CEC 2023
LOUISVILLE
CONVENTION & EXPO
March 1-4
JUSTIFICATION TOOLKIT

www.cecconvention.org
At CEC 2023 the focus will be on educators with a common goal: High-quality education that is inclusive and equitable for individuals with disabilities. Whatever your role—special or general education teacher, district administrator, principal, teacher educator, or paraprofessional—you can drive educator and student success by attending CEC 2023.

Use this Justification Toolkit to help make your case for support of travel, funding, and time off to attend CEC 2023 in Louisville.

**Attending the CEC 2023 Convention & Expo will allow you to:**

- Keep your fingers on the pulse of trends, hot topics, current research, and emerging practices in special education.
- Engage with and learn from leading special education experts and peers to help make your practice better.
- Get great ideas and effective strategies to use in your classroom as you connect with educators practicing in different settings from around the world.

**Design your own experience and earn up to 23 professional development hours (PDHs) by choosing from over 300 sessions covering:**

| Accountability Systems (IDEA/ESSA) for Children and Youth with Disabilities | Early Childhood and Early Intervention | Personnel Preparation |
| Administration/Supervision | Emotional and Behavioral Disorders | Physical/Health/Multiple Disabilities |
| Arts in Special Education | Gifted and Talented | Pioneers/Historical Perspectives |
| Assessment | International Programs/Services | Public Policy |
| Autism Spectrum Disorder / Intellectual Disabilities | Learning Disabilities | Research |
| Career Development/Transition | Maltreatment | Starting the Teaching Career |
| Collaboration and Inclusive Practices | Measuring Special Education Teacher Effectiveness | STEM |
| Communicative Disabilities and Deafness | Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) | Technology in Special Education and Early Intervention |
| Cultural and/or Linguistic Diversity | Parent/Family/School Partnerships | Visual Impairments and Deafblindness |

**Explore the latest and greatest**

The Expo Hall is home to not only hundreds of exhibitors, but the Technology Playground as well. The Technology Playground is an immersive hands-on experience in the Expo Hall where you can interact with vendors, educators, and students who will share current assistive and instructional technology that can support your students. From using apps and other products for lesson planning to using virtual reality for teacher training to using technology for math and reading, you can learn from real people using real tools for real teaching.

“I made connections with educators that I would have never been able to had it not been for the convention.”
Registration Options

CEC 2023 offers a variety of registration options to fit anyone’s budget. We want you to have access to the best professional development event of the year, in whatever way works for you.

Register early for the biggest savings! The Best Rate and Regular registration options offer great value, especially for CEC members: four days of training as low as $100 a day!

Another money-saving option is our Single-day registration. The Kentucky International Convention Center will host all convention events including sessions, meetings, and the exhibit hall.

Visit https://cecconvention.org/registration for more information on registration options.

Add-Ons

You can customize your CEC experience even more by adding on any (or all!) of the following. Additional rates apply for these items.

- One (or two, or three) of our optional Convention Workshops
- A ticket to the Awards Luncheon on Thursday, March 2
- A ticket for the Closing Party on Friday, March 3
- Access to the Virtual Convention (more on that below!) and Virtual Convention Workshops

Virtual Convention Registration

The virtual component of the 2023 CEC Convention & Expo will include more than 40 instructional hours of live and on-demand sessions selected from the in-person convention program. If you couldn't be in two places at once in Louisville, you’ll have the chance to see some of the sessions you missed!

Here's what you get:

- Attend your choice(s) of live virtual sessions selected from the in-person program on April 26
- Access to more than 40 hours of curated on-demand content from the “best of the best” in-person convention sessions, accessible for 3 months
- Option to add on two-hour virtual convention workshops that will be presented live on April 25 (additional fees apply)
- Add the virtual convention to your Louisville registration and save an average of over 50% on your virtual registration!

Hotel Information

CEC has negotiated great hotel rates in Louisville. Housing is open so book your room today! All of the hotels in the official CEC block are within walking distance of the Kentucky International Convention Center.

Looking for further savings? Check out room share possibilities with fellow attendees.

