



Exceptional Student Services

January 20, 2023

Announcement for Opportunity to Participate in Parent-Teacher Workshop Empowering Parents Through Collaboration

Offered by the Arizona Department of Education, Early Childhood Special Education Unit, and A.T. Still University doctoral student in Occupational Therapy, Lakenzie Crawford

Workshop Dates: January 31–March 30, 2023

Deadline for Application: March 1, 2023

Webinar Dates: January 25 & 27, 2023

Parental involvement is a cornerstone of improving special education programs. This project aims to utilize a workshop-style intervention to bring parents and teachers together to create a specialized plan to support and develop parental involvement in individual school systems through guided application of methods for collaborative problem-solving. This program gives schools/districts the tools to increase parental involvement through strengthening parent-teacher interactions and creating more sustainable/beneficial parent-teacher relationships. Participation in this program is free to all of Arizona's Early Childhood Special Education programs that serve preschool-aged children with disabilities.

This workshop is part of a doctoral capstone project in occupational therapy being conducted by Lakenzie Crawford, doctoral student at A.T. Still University in the Department of Occupational Therapy. Lakenzie is participating in an internship program with Arizona Department of Education's Exceptional Student Services and the Early Childhood Special Education unit under the supervision of Suzanne Perry.

Workshop Objectives

Improve parental involvement in early childhood special education

Improved self-efficacy of both parents and teachers regarding parent-teacher interactions and the special education process

Decreased preconceived notions of both parents and teachers regarding the other party

Creation of an action plan to improve parental involvement created for each school specifically

Equity for all students to achieve their full potential

www.azed.gov/SpecialEducation – 602-542-5393 – 1535 West Jefferson Street, Bin 24

About the Workshop

Duration: 2 hours

Participants: 6–16 parents and teachers

Location: hosted at the school district's choice

Dates: January 31, 2023 through March 31, 2023

Cost: Free of charge to participate

Product: action plan specific to the school/district

Requirements of Participants

6–16 participants that include parents and teachers of children currently enrolled in an early childhood special education program within the district/school to attend a one-time, 2-hour workshop

Workshop participants will complete short pre- and post-workshop surveys

Workshop participants will develop a collaborative action plan that outlines specific recommendations for parent-teacher collaboration, parent engagement, problem-solving, and/or troubleshooting strategies for future utilization by school/district

School/district will complete a satisfaction survey for participation in program

Apply for participation by Wednesday, March 1, 2023

A 30-minute webinar will be provided to relay further information regarding this opportunity for those interested. This webinar will be offered on the following dates:

January 24, 2023 @ 12:00 p.m. [Register](#)

January 27, 2023 @ 2:00 p.m. [Register](#)

January 31, 2023 @ 12:00 p.m. [Register](#)

February 3, 2023 @ 2:30 p.m. [Register](#)

To participate in this workshop or inquire further, please [email the application to Lakenzie Crawford](#) by March 1, 2023

Tom Home, Superintendent of Public Instruction

1535 West Jefferson Street • Phoenix Arizona 85007 • (602) 542-5460 • www.azed.gov