

Wisconsin Student Honored with International Award

Arlington, Va., February [XX], 2026 – Bennett Lehman of Jefferson Wisconsin, received the 2026 Yes I Can Transition to Adult Life award from the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC). Bennett will be honored this March along with other Yes I Can recipients at the CEC Convention and Expo in Salt Lake City, Utah.

The Yes I Can Awards celebrate and honor the achievements of children and youth with exceptionalities while increasing public awareness of the abilities and aspirations of students with disabilities.

Bennett was born with Axenfeld-Rieger syndrome, a rare genetic disorder, and is blind and lives with hearing loss. While his disorder has posed many challenges, his hard work and tenacity have opened doors for his success.

Bennett excels at school with high honors and placing in the top 10% of his class. He is highly involved with activities like the National Honors Society, theater, wrestling, and Student Council. He is passionate about digital accessibility, serving as an app tester since middle school to assist companies to improve their accessibility, and plans to pursue a career in computer science. He serves on the Student Advocacy Board for Vanderbilt University and the Accessibility Committee for the Milwaukee Public Museum.

Bennet has chosen to study cyber security at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater this upcoming fall.

His nominator shares, “I am excited to see what the future brings for Bennett. He is currently visiting colleges around the state. I have no doubt that Bennett will continue to amaze everyone who meets him. I feel that he will continue to do amazing things and break the mold for individuals with visual and hearing disabilities.”

Thank you to Einstein Advocates for sponsoring the Yes I Can Awards.



For Immediate Release

Contact: *Annie Drinkard*

703-264-9455

adrinkard@exceptionalchildren.org

The Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) is the largest international professional organization dedicated to high-quality education that is inclusive and equitable for individuals with disabilities.

Learn more about CEC at <https://exceptionalchildren.org/>.