About Louisville

Did you know Louisville has been named one of “America's Friendliest Cities”, “America’s Most Underrated Cities”, “America's Favorite Cities for Food” and “America's Favorite Cities Overall” by Travel + Leisure?

Check out recommendations from our Local Ambassadors on where to eat and what to see while you're in town, and learn how to pronounce “Louisville” the right way.

Looavul. Luhvul. Loueville. However you say it, it’s bound to be a good time.
Calculate your cost to attend

Use the table below to estimate your investment for attending the convention.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expense</th>
<th>Considerations</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Convention Registration</td>
<td>Are you a CEC member?</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>What registration option works for you?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Do you want to add on any of the below?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• An in-person Convention Workshop</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• A ticket to the Awards Luncheon or the Closing Party?</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• The Virtual Convention</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• A Virtual Convention Workshop</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel</td>
<td>How are you traveling to the convention: car, plane, train?</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Estimate using a travel service.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Consider your ground transportation while in Louisville. All of the hotels in the CEC room block are within walking distance of the convention center!</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lodging</td>
<td>CEC has negotiated travel discounts and secured reduced-rate hotel rooms to make your stay affordable.</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food</td>
<td>How many meals will you need?</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Do you have a food per diem?</td>
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</table>

**Total $**

Writing a Justification Letter

We're here to help you get support from your principal or administrator to attend CEC 2023 in Louisville. You can customize this "justification letter" to make the case for your attendance.

Some things to remember to support your request...

- Emphasize impact. Attending CEC 2023 will benefit you as an educator, the students you serve, your colleagues, and ultimately your school. Talk about the new ideas and strategies you will discover that are based on solid research and academia.

- Highlight the savings. Your school or district can save money while investing in professional development for individual teachers or entire teams. Best Rate savings are in effect through October 26, 2022.

- Stress the connection. Make sure you explain how your attendance will help you meet knowledge requirements of your school or state. You can earn up to 23 Professional Development Hours (PDHs) over four days.

- You can direct your own learning and design the program that meets your specific needs—and those of your school.

- Highlight the opportunity to learn firsthand by engaging directly with experts leading the Convention Workshops. These experiences are a great way to enhance your professional development at the convention—**please note that additional fees are required**.

*Download a sample Justification Letter you can personalize and use.*
1) Registrant Information
All fields required. Attendees are strongly encouraged to complete the registration application online at www.ceconvention.org.

First Name ______________________ Last Name ______________________
Job Title ______________________ Member ID ______________________
Address ______________________ Zip Code ______________________
City ______________________ State ______________________
Email ______________________

2) Convention Registration
Attendees are encouraged to register online at www.ceconvention.org, where you can join or renew your membership AND register for the convention.

You must be a CEC member at time of registration to qualify for member rates. Convention workshops and the virtual convention are NOT included in convention registration.


3) In-Person Convention Workshops
Attendees are strongly encouraged to complete registration at www.ceconvention.org to ensure availability still exists in the workshop and to read full workshop descriptions.

Convention workshops are not included with any convention registration. Each workshop requires an additional registration fee (see chart below).

4) Virtual Convention Add-ons
Add on the virtual convention to your in-person registration and save at least 50%!

The virtual convention will consist of a day of live programming on April 26, access to 40+ on-demand recordings for 3 months, and the option to register for additional live workshops on April 25.

5) Special Events
Join us at our special events for recognition and celebration! More information about these events is available online. Indicate number of tickets requested.

6) Total Due
Options to pay are listed in section 7. Registrations paying by purchase order must pay invoice within 30 days or the registration will be cancelled.

