

Accepting the Challenge of Excellence (A.C.E.) Award Information for Local Exchange Clubs

America's young people are its most precious resource. For many years, Exchange Clubs and National Headquarters have sponsored an impressive selection of activities designed to benefit and encourage our nation's youth. The A.C.E. AWARD program is one of those activities!

The program recognizes high school students who have made a dramatic change in their attitude and/or performance during their high school years. These changes have enabled the students to overcome adversities and prepare for graduation.

A.C.E. is a positive program with two key objectives:

- It helps encourage students to overcome their hardships and get back on track toward a high school diploma.
- It recognizes students who are often overlooked for their accomplishments. This special recognition serves as a powerful example to all students that hard work and perseverance really do pay.

Planning is the key to successful implementation of the program in your community! •

Start by forming a project committee that will study the information about the A.C.E. program on the www.nationalexchangeclub.org website and adapt the program to your community.

- Define the award criteria.
- Determine what the award will be – recognition, plaque, certificate, money, learning resource, ...
- Promote the program to your club and your community.

There are numerous organizations in your community that work with candidates for this award; examples include:

- High Schools – school guidance counselors, social workers, and teachers (coaches, music, art, ...)
- Churches
- Community recreation centers
- Law enforcement agencies
- Rehabilitation centers

The committee must lead and manage the program throughout the duration of the project, which usually coincides with the school year. Enter your A.C.E. winner in the Georgia District Exchange Club A.C.E. competition! The prize is a check for \$1,500. The District winner will be entered in the National Exchange Club A.C.E. competition! That prize is a \$15,000 scholarship to an accredited post-secondary school!

Distribute the following A.C.E. Award Application form to candidates. Sections 1 and 2 must be completed and submitted to the Georgia District Exchange Club A.C.E. Award committee chairman no later than April 15, 2022. The completed application may be mailed to –Ginger J Larrabee, A.C.E. Award Chair

204 Katelyn Cir Warner Robins, Ga 31088

OR you may send it as an email attachment to encourageace@gmail.com

SECTION 1 – PREPARED BY SPONSORING CLUB OR GUIDANCE COUNSELOR

Exchange Club of _____

Candidate's name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip code _____

Phone _____ Date of birth _____

Narrative: (not to exceed 500 words) Describe the problem and how it/they was/were overcome, include implications for the future.

We certify that the above named student has participated in listed activities and achievements and will graduate this year _____ from _____ High School.

Signature of school official

Signature of parent/guardian

Signature of Exchange Club president

SECTION 2 – PREPARED BY CANDIDATE

Narrative A (not to exceed 250 words) *Attach additional pages as necessary.

Describe, in your own words, the event (or events) in your life of which you are most proud. (50 points max.)

Narrative B (not to exceed 250 words) *Attach additional pages as necessary.

Describe, in your own words, your future plans for making your community, and the world, a better place to live. (50 points max.)

SECTION 3 – PREPARED BY DISTRICT FOR NATIONAL NOMINEES ONLY

The above student has been selected by the _____ District as its candidate for the (year) _____ National A.C.E. Award.

Coordinating Responsibility

The following Exchange Club member from the sponsoring district, will be responsible for the nominee's attendance at Exchange's National Convention if the entry is designated a winner.

District contact _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip code _____

Phone _____

Note: To win, the candidate must be able to accept the award in person, at the scheduled event, at Exchange's National Convention. Call National Headquarters for current year's date/time at 419.535.3232, and verify with the candidate *before submitting the entry form to National Headquarters.*

Any additional communication regarding this application will be directed to the Exchange Club member named above, unless The National Exchange Club is otherwise instructed. In accordance with the program requirements, I confirm that all the information contained herein is accurate and conforms to the rules and regulations as established by The National Exchange Club.

Signature of district president

***Along with the entry form, a photo (head & shoulders) of the nominee is required. If a digital photo is submitted, please ensure it is high resolution (150 dpi or higher). Photos submitted to The National Exchange Club will not be returned.**