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Announcements

The latest news and information from around the country.

New Projects

Assistive and Instructional Technology Supporting Children and Youth With Disabilities

<http://www.ctdinstitute.org/>

Since 1999, the Family Center on Technology and Disability (FCTD), a project of Family Health International (FHI360), has been a source of information and resources on assistive and instructional technology for children and youth with disabilities. In partnership with American Institutes for Research (AIR) and PACER Center, FCTD is pleased to announce the launch of the Center on Technology and Disability (CTD). Funded by the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Special Education Programs, CTD will provide, through its online institute, a CTD Library, "Café," and Learning Center.

Legislative Announcements

U.S. Department of Education Announces 2014 National Blue Ribbon Schools 337 Schools Honored—287 public and 50 private

<http://tinyurl.com/mcawtsl>

U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan has announced the recognition of 337 schools – 287 public and 50 private– as National Blue Ribbon Schools for 2014 for their overall academic excellence or their progress in closing

achievement gaps among student subgroups. These schools demonstrate that all students can achieve to high levels. The Department of Education will honor the schools at a recognition ceremony on November 10-11, 2014, in Washington, D.C. The award affirms the hard work of students, educators, families and communities in creating safe and welcoming schools where students master challenging content. The Department invites National Blue Ribbon School nominations from the top education official in every state, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, the Department of Defense Education Activity and the Bureau of Indian Education. The Council for American Private Education (CAPE) nominates private schools.

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The Resource Zone

Other National Resources

New REL Mid-Atlantic Report compares States' Definitions of Alternative Education (September 2014)

Report

<http://ies.ed.gov/ncee/edlabs/projects/project.asp?projectID=366&newsflash=v4>

The Regional Education laboratory (REL) of the U.S. Department of Education's Institute of Education Sciences' National Center for Education Evaluation and Regional Assistance has issued "How Do States Define Alternative Education." This study provides an overview of similarities and differences in how states and state education agencies define alternative education, as well as which states have alternative education standards and what those standards entail. The most commonly cited target population for alternative education is students with behavioral problems. The most common services listed in state definitions and policies regarding alternative education programs are regular academic instruction, counseling, social/life skills, job readiness, and behavioral services (e.g., anger management, conflict resolution). The literature suggests that the definition of alternative education should include the target population, services offered, setting (e.g., in school, stand-alone schools), and scheduling (e.g., during school hours, outside of school hours). Available in pdf (509 KB, 40 pp).

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What's Happening

Other National Events

Disabled and Proud Conference 2014: Dare to Dream

Conference

October 18, 2014 - October 19, 2014

Syracuse, NY

<http://taishoffcenter.syr.edu/disabledandproud/>

Disabled and Proud is a national conference for current and future college students with disabilities – the next generation of leaders on campus and beyond. The conference provides opportunities for students to connect, educate, and motivate each other to pursue their academic and social goals with intention and direction; and encouragement to attendees to build more inclusive environments in their schools and on their campuses.

National Dropout Prevention Network Conference

Conference

November 2, 2014 - November 5, 2014

Louisville, KY

<http://tinyurl.com/ny62oc4>

The 26th Annual National Dropout Prevention Network Conference, "On Track for success: Each Student College and Career Ready," will be held November 2-5, 2014, in Louisville, Kentucky. The conference is designed to enhance the leadership skills of adults seeking to strengthen interventions among school, community, and families especially those in at-risk situations. The conference program will focus on alternative pathways; college and career pathways; common core and the student at-risk; curriculum and instruction; data assessment and continuous improvement; leadership, policy, and governance; literacy; new literacy: media and technology; school climate; student, family, and community engagement; and student support services and interventions.

DCDT 2014: Transition Rocks

Conference

November 6, 2014 - November 8, 2014

Cleveland, OH

<http://www.dcdt.org/>

"DCDT 2014: Transition Rocks," sponsored by the Division on Career Development and Transition (DCDT), will focus on transition-related strands, including transition assessment, cultural diversity, postsecondary education and employment, family involvement, and community partnerships. The International DCDT Conference brings together secondary transition stakeholders from across the country to network and focus on research-based strategies to support youth with disabilities as they transition from school into post-school life. Deadline for Early Bird registration: October 6, 2014.

National Mentoring Summit

Other

January 28, 2015 - January 30, 2015

Summit

Washington, DC

http://www.mentoring.org/2015_national_mentoring_summit/

The 2015 National Mentoring Summit will bring together practitioners, researchers, corporate partners, government and civic leaders, national youth-serving organizations and the network of affiliate Mentoring Partnerships to explore and advance mentoring's positive impact on individuals and communities. Deadline for Early Bird registration: October 3, 2014. [^ Top of Page ^](#)

Get Wired!

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Funding Forecast

Federal Grant Opportunities

Forecast of Funding Opportunities under the Department of Education Discretionary Grant Programs for Fiscal Year 2014

<http://www.ed.gov/fund/grant/find/edlite-forecast.html>

This document lists virtually all programs and competitions under which the U.S. Department of Education has invited or expects to invite applications for new awards for fiscal year 2014 and provides actual or estimated deadlines for the transmittal of applications under these programs. The lists are in the form of charts organized according to the Department's principal program offices and include programs and competitions previously announced as well as those to be announced at a later date.

FY 2014 Discretionary Grant Application Packages

<http://www.ed.gov/fund/grant/apply/grantapps/index.html>

This site, from the Department of Education, provides information on grant competitions that are currently open.

Additional Funding and Award Opportunities

Lowe's Toolbox for Education Accepting Applications for K-12 Public School Improvement Projects

<http://www.toolboxforeducation.com/index.html>

Funded by the Lowe's Charitable and Educational Foundation, the Lowe's Toolbox for Education program provides grant awards of up to \$5,000 to support school improvement projects at K-12 public schools in the United States. For the 2014-15 school year, the foundation will give priority to basic necessities, with a preference for funding requests that have a permanent impact, such as facility enhancement (both indoor and outdoor) as well as landscaping/cleanup projects. Projects that encourage parent involvement and help build stronger community spirit are encouraged. Any public K-12 school or nonprofit parent group associated with a public K-12 school is eligible to apply. Parent groups that are applying (PTO, PTA, etc.) must have an independent EIN and official 501(c)(3) status from the IRS. Groups without 501(c)(3) status should apply through their school. Grant requests must be between \$2,000 and \$5,000 per school. Deadline for submitting applications for the fall 2014 grant cycle: October 15, 2014. However, if 1,500 applications are received before the deadline, then the application process will close.

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End of Issue

Excerpting E-News

You are welcome to copy and paste portions of this E-News issue into your own e-mail newsletter; however, please credit the National Center on Secondary Education and Transition E-News and link to <http://www.ncset.org/enews> as follows: "Excerpted from NCSET E-News, an electronic newsletter of the National Center on Secondary Education and Transition (NCSET), available online at <http://www.ncset.org/enews>. NCSET is

funded by the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs."

Contributing to E-News

If you have information on new products, resources, funding opportunities, and conferences or training events and want to contribute these to a future E-News issue, please e-mail the information to ncset@umn.edu or see [Suggest an Item for E-News](#) for more information.

Purpose of the Listserv

E-News features resources, activities, products, and funding information from around the country. E-News is dedicated to assisting youth, parents, educators, service providers, and administrators to stay connected and informed about secondary education and transition issues.

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We will reply to you as soon as we can. Thank you for your interest!

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