

**SOUTHERN EARLY CHILDHOOD ASSOCIATION
CALL FOR PROPOSALS
69th Annual Conference – Lexington, KY
March 1-3, 2018**

Proposals are due July 1, 2017

Theme: Every Child Needs a Champion

For generations, children in the South have faced complex challenges due to greater levels of poverty. Infant mortality, stress, obesity, detriments to brain development, learning and emotional health have plagued southern states. As child development and early education professionals, we envision a New South where every child has a champion; one in which children have every opportunity to reach their potential. As we work with children and families, we stand at the very foundation of the solution. The 2018 SECA Conference will offer a variety of speakers and workshops about preparing professionals to meet these challenges. We encourage proposals that are specific to the challenges of children in poverty, as well as those supporting best practices for all children. Content may focus on incorporating the math, literacy, science or music activities for infant, toddler, preschool and primary classrooms. We are also seeking proposals specific to **children with special needs, working within faith-based programs, home visiting, and out-of-school time programs**. Proposals should include evidence and research-supported practices.

Workshop topics may include, but are not restricted to the following:

- ❖ **Physical Health and Development:** fitness, nutrition, obesity prevention, innovative recess implementation and advocacy for primary grades, menu planning, outdoor play, inclusion, and supporting infant and toddler exploration
- ❖ **Emotional Health and Development:** fostering relationships, children of incarcerated parents, developing emotional awareness, the effects of parental deployment on the developing child, the effects of stress on brain development, bullying prevention, resiliency, differing needs of boys and girls, faith-based instruction, family engagement related to attachment, guidance specific to challenging behaviors, and continuity of care
- ❖ **Cognitive Development:** neuroscience research related to poverty and learning, project based learning, play and creativity, innovative curriculum, authentic assessment, overcoming word gap, developmentally appropriate inclusion of Common Core standards, problem solving, bi-lingual classrooms, instruction on a “shoe-string” budget, preparing indoor or outdoor environments, overcoming learning challenges, effective transitions and the influence of such on behaviors, indirect guidance, inclusion, supporting infant and toddler exploration, practical strategies and applications for instruction within the autism spectrum
- ❖ **Professionalism:** supporting longevity in the field, offering support to staff and families through developmental challenges, offering support to intergenerational families, fostering effective communication, staff retention strategies, developing support in faith-based community, conflict management, and staff wellness
- ❖ **Instructional Leadership:** leadership challenges and successes, supporting best practices, student learning outcomes, mentoring, scaffolding, engaging staff with children and families, strategies for staff and parent meetings, developing and advocating for authentic assessment, and home visiting

Proposed conference workshop sessions will be 1 hour in length.

A limited number of proposals are being sought which offer more in-depth content and participation in a 1.5 or 2 hour session format. Please indicate if this is your preference.

PROPOSAL FORMAT

1. **Name, address, telephone number, e-mail address and professional title for each presenter.**
If there is more than one presenter, the main presenter must be designated.
2. **Title of presentation** that clearly and concisely describes workshop content. (10 words or less)
3. **Language** in which presentation will be made.(English, Spanish, other)
4. Designate **targeted audience, level of training** (beginning, intermediate, advanced) and list **2-5 learning objectives for participants**. Learning objectives should be clearly articulated, realistic and measurable, help clarify the proposed content, be in logical and sequential order, and drive the content and activities of the session.
5. Provide a **brief outline** of the presentation. All content should be consistent with sound theories of child development, professional development, quality standards, best practices and state licensing regulations. *If more than one hour is being requested for the session, provide sufficient content and detail to justify the request.*
6. List all **presentation methods** to be used such as lecture, Power Point, demonstration, audience participation, small group discussion, large group discussion, hands-on, etc. *Methods should reflect principles of adult learning.*
7. In one or two paragraphs, briefly **describe how the target audience will benefit** from the training and how the content reflects the conference theme: **Every Child Needs a Champion.**
8. Provide a **brief abstract** (25 words or less) that describes the conference session and is suitable for use in the conference program.
9. Briefly describe the **presenter's or presenters' qualifications related to the proposed topic/content.**
10. Include a **Vita (a summary, not to exceed 2 pages) or resume** for each presenter that includes:
 - Educational history
 - Work history
 - A summary of presentations made during the last three years*The vita is required in order for SECA to award CEU credit for the conference and must be submitted if the proposal is to be reviewed.*

Please submit your proposal at <https://form.jotform.com/60534809704962> or visit the [Conference page of our website, www.southernearlychildhood.org](http://www.southernearlychildhood.org)

Proposals must be received electronically by **July 1, 2017** with notification of acceptance by **September 1, 2017.**