

# Accepting the Challenge of Excellence Award A.C.E.



**EXCHANGE**  
THE NATIONAL EXCHANGE CLUB

## THE DISTRICT AND NATIONAL A.C.E. AWARD OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM

### PURPOSE

The A.C.E. (Accepting the Challenge of Excellence) Award recognizes high school students who have had to overcome great physical, emotional, or social obstacles and are now eligible for high school graduation.

This is a positive program with two key objectives. First, it helps encourage students to overcome their hardships and get back on track toward a high school diploma. Second, the award recognizes those 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.

The submission deadline for the National A.C.E. Award is June 1. The winner will be presented the A.C.E. Award and a \$10,000 scholarship at the National Convention. Travel accommodations will be provided to the winner and his/her parents/guardians.

### INSTRUCTIONS

1. Contact your local high school for a potential candidate for the award. A partial list of difficulties to overcome could include physical, language, child abuse, delinquency or substance abuse.
2. Ensure that the candidate will graduate from high school this year, OR complete GED classes by the age of 19, by the time of submission of application to National Headquarters (June 1)
3. Obtain school official and parent/guardian signatures.
4. Recognize the selected individual at an appropriate club meeting.
5. If you plan to enter your candidate in the district competition, be sure the A.C.E. Award chairperson has the description narrative (500 words max.) and the two candidate brief narratives (250 words max.) before the deadline.
6. The district may use the same judging procedure as National or determine their own selection process.
7. The district may select one or two (if opposite sex) candidates to submit to National by June 1st. Advise candidate that he or she may be contacted by a representative of the National Exchange Club to obtain additional information for publicity purposes.

*See note under Section 3 for candidate eligibility at the national level.*

## SECTION 1 – PREPARED BY SPONSORING CLUB OR GUIDANCE COUNSELOR

Exchange Club of \_\_\_\_\_

Candidate's name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

*Narrative:* (not to exceed 500 words) Describe problem and how it was 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 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 own 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 plans for the future to make your community and 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 Exchangite from the sponsoring district will be responsible for the nominee's attendance at the National Convention in the event the entry is designated a winner.

District Contact \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (H) \_\_\_\_\_ (B) \_\_\_\_\_

Note: Candidate must be able to accept the award in person at the scheduled event at the National Convention in order to win. Call National Headquarters for current year's dates & times, 800-XCHANGE (924-2643), and verify with candidate *before submitting entry form to National.*

*Any additional communication regarding this application will be directed to the Exchangite 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

**\*Please attach a 5" x 7" photo to be used for publicity purposes.**