



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING


GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL F. RICE, Ph.D.
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

MEMORANDUM

DATE: July 27, 2023

TO: Local and Intermediate School District Superintendents
Public School Academy Directors

FROM: Delsa D. Chapman, Ed.D., Deputy Superintendent
Division of Educator, Student, and School Supports 

SUBJECT: 2023 Special Populations Conference Registration Announcement

Registration for the 2023 Special Populations Conference of the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) will open on August 1, 2023. The registration link will be posted on the [Office of Educational Supports website](#) under *Current Topics*. The theme of this year's conference is *Recognizing Greatness*, which honors the diverse strengths reflected in all of Michigan's children and educators.

The conference supports [Michigan's Top 10 Strategic Education Plan](#) by providing professional learning, technical assistance, and opportunities for collaboration and networking to support the school, district, and intermediate school district staff in designing, implementing, and evaluating programming and services that best meet the unique needs of Michigan's special populations.

The main conference will be held in-person at the Kellogg Conference Center in East Lansing, MI, on October 25-26, 2023. A limited number of recorded sessions will also be available virtually after the conference; however, post-event recordings will not include keynote sessions. Session availability will be found within the Sched platform. In-person registration tickets will include full access to all the virtual content.

Two pre-conference sessions will be offered: one focused on English learners and the other focused on students experiencing homelessness. Both pre-conference sessions will be offered in addition to the conference and require a separate registration ticket. Pre-conference sessions will be offered in-person only due to the content and activities.

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The pre-conference and Special Populations main conference dates and times are:

Pre-conference October 24*	8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. ET
Main Conference Day 1 October 25*	8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. ET
Main Conference Day 2 October 26*	8:30 a.m. - 3:45 p.m. ET

**In-person check-in and breakfast opens at 7:30 a.m.*

The registration link will be posted on the [Office of Educational Supports website](#) under *Current Topics* on August 1, 2023.

Ticket prices are as follows:

Pre-conference (in-person only)	\$ 75
Main Conference (in-person and online access)	\$175
Main Conference limited recording access (online access only)	\$ 25

All attendees will receive two emails: one to confirm the registration immediately following its completion and one in October that includes the invitation to the conference's virtual platform, Sched.com.

The Sched invitation allows registrants to complete the following tasks:

- Review the available conference sessions
- Review the conference session descriptions
- Create an attendee profile
- Add conference sessions to their agenda
- Access conference sessions within their agenda
- Review speaker biographies
- Network with other attendees

Conference sessions in Sched are labeled recorded or in-person only. Any refunds or ticket transfers must be made through the Eventbrite registration portal.

Feel free to contact the Special Populations Conference planning committee with any questions at OESSpecialPops@michigan.gov or 517-241-6977.

cc: Michigan Education Alliance
Confederation of Michigan Tribal Education Departments