



# **The 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on Educating Students with Disabilities in General Education Classrooms...**

Expanding Horizons: Reflecting on the Past - Envisioning the Future

Thursday, December 6, 2007 • Crowne Plaza, Cromwell

## **Call for Proposals**

The annual *Expanding Horizons* conference, sponsored by SERC in collaboration with the CT State Department of Education, is dedicated to improving the education of students with disabilities in general education classrooms. The conference, now in its tenth year, promotes increased understanding of responsible inclusive practices; provides an opportunity for the sharing of ideas, stories of success, and learning from colleagues; and encourages networking.

The 2007 conference will feature presentations, facilitated discussions, simulated activities, and video presentations led by Connecticut educators to share their experiences educating students with disabilities in a general education setting. SERC is looking for presentation proposals related to, but not limited to, the following topics:

### **Collaboration, Planning, and Provision of Services**

- Integration and delivery of special education and student support services
- Collaborative planning and strategic decision making regarding instruction
- Family involvement in inclusive settings
- Leadership for inclusive education

### **Instructional Strategies and Early Intervention**

- Promoting positive behavior supports
- Use of assistive technology
- Designing instructional accommodations and curricular modifications
- IEPs aligned to the general education curriculum
- Instruction and supports in early childhood education
- Co-teaching, differentiated instruction, and other instructional strategies

### **Social Opportunities and Family Involvement**

- Establishing a school culture of acceptance of diversity and learning needs
- Promoting self-advocacy
- Transition planning - school to community, preschool to elementary, and between grades
- School, family, community partnerships
- Participation in extracurricular activities

Concurrent presentations and discussion groups will be ongoing throughout the day in 40-minute or 80-minute blocks. The conference registration fee will be waived for any presenter(s) (maximum of two per session) whose proposal is accepted. Fee waivers for parent and student participation will be available upon request. For additional information regarding proposed presentations, contact Catherine Wagner at SERC, (860) 632-1485, ext. 346, or [wagner@ctserc.org](mailto:wagner@ctserc.org).

Please complete and return the proposal application as soon as possible to: Catherine Wagner, Consultant  
SERC  
25 Industrial Park Road  
Middletown, CT 06457-1520

Proposal applications must be received by October 10, 2007. Upon acceptance, the identified contact person will be notified. All members of the presenting team will be required to complete an individual conference registration form.



25 Industrial Park Road ~ Middletown, CT 06457-1520  
Tel: (860) 632-1485 ~ Fax: (860) 632-8870 ~ [www.ctserc.org](http://www.ctserc.org)



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## Proposal Application Form

Title of Session: \_\_\_\_\_

Target Audience (check **all** that apply):

- Family members       General education teachers       Student support services professionals
- Transition coordinators       Special education teachers       Paraprofessionals
- Curriculum specialists       Administrators       Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

Age/Grade Level (check **all** that apply):

- Preschool       Elementary School       Middle School       High School

Please respond to the following items and attach to this application form.

1. **Description:** Write a brief abstract (fifty words or less) for use in the conference brochure describing your session, its highlights, and strengths.
2. **Objectives:** In addition to the brochure description above, outline what conference participants may do to reinforce the principles of responsible inclusive practices as a result of this session. Include who is involved and what resources are needed to replicate this practice.
3. **Session Format:**
  - Presentation and/or simulated activity (i.e., modeling a lesson; demonstrating a team decision-making process; collecting and analyzing data)
  - Please indicate whether content is: \_\_\_beginning or \_\_\_advanced.
  - Facilitated dialogue / networking
  - Panel discussion / presentation
  - Video presentation
  - Session length: \_\_\_40 minutes      \_\_\_80 minutes
4. The conference planning committee is looking to expand the participation of families and students. Please indicate if you have family members or students who will be participating in your proposed session.

\_\_\_\_\_

5. **Contact Information:** Lead Presenter:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

District / Agency / Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Position \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

If applicable, list additional presenters with contact information.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

**Proposal applications must be received by October 10, 2007. Upon acceptance, the lead presenter/contact person will be notified and sent registration applications for team members.**