

Professional service on the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) Board of Directors is more than a personal achievement; it is a high-level strategic investment for your school district or university. Supporting an employee in this role elevates your institution's national visibility and provides your schools or programs with valuable, up-to-date expertise.

Institutional Benefits of Board Service

National Influence & Advocacy:

Having a representative on the board gives your institution a voice in shaping national special education policies and advocacy efforts. CEC is the leading advocacy group in special education, providing guidance on important federal decisions.



Access to Emerging Research:

Board members are at the forefront of emerging practices, current research, and "hot topics" in the field, allowing your institution to implement evidence-based strategies ahead of the curve.



Professional Development Leadership:

Your employee will gain advanced insights into accountability systems related to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), personnel preparation, and multi-tiered systems of support (MTSS). They can use this knowledge to mentor colleagues, lead professional learning opportunities, and advance their own professional development.



Global Networking & Partnerships:

Service facilitates connections with diverse special education experts and peers worldwide, opening doors to collaborative projects and institutional partnerships.



Mitigating Institutional Impact

CEC is committed to making board service a net benefit for employers by addressing common barriers to participation:

Direct Financial Support for Substitutes:

CEC will cover the cost of substitute teachers on days when board members are away on official business, relieving school districts of the financial burden.

Efficient Time Commitment:

Board duties are typically limited to five pre-scheduled school days per year, allowing employees to remain focused on their primary responsibilities

Full Expense Coverage:

CEC pays all travel, lodging, and meal expenses for board meetings, so your institution's professional development budget is unaffected.

CEU Accrual:

Board-related activities and convention attendance often qualify for Continuing Education Units (CEUs), helping your employee meet state or institutional knowledge requirements

A Partnership for Student Success

Supporting an application for the CEC Board of Directors demonstrates your institution's commitment to providing high-quality, inclusive, and accessible education. By allowing your staff to take on a national leadership role, they can bring back valuable tools and insights that enhance success for both students and educators in your schools.

Invest in leadership. Support the future of special education.

For more details on board roles and the nomination process, visit: exceptionalchildren.org/volunteer/board

