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Special Education Today

News, resources, and tools for educators like you.

Policy Highlights

ED Announces Restraint and Seclusion Initiative



U.S. Secretary of Education, Betsy DeVos, announced recently that the U.S. Department of Education will launch an [initiative](#) to address the possible inappropriate use of restraint and seclusion in our nation's schools. The Office for Civil Rights (OCR), in partnership with the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (OSERS), will oversee this proactive approach which will protect students with disabilities by providing technical assistance and support to schools, districts and state education agencies and strengthen enforcement

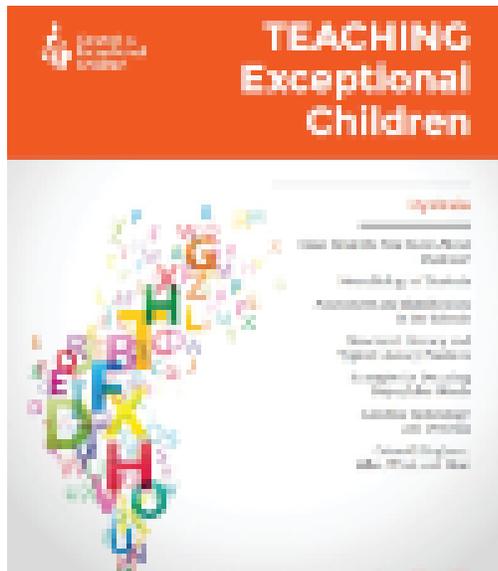
activities. [Read more.](#)

Creating a Diverse and Learner-Ready Teacher Workforce

Research shows that students' race, ethnicity and cultural background significantly increase their achievement and that all students benefit from being educated by teachers from a variety of different backgrounds, races and ethnic groups, as this experience better prepares them to succeed in an increasingly diverse society. However, today more than forty percent of public schools in the United States have no teachers of color. In response to this need, the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) released [Vision and Guidance for a Diverse and Learner-Ready Teacher Workforce](#), a paper outlining steps states can take to increase the racial diversity of the teacher workforce and support future and current teachers in effectively teaching students of different cultural backgrounds. [Read more.](#)



Arts Education Taking Over the November-December 2019 Issue of TEACHING Exceptional Children



Members of the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) Division of the Visual and Performing Arts Education (DARTS) continue to observe how art educators and special educators can collaborate to help children with exceptionalities.

That's why the November-December 2019 issue of the *CEC TEACHING Exceptional Children (TEC)* journal will be devoted to the intersection of arts education and special education. CEC invites all special education professionals to write articles for this issue.

TEC has an open submissions policy and accepts manuscripts from the field on topics and issues related to the professional practice of special education teachers, gifted education teachers, general education teachers, related services specialists and administrators to support their work in students with exceptionalities.

The deadline to receive articles for this special issue is July 15, 2019. Submissions should be sent to CEC Interim Publications Manager, Al Rickard at alr@cec.sped.org. For more information, review our [submission criteria](#).

Did you know...CEC 2019 INDIANAPOLIS has something for every educator and every budget?

Think you can't attend the [CEC 2019 Convention & Expo](#) because you have a tight schedule or tight budget or both? We've got the answer: flexible registration options and even sessions on Saturday. Choose what best fits your schedule and budget.

- **Single Day Registration:** Includes professional sessions and time in the Expo Hall. PLUS, you'll be earning professional development hours while you're learning. Check it out—[browse](#) through hundreds of sessions—then personalize your schedule.
- **Flex Pass Package:** Includes 10 single day passes, good on Thursday, Friday and/or Saturday that may be used by 10 team members or in multiples as designated by the



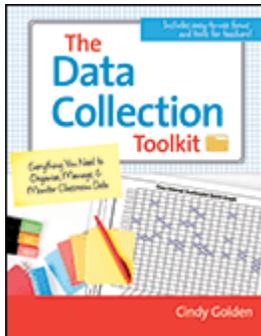
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purchaser.

- **Convention Workshops:** Dive deep into a hot topic with a full- or half- day workshop. If attending a workshop is all your schedule will allow, register for a workshop only!

Not only do these registration options allow flexibility, they save you dollars.

Data toolkit + FREE webinar



Collecting data on behavior, academic skills, and IEP goals is an essential step in showing student progress, but it can also be a complicated, time-consuming process. Take the worry and stress out of data collection with [“The Data Collection Toolkit: Everything You Need to Organize, Manage, and Monitor Classroom Data.”](#) This ultra-practical resource is packed with tools you need to organize, manage, and monitor critical information on your students’ progress. What’s even more valuable are the first-person classroom examples, quizzes, definitions of key terms and a complete package of reproducible forms and tools you’ll have access to.

And — there is an added bonus! When you purchase [“The Data Collection Toolkit,”](#) you will receive a complimentary webinar presented by author Cindy Golden, who will share tips and tricks of how to maximize this essential resource. Become a data collecting superstar by [ordering your copy](#) today.



Master of Arts (M.A.) in Developmental Disabilities

Become a highly skilled professional prepared to work with individuals with developmental disabilities and their families across the lifespan. [Learn more.](#)

Upcoming Events

North Carolina CEC 32nd Annual General Conference

Wilmington, North Carolina | January 23–25, 2019

CEC 2019 Convention & Expo

Indianapolis, Indiana | January 29–February 2, 2019

News

[Government shutdown takes a toll on people with disabilities](#): People with disabilities are feeling pressure from the nation's longest-ever government shutdown, whether they work for a shuttered federal agency, live in subsidized housing or receive food stamps, advocates say. [Read more.](#)



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[Tool brings coding to students with visual impairments](#): A couple of years ago, as an 8-year-old trying to learn to code, a student named Theo was frustrated. Theo happens to be blind, and the standard tools designed to teach children to code rely heavily on visuals. But over the last year, he's been a beta tester for something new: a set of physical blocks designed specifically to teach coding to kids with visual impairments. He's moved on, and now codes in Python. [Read more.](#)

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