**Accepting the Challenge of**

 **Excellence Award – A.C.E.**

**The Mid-Atlantic District A.C.E.**

**Official**

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: it helps encourage students to overcome their hardships and get back on track toward a high school diploma; and it 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 are rewarded.

The Submission Deadline to the Exchange Club of Carlisle is **March 15, 2025**.

This club will be responsible to Submit their winning application to the Mid-Atlantic District Youth Chairperson before May 1, 2025.

The Winner of the Mid-Atlantic District A.C.E. award will be presented their award and a $1,500.00 Scholarship to the school of their choice at the District Convention.

The District Chairperson will submit the District Winner before the submission deadline for the National A.C.E. Award of June 1. The winner of The National Award will be presented the A.C.E. Award and a $15,000 scholarship at Exchange’s National Convention. Travel accommodations will be provided to the winner and his/her parents/guardians.

 INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE LOCAL CLUBS

1. Contact District local high school for a potential candidate for the award. A partial list of difficulties to overcome could include physical, language, child abuse, delinquency, and/or substance abuse.

 2. Ensure 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 maximum) and the candidate’s two brief narratives (250 words maximum) before the deadline.

6. The district may use the same judging procedure as National Headquarters or determine its own selection process.

 7. The district may select one or two (if opposite gender) candidates to submit to National Headquarters by June 1. Advise candidate that he/she may be contacted by a representative of The National Exchange Club to obtain additional information for publicity purposes.

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

Exchange Club of Carlisle, PA

Candidate’s name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Zip code \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Phone\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Email\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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.**



Mid-Atlantic District A.C.E. Award

Name of Club Submitting this Form \_\_Exchange Club of Carlisle, PA\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Club #\_\_1988\_\_\_\_

Club President Name\_\_\_\_\_\_Susan Murray\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Phone\_\_717-713-3933\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Email\_\_\_\_\_jdmii@pa.net\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Club Youth Chairperson \_\_\_Lynda Cook\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Phone\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Email\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date this information is required from the student by the club:\_\_**March 15, 2025**\_\_\_

Candidates name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Candidate’s parent/guardian name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Candidates School \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Address (include city, state) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

School official Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Phone\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Email\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

The student will be notified by **April 8, 2025** if they have been selected as their school’s A.C.E. Award Winner. In order to qualify as their school’s A.C.E. Award Winner, they must agree to attend the Award Ceremony on **April 22, 2025** at 6:00 pm at Cumberland Crossings to receive their award. Meals are provided for the student, 2 family members, and a school representative, but additional guests are welcome to attend for a cost of $20 a person.

Date the club will let the selected student know they have been chosen to be submitted to the District level is

**April 25, 2025**.

If chosen to represent the club on the district level, the student understands that in order to be chosen as the Mid-Atlantic District A.C.E. they must attend the District Convention award luncheonJune 7, 2025 – Binghamton, NY. to receive the award. Expenses for A.C.E. winner and their parents to attend will be paid for by the Mid-Atlantic District. If they are chosen as the Mid-Atlantic District A.C.E, they also must be willing to attend the National Convention in Louisville, KY, July 9-12, 2025, if they win the National A.C.E. All expenses will be paid by the National Exchange Club.

Signature of student\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parent\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

The District A.C.E. Chairperson will notify the club and the student by May 15th if they have been selected as they Mid-Atlantic A.C.E, and make arrangements for their attendance at the District Convention. Their application will be entered into the National Data base before the deadline of June 1, 2025.