



**Guidelines for the 2021-2022 CTE Student Recognition of  
Excellence Award:  
*Learning Actively Together***

The Council for Teacher Education (CTE) seeks departmental nominations for five \$1000 awards recognizing student excellence in teacher education. Each nominee must be currently enrolled in an Illinois State University teacher preparation program and nominated by their home department. Each nominated student will submit an original, one-class-period lesson plan and an accompanying essay that meets the following, specified criteria.

All materials should reflect the spirit of the ISU Teacher Education Unit's conceptual framework, *Realizing the Democratic Ideal* (summarized at <https://education.illinoisstate.edu/about/democraticideal/>)

In addition to reflecting best practices within the candidate's own academic discipline/content area, each lesson submission must highlight or promote the topic of *Learning Actively Together*.

Submissions must be saved as one PDF (both the lesson plan and the essay) and include the candidate's name & program in the title. Subject line: the CTE Student Recognition of Excellence Award. Email to the CTE Student Interests Subcommittee Chairperson, Dr. Jay C. Percell ([jpercel@ilstu.edu](mailto:jpercel@ilstu.edu)).

**Teacher Candidate Submissions are due Monday, April 4, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.**  
and should consist of:

**One class period lesson plan; may not exceed 6 pages** (typed in 12-point font with 1-inch margins, including attached materials, handouts, etc.):

- At the top of the first page, please identify: (a) the candidate's name, (b) ISU department, (c) content focus for the lesson, and (d) student grade levels for which the lesson is designed.
- The lesson plan reflects the spirit of *Realizing the Democratic Ideal*.
- The objectives identify and relate to standards appropriate to the academic discipline.
- The objectives are clearly stated in terms of what students should understand, know, and do as a result of participating in the lesson, and those goals may be reasonably accomplished by engaging in the lesson activities.
- The objectives and activities are developmentally appropriate for the grade levels for which the lesson is designed.
- The lesson has a clear structure and tasks/activities are appropriately sequenced; time allotted for each activity is indicated and reasonable.
- An effective evaluation of student learning is incorporated into the lesson, including clear, measurable criteria that clearly connect with the content of the lesson.
- The lesson encourages active participation by learners.
- Identifies the sources (e.g., web addresses or other citations) that were used to support the lesson development.
- The theme of *Learning Actively Together* is explicitly incorporated within the lesson in both content & pedagogy.

**Essay (may not exceed 750 words, double-spaced, 12-point font, and 1-inch margins):**

- The essay is well organized, free of grammatical and spelling errors, and does not exceed the 750- word limit.
- Includes a rationale of how the lesson reflects the teacher candidate's values (e.g., I chose these activities because I think it is important for students to...; I had students participate in this way because I value...).
- Specifies how the lesson activities are linked to the theme of *Learning Actively Together*.
- Indicates how *Learning Actively Together* is critical to a democratic society.