



Georgia *Yes I Can!* Student Award 2011

The Council for Exceptional Children (CEC), the largest international professional organization for special educators, works to improve the educational success of individuals with disabilities and/or gifts and talents.

The Georgia *Yes I Can!* Student Award honors a student with disabilities who excels. This award celebrates the achievements of children and youth with disabilities; encourages these individuals to seek their highest potential; and increases public awareness of the abilities, aspirations, and personal qualities of those with disabilities.

Nominations may be made by teachers, principals, related service providers, friends, and parents.

Eligibility Requirements

- Candidates must be 2–21 years of age when they are nominated.
- The nominee must have an identified disability.

Rules and Instructions for Nomination

- Each candidate must be nominated by one individual (e.g., teacher, principal, related service provider, friend, parent).

What to Submit in the Nomination Packet

- The nomination packet is divided into five sections. To facilitate review, the nomination packet should be organized as follows:

Section A. Nominee Information

Section B. Nominator Information

Section C. Background Information

Section D. Supporting Documentation (including **two** letters of recommendation)

Section E. Additional Documentation (optional but encouraged)

- Complete the entire nomination form, providing specific information about the nominee. The more complete and detailed the information, the better.

How to Submit the Nomination Packet

- Double-check that the nominee's name is spelled correctly on all materials, as it will be printed on his or her award.
- **All nomination packets must be submitted electronically.** Forms containing signatures such as the nominator form, letters of recommendation and testimonials, must be scanned and sent electronically. Submit all forms as a packet by email to Sandra Macdonald at Sandra.macdonald@walton.k12.ga.us
- **Nomination packets must be received by December 1, 2010.**



Georgia *Yes I Can!* Student Award Nomination Form

Section A: Nominee Information

If possible, please type your responses on the nomination form.

Full Name of Nominee (please check spelling)	
Street Address	
City and State/Province	
Zip/Postal Code	
Nominee's Sex	
Nominee's Age	
Nominee's Birthdate	
Nominee's Disability	
Parent/Guardian Name(s)	
Home Phone	()
Work Phone	()
Cell Phone	()
Parent/Guardian E-mail Address	
Nominee's School	

School Phone Number	()
School Fax Number	()
School E-mail Address	
Principal's Name	
Principal's E-mail Address	
School District	
Please indicate whether a Braille certificate is needed.	

Section B: Nominator Information

Name of Nominee: _____

Nominator's Name	
Street Address	
City	
State/Province	
Zip/Postal Code	
Home Phone	()
Work Phone	()
Cell Phone	()
Fax Number	()
E-mail Address	
How do you know the nominee?	
Are you a CEC member?	
If yes, list your CEC ID number	

If this nomination is being made by a CEC State/Provincial Affiliate or Division, please indicate the state, province, or division name	
Nominator's Signature	
Date	

Section C: Background Information

Name of Nominee: _____

Responses to the questions below must be typed and double-spaced in a 12-point font. Please use 8.5" x 11" white paper with one-inch top, left, right, and bottom margins. Handwritten forms will not be reviewed.

1. Background Information

- A. Describe in 150 words or less the challenges this student encountered prior to his or her current accomplishments (e.g., difficulty with reading).

- B. Describe in 150 words or less the current type of special education services provided to the nominee (e.g., general education class with special education consultation, inclusion, special education classes).

Have the student's educational services changed in the past two years? If yes, describe those changes in 50 words or less.

2. Describe the student's accomplishments.

(Consider creativity, innovation, and significance of the student's accomplishments to the individual and others.)

- A. Describe in 150 words or less the student's achievements and accomplishments. You can add appendices demonstrating examples of the student's achievement.

- B. Describe the setting in which the accomplishments occurred (*i.e.*, home, school, community, work).

- C. Describe in 150 words or less the impact of the student's accomplishments on him- or herself and others.

3. Systems Supports

In 100 words or less, describe how your community or school system supported this student.

Section D: Supporting Documentation

1. **The nominations packet must include two letters of recommendation.** One letter must come from a professional educator (teacher, principal, school administrator, counselor, consultant, educational assistant, etc.). The second letter may come from an educator or other individual who knows the student well (teacher, principal, counselor, parent, student, etc.).

The letters should state **why the student deserves the award** and **any obstacles the student has overcome**.

2. Suggested supporting documentation:

- school transcripts, report cards, accelerated programs, academic awards, work samples, statement of change in student's academic achievement
- copies of artwork, event programs, CDs or DVDs of music, dance performances, drama performances, etc.
- awards, teams participated in, statements from athletic directors or P.E. teachers
- certificates, record of activities, awards, statements from group leaders
- employment history, performance reviews, statements from employers/transition officers/co-workers, certificates, awards
- record of activities, statements from activity leaders, certificates, awards
- record of progress made in acquiring skills, statement of achievement from teacher or coach
- statement of how the student educates others (teachers, students, community) on their needs or the needs of others with disabilities; examples of the accommodations the student has requested to enhance learning and accessibility
- record of technology used, how it has impacted the student or others, skills the student has learned through technology use

Section E: Additional Documentation (Optional)

Following are suggestions for additional documentation that may be provided:

- Candidate's personal comments on achievement (**highly recommended**)
- Newspaper articles
- Documentation of other awards or recognition for achievement
- Other relevant information about the nominee

Supporting documents should be scanned electronically and submitted by email to Sandra.macdonald@walton.k12.ga.us