



Georgia CEC Paraprofessional of the Year Award 2009

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 Paraprofessional of the Year Award recognizes a paraprofessional who currently provides direct services to students with exceptionalities. The Paraprofessional of the Year is an outstanding member of the profession whose work exemplifies the best in special education support. His or her work reflects significant educational success for students, continued professional development, and the highest standards of educational quality.

Nominations may be made by a CEC unit or chapter, individual (principal, CEC member, fellow teacher/colleague, student, parent, self), educational organization (school, parent group, etc.), or community group.

Eligibility Requirements

The nominee:

- Must currently participate as a member of a teaching team providing services to Georgia students with exceptionalities.
- May be a Paraprofessional who works with students with exceptionalities within inclusive or special education settings.
- Must exhibit exemplary personal and professional skills in supporting students with exceptionalities.
- Work must be consistent with CEC's Mission Statement.
- Need not be a member of CEC.

Rules and Instructions for Nomination

- All nominations must be submitted in hard copy. **All entries become GA CEC property and will not be returned.**

- Nominees may be nominated by a CEC unit or chapter, individual (principal, CEC member, fellow teacher/colleague, student, parent, self), educational organization (school, parent group, etc.), or community group. Only one nomination will be accepted from each CEC unit.
- The nomination form should be completed by the nominee and must be signed by the nominee.
- The nomination packet is divided into four sections. To facilitate review, the nomination packet should be organized as follows:

Section I. Completed nomination form

Section II. Up to three letters of recommendation from colleagues, supervisors, or other professionals documenting the nominee's efforts in meeting the award criteria

Section III. Three testimonials from students, parents, or colleagues of the nominee's ability to inspire students

- The nominator should make **6 collated copies** of the nomination packet. The original nomination packet should remain with the nominator; 5 copies should be sent to GA CEC (see address below).
- Put the nominee's name and "Paraprofessional Award" on the front of each nomination packet.
- **Nomination packets must be received by January 23, 2009.**
- **Mail the entire nomination packet (5 copies total) to:**

**GA CEC Professional Awards
C/O Metro East GLRS
2415-C North Druid Hills Road, NE
Atlanta, Georgia 30329**



Paraprofessional of the Year Award

Section I: Nomination Form

Nominee Information

Georgia CEC uses information on the nomination form for all future correspondence and publicity. Please make sure all information is accurate, legible, and spelled correctly. If possible, please type your responses on the nomination form.

Nomination of _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone Numbers (O) () _____ (H) () _____

Cell Phone Number () _____ Fax () _____

E-mail _____

Current Job Title/Affiliation _____

For publicity purposes, please attach the following information.

The nominee's local newspaper _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone Number () _____ Fax () _____

E-mail _____

Nominator Information

CEC Chapter, Unit, Individual, or Group Submitting Nomination

Title or CEC Officer Position _____

Contact Person _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone Numbers (O) () _____ (H) () _____

Fax () _____ E-mail _____

Signature of Nominee _____

Section II: Letters of Recommendation

Please attach **up to three letters of recommendation** from colleagues, supervisors, or other professionals documenting the nominee's efforts in meeting the award criteria. The letters must include the following criteria:

1. Specific examples of how students lives have improved as a result of the nominee's programs, work, and involvement with students
2. How the nominee's dedication to his/her students with exceptionalities exceeds the norm

Section III: Testimonials

Please attach three testimonials from students, parents, or colleagues describing the nominee's ability to inspire students.