7) Payment
Purchase Orders - email to service@exceptionalchildren.org or fax to (703) 264-9494
Pay and Register online at: www.ceconvention.org

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**Rate/Qty Subtotal**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Convention Registration</th>
<th>See Box 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Full-Day Workshop (Wed. March 1)</td>
<td>_____ x _____ # rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Half-Day Workshops (Wed. March 1 or Sat. March 4)</td>
<td>_____ x _____ # rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KY New Teacher Academy (Sat. March 4)</td>
<td>$99</td>
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<tr>
<td>Virtual Convention (Add-on)</td>
<td>See Box 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virtual Convention Workshop Additions</td>
<td>_____ x _____ # rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Event Tickets</td>
<td>See Box 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td></td>
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</table>
## Full-Day Workshop - Wednesday, March 1, 9am-4pm

**Workshop 01 - Legally Defensible IEPs**

Julie J. Weatherly, Esq., Resolutions in Special Education

**Workshop 02 - Teachers and Paraeducators Working Together: Roles and Rules!**

Ritu V. Chopra, Ph.D., PAR2A Center, University of Denver

**Workshop 03 - Tier 2 and 3 Behavior Support: Developing Protocols and Implementation Plans**

Jessica Sprick and Tricia Rees Berg, Ph.D., Safe & Civil Schools

## Morning Workshops - Wednesday, March 1, 9am-12pm

**Workshop 04 - Teachers Lead the Way: Better Communication and Collaboration at Meetings and Beyond**

Rebekka Jez, Ph.D. and Michelle Coleman, University of San Diego

**Workshop 05 - Building Communities of Practice: Strengthening Induction Programs to Support the Needs of New Special Education Teachers**

Clara Hauth, Ph.D., Marymount University & Catherine Creighton Martin, Ph.D., Technical Training & Assistance Center at George Mason University

**Workshop 06 - School-Wide Implementation of Universal Design for Learning: A Learner Centered Design Approach**

Bill Wilmot & Jennifer Levine, CAST

**Workshop 07 - Setting the Foundation for Mathematics Success**

Brad Witzel, Ph.D., Western Carolina University

**Workshop 08 - Put the "I" in IEPs Using High-quality Tools for Development and Implementation**

Donna M. Sacco, Ph.D. & Amy Peterson, MA, American Institutes for Research

**Workshop 09 - Guidelines and Strategies for Jump Starting Secondary Students' Self-Regulation Skills**

Roberta Strosnider, Ed.D., and Valerie Saxton Sharpe, Ed.S., Institute on Executive Functioning

**Workshop 10 - Best Practices for Transition Planning**

Stacie Djonovski, Ed.D., DCDT; Mary Morrissey, Ph.D., Portland State University, and Al Daviso, Ph.D., Akron University

**Workshop 11 - Specially Designed Instruction in Action: Strategies and Techniques to Improve Student Outcomes**

Nicole Barrion and Amy Creed, Alexandria City Public Schools

## Afternoon Workshops - Wednesday, March 1, 1-4pm

**Workshop 12 - Teachers Lead the Way: Moving from Conversations to Relationships with Families for Student Success**

Clara Hauth, Ph.D., Marymount University & Catherine Creighton Martin, Ph.D., Technical Training & Assistance Center at George Mason University

**Workshop 13 - Co-Teaching Tune-Up**

Julie Irene Boat, Ed.D., University of North Carolina at Greensboro

**Workshop 14 - Effective Instruction and Intervention with Secondary Mathematics**

Brad Witzel, Ph.D., Western Carolina University

**Workshop 15 - Practical Strategies to Modify Curriculum**

Nicole Eredics, The Inclusive Class

**Workshop 16 - Supporting Students with Challenging Behavior in Unstructured Settings Using Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports**

Kathy Randolph, Ed.D., University of Colorado—Colorado Springs and Brittany Hott, Ph.D., University of Oklahoma, Norman

**Workshop 17 - Guidelines and Strategies for Jump Starting Elementary Students' Self-Regulation Skills**

Roberta Strosnider, Ed.D., and Valerie Saxton Sharpe, Ed.S., Institute on Executive Functioning

**Workshop 18 - Engaging and Educating Learners Using Technology**

Tara Courchaine, Ed.D., Cynthia Curry, and Tracey Hall, Ph.D., CAST

## Saturday AM Workshops - Saturday, March 4, 8:30am-11:30am

**Workshop 19 - Executive Functioning Supports in Today's Classroom**

Cassie Frost, Disruptive Teaching

**Workshop 20 - Read the Room: Literacy Instruction to Decrease Challenging Behavior**

Presenter TBC

## Virtual Workshops Coming Soon