Call for proposals opens March 1

Present at the leading professional development event of the year — CEC 2020 in Portland, Oregon, February 5 – 8, 2020.

The submission site for proposals opens March 1st.

Information about the 2020 Call for Proposals can be found at www.ceccconvention.org

2019 Special Education Legislative Summit
registration opens March 5th

The Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) and Council of Administrators of Special Education (CASE) invite you to the 2019 Special Education Legislative Summit, the premier advocacy event of the year for special educators and early interventionists.

During this event, advocates from across the country gather together to educate our nation’s policymakers about protecting IDEA, ensuring FAPE and early intervention services and safeguarding the rights of children and youth with exceptionalities.

You know what children and youth with exceptionalities and professionals need, so raise
your voice and advocate with us during the 2019 Special Education Legislative Summit this July!

**Early bird rates begin March 5th!**

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### Preparing standards, preparing educators

Ensuring that beginning special educators and beginning early interventionists/early childhood special educators are prepared for their first days is essential. Luckily, two dedicated groups have been hard at work making sure that the standards we hold our beginning professionals to are reflective of trends, developments and evidence-based practices in our field.

The [CEC Standards Development Workgroup](https://cec.informz.net/MailingDesignerSvc/OnlineVersion/preview/mailing/1432494), charged with reviewing and revising [CEC’s Professional Preparation Standards](https://cec.informz.net/MailingDesignerSvc/OnlineVersion/preview/mailing/1432494) for special educators, and the [Early Intervention/Early Childhood Special Education (EI/ECSE) Standards Development Task Force](https://cec.informz.net/MailingDesignerSvc/OnlineVersion/preview/mailing/1432494), who are developing a set of preparation standards for early interventionists and early childhood special educators, both held listening and feedback sessions on current drafts of the standards at the CEC 2019 Convention & Expo in Indianapolis. By the end of next week, both groups will have met in-person to incorporate feedback received at these sessions, as well as through online public comment opportunities.

You can find more information on the work of the CEC Standards Development Workgroup [here](https://cec.informz.net/MailingDesignerSvc/OnlineVersion/preview/mailing/1432494), and more information on the work of the EI/ECSE Standards Development Task Force [here](https://cec.informz.net/MailingDesignerSvc/OnlineVersion/preview/mailing/1432494). Stay tuned for more information on opportunities to review drafts of the standards, provide feedback, and help ensure all our beginning professionals are ready to serve.

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### Policy Highlights

**New Civil Rights and Human Services Subcommittee in U.S. House**

The Education and Labor Committee, under Chairman Bobby Scott (D-VA), recently announced the creation of a [Civil Rights and Human Services Subcommittee](https://cec.informz.net/MailingDesignerSvc/OnlineVersion/preview/mailing/1432494) (CRHS). Representative Suzanne Bonamici (D-OR) who was unanimously elected will chair the committee and
Representative James Comer (R-KY) will be the Ranking Member. Read more.

Congressional Calendar

Politico Pro has produced a downloadable and simplified 2019 Congressional calendar. The calendar is a one-page document that lists the session dates of the two chambers. Utilize the calendar and the Legislative Action Center to learn more about each elected official as first steps for planning your advocacy outreach strategy. Read more.

ERIC and What Works Clearinghouse Resources

Check out these valuable IES resources that serve professionals in the field of education, including the Education Resources Information Center (ERIC) and the What Works Clearinghouse (WWC). ERIC is a free online database of education research and information. Read more.

Support your new teachers
CEC advocates and sets the standards

CEC’s New Special Education Teachers Induction Toolkit is a multimedia resource for facilitating new special education teachers’ transition to the classroom.

The kit provides our most popular and comprehensive on-boarding resources yet, to help you effectively prepare your new teachers. For 2019, CEC has added new webinars about family engagement and co-teaching.

Each toolkit includes resources for one administrator and five teachers, including two books and a special issue of TEACHING Exceptional Children. You also get access to four webinars and three podcasts. Order your toolkit today so you can prepare to support your new teachers as they begin the new school year. Learn more.

Use promotion code READY26 at checkout to save $25.

Correction
An article in last week’s edition of Special Education Today: High-Leverage Practices in Special Education: Reference Guides, referred to the CEEDAR Center in error. CEC developed the HLP laminated reference guides.

It's More Than "Just Being In"
Creating Authentic Inclusion for Students with Complex Support Needs
By Cheryl M. Jorgensen Ph.D.

Upcoming Events

South Carolina CEC 2019 Conference
Myrtle Beach, South Carolina | March 1-2, 2019

79th Annual Michigan CEC Conference
Amway Grand Plaza | Grand Rapids, Michigan
March 6 - March 8, 2019

NJ CEC Spring 2019 Annual Conference
Mahwah, New Jersey | March 22, 2019
2019 Special Education Legislative Summit
Arlington, VA | July 7-10, 2019

More colleges opening doors to people with developmental disabilities: According to Think College, a national organization dedicated to developing college opportunities for individuals with intellectual disabilities, more than 260 colleges across the nation now offer on-campus transition programs for students with intellectual and developmental disabilities. That’s up from just 25 such programs in 2004. Read more.

Five-State Initiative to Boost Principals' Knowledge of Special Education: The Council of Chief State School Officers has launched an effort with five states that is aimed at improving principals' knowledge of supporting students with disabilities.

The Advancing Inclusive Principal Leadership State Initiative is working with Arkansas, Colorado, Georgia, Mississippi and Ohio. Partners in the effort include the federally-funded CEEDAR Center (Collaboration on Effective Educator Development, Accountability, and Reform) and the Oak Foundation, a philanthropy that supports students with learning differences. Read more.

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