Calling All Leaders

On **July 5-7**, join CEC unit and division officers, leadership teams, and volunteers at the **2019 CEC Leadership Institute** in Arlington, Va., to enhance your leadership skills through powerful conversations, moving sessions, and real-time collaboration.

What are the latest ways to recruit new members? How do you market to the next generation of teachers and keep volunteers engaged? At CEC’s Leadership Institute, you'll get answers to these questions and more during a weekend of expert speakers, bold strategies, and innovate solutions.

[Learn more and sign up today.](#)

Tell Us! What Will Future Special Educators Need to Do?

CEC has always been the leader in defining the field of special education – and as we look towards the next generation of special educators, we want to hear from members like you.

On **Thurs., May 9**, join the co-chairs of CEC’s Standards Development Workgroup for a [FREE webinar](#) to learn about the revisions and updates being made to CEC’s Professional Standards. After the webinar, you’ll be invited to review the complete draft of the CEC Initial Standards, Components, and Supporting Explanations so you can provide your feedback.

These standards are used in preparing future special educators and must be reflective of trends, developments, and evidence-based practices in the field. As a special education
professional and a member of the CEC community, we want to make sure you know what lies ahead and can help to inform this essential work.

Learn more about the standards development process and register today.

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**Spring on the Opportunity to Implement Life Centered Education**

It’s officially spring, which means it’s time to de-clutter and bask in the promise of warmer weather. For many of you, however, it’s also the season to review your students’ Individualized Education Programs (IEPs).

For transition teachers, your spring IEP reviews may show your students need more daily living and interpersonal skills such as grooming properly, anticipating consequences, and working with others.

Soft skills are hard to gain – but CEC’s Life Centered Education (LCE) transition curriculum and online assessment portal lets students practice important life skills in pressure-free, realistic contexts. As a program for evidence-based instruction in daily living, employment, and other key competencies, LCE measures results in ways that depend on performance – not just reading – and connects classroom learning with community-based experiences and employment.

We know that time is a precious resource, which is why we want to provide you with the resources you need to avoid recreating the wheel. That way, you can focus on what matters most: preparing your students for life beyond the classroom.

Subscribe today for immediate online access to 1,200 lesson plans, along with assessments correlated to lesson objectives, links to relevant activities, online tracking, and reporting for IEP updates.

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**CEC Talks Associations and Preparing Special Educators at OSEP’s First 2019 Symposium**

Earlier this month, CEC's director of education and professional standards, Jennifer Bullock, presented at the first symposium in the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP)'s 2019 Symposia Series – Preparing Personnel to Serve Children with Disabilities.
At this one-of-a-kind virtual event, she discussed how professional associations — and specifically CEC — are key in the efforts to attract, prepare, and retain educators by setting standards for special education teacher preparation programs, offering ongoing professional development and resources, and providing students and early-career practitioners access to thousands of other special educators and subject matter experts for guidance, information, and collegial support.

In the words of Jenn, “I was honored to be asked to present on the value of associations (and CEC) at the recent OSEP Symposium. Without a doubt, associations provide practitioners with a professional home, evidence-based resources, education, and networking capabilities they wouldn’t otherwise be able to access.”

Learn more about the 2019 OSEP Symposia Series and access an archived recording of the event.

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Do You Like Being a “Fixer?”

CEC is looking for well-qualified individuals from diverse backgrounds to apply for our Board of Directors. If you’re interested in helping guide CEC’s strategic direction to ensure we accomplish our mission, send us your application before 3 p.m. ET on May 22.

As a professional association of educators dedicated to advancing the success of children with exceptionalities, we seek a board committed to our core values of visionary thinking, inclusiveness, and integrity that reflects CEC’s view of diversity and the constituencies we serve. Three-year terms begin January 1, 2020.

Learn more about the application process.

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Raise Your Voice on Capitol Hill

If there’s one thing that we all want more of, it’s time. Although you may not be able to add more hours to the day, you can give yourself enough time to ensure you and your state team are fully prepared to advocate on the Hill when you register for the Special Education Legislative Summit today.
On **July 7-10**, hundreds of advocates from across the country will come together in Arlington, Va., and Washington, D.C., to help federal policymakers understand our community’s needs and give a voice to the millions of children and youth with exceptionalities you work with each day.

But, you'll need to register early to accomplish that goal! Watch the video to learn why.

Not only will you save $100, but you'll also ensure that your state team is knowledgeable and prepared to make the greatest impact for the profession.

Register now.

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**Policy Highlights**

**CEC Opposes Funding on Reauthorizing the D.C. School Voucher Program**

The Council for Exceptional Children recently joined 46 other members of the National Coalition for Public Education (NCPE) to send a letter to Congress opposing the reauthorization on continued funding of the District of Columbia’s private school voucher program in the FY2020 Financial Services and General Government Appropriations bill. Read more.

**CEC Supports Keep Our PACT Act**

CEC has expressed it strong support for the Keep Our PACT Act introduced by U.S. Sen. Chris Van Hollen (D-MD) and Rep. Susie Lee (D-NV) earlier this month. The bicameral legislation creates a mandatory 10-year path for fully funding both Title I and IDEA — finally ensuring Congress' commitment. Read more.

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**SEL System of Supports - Stress Management**

Use stress management intervention tools to help you help your students manage stress and anxiety and achieve improved behavior and outcomes. Access a free SEL trial.
Upcoming Events

**CEC Standards: Training the Next Generation**
CEC Webinar | May 9, 2019

**Ohio CEC 2019 Annual Conference**
Columbus, OH | June 3, 2019

**2019 Leadership Institute**
Arlington, VA | July 5-7, 2019

**2019 Special Education Legislative Summit**
Arlington, VA | July 7-10, 2019

**What's Happening in Washington**
CEC Webinar | July 17, 2019

**Division for Early Childhood Annual International Conference**
Dallas, TX | October 1-4, 2019

**Division on Career Development and Transition International Conference 2019**
Seattle, WA | October 23-25, 2019

News

**Early intervention helps students stay on track for graduation:** According to recent data, tracking and providing extra support to students who are at risk of dropping out through early intervention, career and transition courses, and home visits raises graduation rates. [Read more.](#)

**Feds Eye Reauthorization Of IDEA:** In a Department of Education notice published this month, the agency announced its plans to conduct several surveys to gain a better understanding of how the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act is being implemented across the country to plan for the law’s next update. [Read more.](#)

**Early intervention programs for mood and anxiety disorders improve patient outcomes:** In a series of studies from

To purchase the DABS user’s manual and forms, [visit aidd.org/dabs.](#)
Lawson Health Research Institute, Western University, and ICES, researchers examined the impact of Canada’s only early intervention program for youth with mood and anxiety disorders. Read more.

**Trump Approves Extension Of Program Helping People Leave Institutions:** The legislation allocates an additional $20 million for a program that enables states to access Medicaid funding to pay for employment supports, housing, and other services so that people with disabilities can transition from institutional facilities to the community. Read more.