



2026 Nomination/Application Information

About the Award

The **John C. Foster Excellence Award** recognizes and celebrates exceptional students in Career and Technical Education (CTE). This award honors the legacy of Dr. John C. Foster, a lifelong champion of CTE and former President/CEO of NOCTI/Nocti Business Solutions, who dedicated his career to supporting the CTE mission and advancing its impact on students, communities, and industries. This award highlights the power of CTE to shape the future workforce and recognizes the achievements of students who go above and beyond in their programs.

Award Details

This \$500 award recognizes students enrolled in a CTE program who exemplify innovation, leadership, and commitment. Students must demonstrate their technical skills, contributions to their communities or employers, and alignment with the values of CTE. Secondary or postsecondary students may be nominated by an educator, mentor, or employer.

Submission Requirements

Students must be nominated, and the nomination must include:

1. A **300-word description** of why the student deserves the award.
2. An **impact statement** detailing the student's contributions to an employer and/or community.
3. A **3-minute video** showcasing the student's skills, accomplishments, and alignment with the award's criteria.
4. **One letter of recommendation** from an educator, mentor, employer, or community representative.

Nomination Process

1. Complete the nomination form on the following pages.
2. Submit the completed form to nocti@nocti.org. Use the subject line: "John C. Foster Excellence Award Nomination."
3. The video may be sent as a link or, if too big to email, can be mailed to NOCTI at 500 N. Bronson Avenue, Big Rapids, MI 49307.
4. Nominations deadline is April 1, 2026.

Key Dates

- **Nominations Open:** February 2, 2026
- **Applications Due:** April 1, 2026
- **Winner Announced:** April 17, 2026



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Nominator's Contact Information

Name: _____

Title: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Work Phone: _____ Email: _____

Nominee Information

Name: _____

School: _____

CTE Program: _____

Impact Statement (Please detail the student's contributions to an employer and/or community.)



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Why Does this Student Deserve this Award? (300-word limit)

Have you included the following items?

3-Minute Video showcasing the student's skills, accomplishments, and alignment with the award's criteria.

One letter of recommendation from an educator, mentor, employer, or community representative.