

About CEC



The Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) is the largest international professional organization dedicated to improving the success of children and youth with disabilities and/or gifts and talents.

Vision

High-quality education that is inclusive and equitable for individuals with disabilities.

Mission

Cultivating, supporting, and empowering education professionals who work with individuals with disabilities by:

- Advocating for education professionals and for individuals with disabilities, and/or gifts and talents;
- Advancing professional practice and scholarly research;
- Promoting diversity, equity, inclusivity, and accessibility;
- Building networks, partnerships, and communities



Council for
Exceptional
Children

ACCREDITED



LEARN MORE

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Accreditation

CEC Accreditation

Expectations

Value

Looking for a way to showcase and set your teacher preparation program above the crowd? Consider CEC Accreditation!

CEC Accreditation provides an exclusive opportunity for special educator programs to seek accreditation directly from the definitive leader of professional preparation standards for special educators. CEC Accreditation provides assurance of program quality and supports program improvement.

CEC operates as an advocate for special educators and their preparation programs while listening to their needs. This close relationship helps to ensure specialized requirements for professional practice directly align with the needs of the field.

CEC's Accreditation Expectations provide a framework for program requirements for achieving accreditation:

Expectation 1:

Developing Candidate Proficiencies Stated in the Relevant Set of CEC Standards.

Expectation 2:

Measuring Candidate Performance on CEC Standards and Using Data for Continuous Improvement.

Expectation 3:

Assuring Public Accountability.

Expectation 4:

Contextual Indicators of Quality Required for the Self-Study Report.

- Mission and Conceptual Framework
- Leadership and Faculty
- Resources and Student Support

Choose CEC Accreditation for:

Relevance: CEC Standards represent consensus from the field about the essential competencies every educator must master in order to effectively support children and youth with exceptionalities.

Commitment: Demonstrates your program's commitment to operating a high-quality special educator preparation program by meeting the profession's preeminent preparation standards.

Continuous Improvement: Provides a framework for your programs to evaluate their strengths and identify opportunities to strengthen alignment with the profession's preparation standards.

Impact: Assures the public, the profession, and graduates of accredited programs that educators are prepared to effectively support the development and education of children with exceptionalities.

A Statement of Excellence: CEC upholds the national standards for special educator preparation programs while encouraging innovative practices and instructional strategies.

