



Arkansas Council for Exceptional Children
Student Achievement Award
Submission Deadline: May 15, 2016

The Arkansas Council for Exceptional Children (AR-CEC), a professional association for special educators, related service providers and parents, works to improve the educational success of individuals with disabilities and/or gifts and talents.

The Arkansas Student Achievement Award was established for the purpose of acknowledging the achievement of children and youth with disabilities, ages 3 to 21, who have achieved in one of the following areas:

- **Academics** – achievement in a particular subject area such as math, science, reading, social studies, language arts, foreign languages, etc. or a high level of achievement on standardized tests, etc.
- **Arts** – achievement in a particular medium such as music, art, drama, dance, or written expression, etc.
- **Athletics** – achievement in motor skills or a particular athletic activity through settings such as intramural, Special Olympics, physical education classes, or after-school athletic activities.
- **Community Services** – contributions to the community through activities such as volunteer work, youth work, clean up campaigns, etc.
- **Employment** – achievement through work experience in either workshop settings or the competitive job market.
- **Extracurricular Activity** – achievement in organized activities through groups such as Boy/Girl Scouts, church, clubs, or other activities.
- **Independent Living Skills** (to include Self Care Skills) – achievement in mastering activities for daily self-efficiency such as personal hygiene, cooking, dressing, use of public transportation, etc.
- **Technology** – significant achievement through the use of computerized devices and equipment.
- **Self-Advocacy** – achievement in assuming practical responsibility for oneself, using knowledge of legal rights, advancing one’s goals, and/or effective in obtaining appropriate accommodations for oneself.

Award Benefits

The AR-CEC Student Achievement Award recipient will:

- Be recognized at the annual Arkansas Council for Exceptional Children’s Conference Awards Ceremony

- Be encouraged to submit appropriate eligibility application information to AR-CEC for the CEC Yes, I Can! Award and, if selected, attend the International CEC Conference with financial support from AR-CEC
- Be featured on the AR-CEC Facebook Page
- Receive a commemorative plaque to display

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Eligibility Requirements

- Candidates must be 3-21 years of age when they are nominated.
- Each candidate must show achievement in one of the above 9 categories
- Each candidate must be nominated by two individuals (teacher, principal, related service provider, friend, parent) each of which must complete a nomination form
- Both nominators must select the same category for the candidate and send both applications together as a package

Nominator Information

Nominator _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone Numbers (O) _____ (H) _____

Fax _____ E-mail _____

3. Describe the current type of special education services provided (e.g., general education class with special education consultation; inclusion; special education classes).

Achievement (Consider creativity, innovation, significance of achievement to the individual)

1. Description of Achievement: You can add appendices that show examples of the achievement.
2. Please rate the individual's level in the specific area (academic, arts, etc.)
_____ Advanced _____ Average _____ Needs Improvement (making great strides)
3. Setting in which the achievement took place (i.e., home, school, community, after school program). _____
4. Describe the impact of the achievement on student and/or others.
5. Was this a goal on the student's IEP? _____ yes _____ no
6. On a scale from **1-10**, rate the child's change in attitude and self-confidence as a result of this program/intervention. (1 is minimal change and 10 is maximum change) _____ Attitude _____ Self-Confidence

Training

1. Was any training required or necessary? _____ yes _____ no
2. Please describe the type of training provided (i.e., physical therapy, employment/job, specific academic, etc.).

3. Who supplied the training?

_____ self _____ teacher _____ volunteer _____ peer _____ parent or _____ other

4. Duration of training: (_____ years, _____ months)

Supporting Documentation (Must be included for application to be reviewed for selection)

1. Letter of support from a professional in education (teacher, principal, school administrator, counselor)
2. Letter of support from a parent, guardian or responsible party to the nominee
3. Photo, copy of art work, sample of writing, CD, etc. (**NO** tapes or videos)
4. Signed Parent/Guardian Informed Consent Form

Additional Supporting Documentation (IF AVAILABLE)

1. Newspaper articles
2. Documentation of other awards or recognitions for achievement
3. Candidate's personal comments on achievement (highly recommended to include)
4. Other information about the candidate

If you need additional information, please email the current Awards Chair.

Please submit packet and application by email to the AR-CEC Awards Committee at arcecawards@gmail.com.

Arkansas Council for Exceptional Children
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Scoring Rubric

Nomination Criteria

The four criteria are background, achievement, training, and supporting documentation

0-2 points Strong evidence of 1 criteria or weak evidence of 2 criteria.	3-5 points Strong evidence of 2 criteria or weak evidence of 3 criteria.	6-8 points Strong evidence of 3 criteria or weak evidence of 4 criteria.	9-10 points Strong evidence of 4 criteria.
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Additional supporting documentation

1-4 points Articles, other awards, personal comments, and other information.
