



Dear Urban Collaborative Community,

We hope that you are finding ways to take care of yourselves, your family, and your school community as we all learn to navigate this new reality. What has always been most impressive to me about Urban Collaborative members is that we are a community that supports each other. While we have varying levels of experience and unique roles, we understand each other's work and the complexities of providing effective and inclusive special education services for students, while at the same time navigating district practices and compliance. While we are in uncharted waters across the country, Urban Collaborative members have been figuring out how to provide effective services that address compliance mandates. Since several of you have expressed an interest in wanting to share what you have learned during this time, we have decided to facilitate this sharing of ideas and resources. Moving forward, we will be providing space in the form of Zoom online gatherings for members to be able to connect with colleagues. Some of the topics we will be discussing are listed below:

- Providing services while schools are closed
- Providing services when schools resume
- Messaging to families
- Online resources
- Self-care

These online gatherings will be in a conversational format and if appropriate, will include experts in the field, for example a special education lawyer. We plan to conduct these gatherings every other week, if interest remains. We will hold our first one via Zoom next Thursday, March 26<sup>th</sup> 11:00-12:00 PST and will discuss "Providing Services While Schools are Closed." For those not familiar or comfortable with Zoom, we will be holding a pre-meeting test on Wednesday, March 25<sup>th</sup> to address any questions you might have about using this online platform.

**Action Steps:**

- **To join the one-hour Urban Collaborative Member Conversation focused on "Providing Services While Schools are Closed" on Thursday, March 26<sup>th</sup> from 11:00-12:00 PST, please register [here](#) or via the registration button at the end of this message.**
- To learn how to use Zoom, please watch this video tutorial and/or join us on Wednesday March 25<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 PST, please register [here](#).
- If you would like to suggest topics for future Zoom gatherings or ask questions that we might be able to address, please email us at [urbancollaborative@asu.edu](mailto:urbancollaborative@asu.edu).

We hope that you will join us for these member conversations and that you find them useful/relevant. Feel free to share this invitation with other colleagues from your school district.

In addition, please visit the [Collaborative's website](#) for information and resources. We will be updating this whenever there is new information. Resources that have been recently added are listed below:

- [Fact Sheet: Addressing the Risk of COVID-19 in Schools While Protecting the Civil Rights of Students](#) (March 16, 2020)
- [Student Privacy Policy Office FERPA & Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\) Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\)](#) (March 2020)
- CEC/CASE Webinar (including slides and discussion) This webinar includes a discussion of the question: What does compensatory education look like if schools are unable to provide FAPE due to school closures, however, no concrete answers were provided.

The Urban Collaborative Team

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[Register Here for the Urban Collaborative Zoom Meeting](#)