



DEC•2012 Call for Papers

Due Date: January 15, 2012

The Division for Early Childhood (DEC) of the Council for Exceptional Children invites you to submit a proposal for DEC•2012:

The 28th Annual International Conference on Young Children
with Special Needs and Their Families

Realizing the Vision

October 28-30, 2012

Hilton Minneapolis · Minneapolis, Minnesota

This Year's Hot Topic!

This year's hot topic is Optimal Results through Effective Practices in Today's World. Whether the opportunity to realize the vision of early intervention/early childhood special education comes from forward-thinking initiatives or challenges to the field, we are encouraging proposals that re-imagine "what can be" and how we can use evidence-based practices to move toward that ideal within the current opportunities of our time. We hope you will submit proposals that strive toward making the ideal real. The conference program will highlight related sessions, roundtables, and poster presentations with a "hot topic" designation.

Session Types

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| Conference Sessions | 10-12 concurrent conference sessions are offered during each time slot; Length of session (75-120 minutes) is determined by Program Committee (maximum of six presenters) |
| Poster Sessions | Posters are offered during a one-hour period. Each poster is displayed on a 4' X 8' board with presenters available for discussion. (maximum of three presenters) |
| Student Poster Sessions | Student posters must be submitted by an individual(s) currently enrolled in a graduate or undergraduate level program. Faculty advisors may be listed as a co-presenter. |
| Roundtables | Roundtable discussions (1 hour and 15 minutes) provide an opportunity for participants to share their experience with colleagues. |
| Pre-Conference Workshops | Workshop topics must be highly relevant to the early intervention/early childhood special education audience and/or address this year's hot topic. (6 contact hours; October 28). |

Focus Your Proposal

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| Target Audience | The DEC conference attracts a diverse group of attendees and we seek proposals which are specifically targeted to these 6 groups: Administrators, Faculty, Family Members, Practitioners, Researchers, & Students. |
| Content Level | To ensure a well-rounded program and provide content which appeals to new attendees as well as those who have a sophisticated understanding of early intervention/early childhood special education, each proposal must identify the level of content provided: Introductory, Intermediate, or Advanced. |
| Age Level | The DEC conference seeks proposals which offer address the age range from infancy through age eight. Proposers will be asked to identify the following age levels: 0-2, 0-5, 3-5, 5-8, 0-8. |

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Conference Strands

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| <p>Practice</p> | <p>Assessment processes focused on developmental, educational, or family support decisions around program [eligibility?] determination. Approaches for linking intervention/instruction with assessment practices that include program planning and progress monitoring practices designed to plan, revise, and evaluate instruction/intervention effectiveness; and curriculum, instructional models, strategies, and practices. We invite proposals that focus on children and families from a variety of backgrounds (<i>e.g., cultural, linguistic, socio-economic, religious, ethnic, immigrant status</i>);</p> |
| <p>Family and Professional Collaboration</p> | <p>Approaches, processes, and resources that promote family-guided practices, teaming, collaboration, and change among early childhood/intervention professionals and/or families of young children from a variety of backgrounds (e.g. cultural, linguistic, socio-economic, religious, ethnic, immigrant status). This includes consultation, coaching, and other approaches used to enhance the skills and abilities of family members or other important adults to support families and the development of their young children with disabilities.</p> |
| <p>Research and Evaluation</p> | <p>Research or evaluation studies addressing a wide range of early childhood topics and issues that include descriptions of participants, research questions, methods, findings, and implications for practice. Also included in this strand are evaluations that include descriptions of the collection, synthesis, and interpretation of information aimed toward community or individual programs. These studies would address children and families from a variety of backgrounds (<i>e.g., cultural, linguistic, socio-economic, religious, ethnic, immigrant status</i>).</p> |
| <p>Professional Development</p> | <p>Approaches, models, or methods used to support a wide range of facilitated learning opportunities in early childhood special and general education and early intervention resulting in positive effects for families and young children from a variety of backgrounds (<i>e.g., cultural, linguistic, socio-economic, religious, ethnic, immigrant status</i>), including those that result in college credit/ degrees and those that do not yield college credits/degrees; those that have a large formal coursework component and those that are more situated in practice, such as coaching and mentoring strategies; Also included in this strand are those designed to enhance one's ability to assume leadership roles and make broader contributions to the field such as facilitating family members' development as leaders and partners.</p> |
| <p>Policy</p> | <p>Content, methods, or approaches that address systems-level issues, systems change, legislative mandates, policy development or the implications of policy for practice, and program administration and management related to young children with disabilities and their families from a variety of backgrounds (<i>e.g., cultural, linguistic, socio-economic, religious, ethnic, immigrant status</i>).</p> |

Timeline

Late proposals will NOT be considered in the review process!

January 15, 2012

Due Date for All Conference Proposals (online system closes at 11:59 p.m. EST)

March 30, 2012

Notification of Acceptance (notice will be sent via email to lead presenter only)

April 16, 2012

Due Date for Session Confirmation by Lead Presenters

May 31, 2012

Due Date for Presenter Registration-All Lead and Co-Presenters Must Register



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General Instructions for Submitting Proposals

- Proposals must be **submitted online**. Step-by-step instructions and detailed submission instructions are available at www.dec-sped.org. Technical assistance is available between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. (Mountain Time) Monday – Friday.
- Submission deadline for all proposals is **January 15, 2012**--late proposals will not be accepted.
- The same proposal can only be submitted for one **session type**: session, poster, student poster, workshop, roundtable discussion).
- Individuals can only appear as the **lead presenter** on one proposal for each session type. A lead presenter may appear as a co-presenter on other proposals.
- **Confirmation** that your proposal has been received will be sent by return email. It is the responsibility of the proposer to verify all information included in the proposal and notify immediately DEC of any errors or if you do not receive email confirmation.
- Limited **reimbursement** is available for pre-conference workshops only (includes complimentary registration, honorarium, lodging, and per diem for one presenter). Other presenters do not receive any form of reimbursement from DEC.
- All presenters (including co-presenters) are **required to register for the conference**. A discounted presenter registration is available. However, the discount is only available to presenters who register by May 31, 2012.

Submit Your Proposal Online

Proposal submissions will be accepted online at www.dec-sped.org/conference. Submit a proposal for a session, poster session, student poster session, roundtable discussion, or full-day pre-conference workshop. DEC's online proposal submission system is easy to use. Detailed instructions as well as submission guidelines and proposal criteria are available online.

www.dec-sped.org/conference

Questions?

DEC staff members are pleased to answer your question and assist you throughout the proposal submission process. Please contact us if you have any questions about submitting your proposal, our online submission process, or would like to know more about how DEC proposals are reviewed.

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