I have read and understand the committee job description
(<https://exceptionalchildren.org/committees/student-and-early-career-committee>)

Yes
 No
 Other (please specify)

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General Committee 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 co-chairs, 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.

Committee members in their third year serve as co-chairs.

Due to CEC's financial investment in providing members of the Student and Early Career Committee with travel, lodging and registration fees to CEC's annual Convention & Expo, members are expected to participate in and engage actively with the committee's work and in each meeting. Any member who fails to regularly attend scheduled meetings (without cause, as determined by the committee chair) or participate in/work at Student Committee convention activities will not receive funding or reimbursement to attend CEC's annual Convention and may be asked to step down as a committee member.

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

Yes
 No

Other (please specify):

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Committee "Position" Category

Committee members must be either a birth-12 practitioner in the first three (3) years of their career in special education or a pre-service student member, as defined by CEC, for at least their first year on the committee.

Student Definition: A full-time student during the academic year as defined by an accredited college or university, or a part-time student who is not engaged in full-time employment as a certified professional in the field of education.

* I meet the committee eligibility requirement.

Yes
 No

* I am applying in the following category:

Pre-Service Student (Undergraduate or Graduate)
 Early Career Special Educator (K-12 practitioner)

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Student Applicant Information

Name of College/University

Expected Graduation Date (Month/Year)

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Early Career Special Educator Applicant Information

Current Position(s)

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

Current Primary Position Title

Agency, Organization or Institution

City, State/Province, Country

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

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Applicant Questions

* What inspired you to apply to the Student and Early Career Committee? (Limit 150 words.)

* List any college/university CEC Student Chapter and other volunteer positions you have held, including position and dates. (Limit 250 words.)

* Identify 2-3 issues that pre-service teachers or early career teachers face and what you would like the SECC to address. (Limit 250 words.)

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CEC Membership

* Number years you have been a CEC member

Division Memberships

- Council of Administrators of Special Education (CASE)
- Council for Children with Behavioral Disorders (CCBD)
- Complex and Chronic Conditions: The Division for Physical, Health and Multiple Disabilities (CCC)
- Division for Research (CEC-DR)
- CEC Pioneers Division (CEC-PD)
- Division on Autism and Developmental Disabilities (DADD)
- Division of Visual and Performing Arts Education (DARTS)
- Division for Communication, Language, and Deaf/Hard of Hearing (DCD)
- Division on Career Development and Transition (DCDT)
- Division for Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Exceptional Learners (DDEL)
- Division of Evaluation and Assessment for Learning (DEAL)
- Division for Early Childhood (DEC)
- Division of International Special Education and Services (DISES)
- Division for Learning Disabilities (DLD)
- Division on Visual Impairments and Deafblindness (DVIDB)
- Innovations in Special Education Technology (ISET)
- The Association for the Gifted (TAG)
- Teacher Education Division (TED)

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Demographic 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 responses to the following questions are optional, they will help CEC in its ongoing efforts to ensure diversity within its volunteer leadership.

Birth Year

- 2000s
- 1990s
- 1980s
- 1970s
- 1960s

Ethnicity

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

Gender

- Cisgender Female
- Cisgender Male
- Gender Non-Conforming
- I'd rather not say
- Transgender Female
- Transgender Male
- Other

Gender Identity

- Bisexual
- Gay/Lesbian
- Heterosexual
- I'd rather not say
- Other

Exceptionality or Disability

Country of Origin

Native Language

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Diversity Information

CEC defines diversity to include 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.

There is such a great range of individual backgrounds and experiences that cannot be easily conveyed by answering simple demographic questions. Given CEC's view of diversity, what facets from your life provide a context for the various experiences and perspectives you bring to discussions and your work? (Limit 150 words.)

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Vita/Resume/Bio

Upload your CV, resume OR "bio." PDF only; 12-point font minimum, no less than single spaced, not to exceed three pages. Or you can type in biographical information below.

Key elements for a bio include: Education, Experience (Job History/Brief Job Descriptions), Skills/ Certifications/Special Training, Community Service/Leadership. Your upload could also include what led you to a career in education, what is your teaching philosophy, etc.

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

If you are unable to upload your document, please send to to Sharon Rodriguez, Director of Governance and Executive Services.

Vita/Resume/Bio (PDF preferred)

Choose File

Choose File

No file chosen

Enter your "bio" information.

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Thank you.

Thank you for your willingness to take time from your busy life to share your knowledge, skills and experience. It is only with the commitment of an army of amazing volunteers - people like YOU - that CEC can further its mission of cultivating, supporting, and empowering education professionals who work with individuals with disabilities

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

* One last thing before you go! Please let us know how you heard about this opportunity:

- Special Education TODAY*
- CEC Social Media
- CEC Website
- Student Chapter Faculty Advisor
- Another CEC Member
- Unit/Division Communication

Other (please specify):