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About Us

The Urban Special Education Leadership Collaborative is a network of special and general education leaders working together to improve outcomes for students with disabilities in the nation's urban schools.

FALL MEMBER MEETING - REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!

Success at an Early Age: Improving Outcomes for Young Children with Disabilities

We are excited to announce that registration is now open for our Fall 2013 Member Meeting in Chicago, Illinois! The meeting will be held at the Westin Chicago River North from November 6th-9th and the primary topical focus is "Success at an Early Age: Improving Outcomes for Young Children with Disabilities."

The Fall 2013 meeting will provide opportunities for Collaborative Members and Associate Members to learn from national experts in early childhood education, as well as from one another, about policies and practices that reflect contemporary understandings of what is in the best interest of young children with disabilities as they are being prepared to enter a standards-based K-12 schooling experience.

As with all of our meetings, our Fall Meeting will provide lots of opportunities for participants to network with one another and share emerging best practices. The meeting promises to be a very significant learning experience. Given the importance of general education and special education leaders modeling collaboration, I encourage you to invite your early childhood education colleagues to join you for this important meeting.
Please register at www.urbancollaborative.org. If you have any questions regarding registration, or you need your login information, please contact Anna Lingan at alingan@edc.org.

We look forward to seeing you in Chicago!

SPRING 2013 MEMBER MEETING - KEYNOTE VIDEO NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE

Covering the Spectrum: Current Trends in the Delivery of Services to Students with Autism

The keynote addresses from our Spring 2013 Member Meeting are now available online. Dr. Michael Wehmeyer, Professor of Special Education; Director, Kansas University Center on Developmental Disabilities, and Dr. Dianne Zager, Director, Center for Teaching and Research in Autism at the Pace University School of Education, led an engaging and rich keynote session at our Spring Member Meeting in San Diego, CA. We encourage our members to view these videos and post their reactions and questions in the comments section. To access these videos, please click here. All meeting participants can access the videos for one month. After this time, videos will only be available to our members and associate members.

OSERS LETTER

Rights of "Highly Mobile" Students with Disabilities

The U.S. Department of Education's Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services has issued a letter concerning services to children who are highly mobile, including military-connected children, migrant children, children in foster care and children who are homeless. The purpose of this letter is to address concerns expressed by stakeholders regarding the unique educational needs of highly mobile children with disabilities under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. Specifically, this letter addresses issues that have been raised regarding IDEA's requirements for timely evaluations, including when a response to intervention (RTI) framework is used prior to completing evaluations of highly mobile children, as well as the provision of comparable services. Such services could include extended school year services, when a highly mobile child transfers into a new school district.
WEBSITE OF THE MONTH

Individual Family Service Plan (IFSP) Outcomes and IEP Goals

As we approach the Collaborative’s Fall Member Meeting, we will be sharing resources that focus on early education and intervention. This month we are highlighting *Developing High-Quality, Functional IFSP Outcomes and IEP Goals* - a training package developed in response to the need expressed from state and local providers to have specific information and resources about developing Individual Family Service Plan (IFSP) outcomes and IEP goals. The training package includes: a comprehensive PowerPoint presentation; trainer script and presentation notes; handouts; and activities. Each presentation includes information for both Early Intervention (EI) and Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE) settings, and can be freely edited and adapted by presenters based on needs such as time allotted and audience.

SUPPORTIVE SCHOOL DISCIPLINE

Webinar Series

In July 2011, Attorney General Eric Holder and Secretary of Education Arne Duncan announced the creation of the [Supportive School Discipline Initiative](#). The collaboration is aimed at targeting school disciplinary policies and practices that push youth out of school and many times into the justice system, also known as the school-to-prison pipeline. To increase awareness and understanding of the issue and provide practical examples of school discipline practices that maintain school and classroom safety while ensuring academic engagement and success for all students, the Initiative developed the Supportive School Discipline (SSD) Webinar Series. Webinars in the series are open to anyone and will explore numerous topics, including current school discipline philosophies, policies, and practices, and emerging alternatives. The series will address truancy and absenteeism; infusing restorative justice principles; the role of school resource officers (SROs) in supportive school discipline; the promise of trauma-informed practices; the importance of youth, family, and community engagement; and the need for professional development across all stakeholders. There have been seven webinars thus far in the series. They are available for viewing [here](#).

THANK YOU CORPORATE PARTNERS AND SPONSORS!

The Collaborative extends a special thank you to our corporate partners and sponsors for their generous support at our Spring 2013 Member Meeting!

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