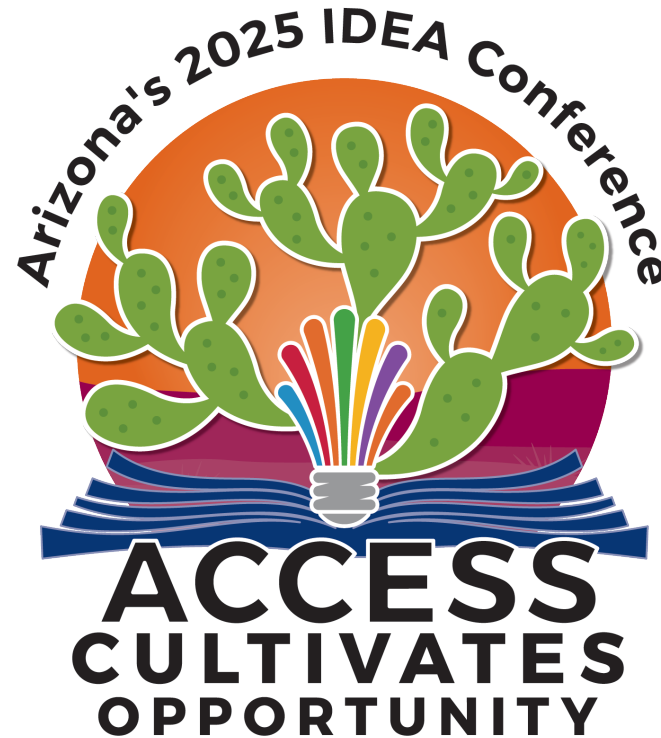


# IDEA Conference Update



August 21 & 22, 2025 – JW Marriott Desert Ridge in Phoenix



# Keynote Speakers



Jessica Cox



Shawn Harper



Brandon K.  
Wright



Elizabeth  
Montero-Cefalo



# Early Childhood Special Education Strand

The National Center for Pyramid Model Innovations will be providing professional development on the Prevent-Teach-Reinforce for Young Children (PTR-YC) model.

This classroom-based model employs individualized positive behavior support for toddler and preschool-aged children with persistent challenging behavior.

PTR-YC is a tier three support designed to enhance the fidelity of implementing a function-based individualized intervention plan for toddlers and preschoolers.

Pre-registration is required for the six sessions.

Limited to 55 participants.

Email [ECSEInbox@azed.gov](mailto:ECSEInbox@azed.gov) for more information.



Claire Winchester

# Premier Speakers



Brian Mendler



Dr. Julie Causton



Dr. Kristie  
Pretti-Frontczak



# Premier Speakers



Tony Vincent



Dr. Catherine  
Fowler



Dr. Charlotte  
Alverson



Audrey Levorse



# Other Sessions

Topics include IDEA legal issues, instructional practices, national trends and hot topics, special education compliance, preschool and secondary transition, and content for related service providers.

## Learn with experts from around Arizona

- Arizona Department of Education/Exceptional Student Services units
- Other Arizona Department of Education teams
- Arizona school districts
- Agencies such as Vocational Rehabilitation, Encircle Families, Diverse Ability Incorporated, Sonoran UCEDD, and more

# Director's Preconference

Wednesday, August 20, 2025, 12:00–5:15 p.m.

## Special Education Leadership

- **Engaging Panels & Campfire Talks** on FAPE, Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS), staffing shortages, supporting students with complex needs, and more
- A **Premier Legal Speaker** offering insights on federal compliance and its impact on state and local teams
- An **Interactive Networking Reception** to connect, collaborate, and build lasting relationships
- **Fee: \$100** (General conference registration not included)
- Open to **professionals in special education leadership roles at the district or charter level**
  - *Each Public Education Agency (PEA) may register **up to two eligible leaders** (Capacity is capped, and final participation decisions will be made by ADE). Priority is given to **school-employed, site-based staff**.*
- [Apply for the Director's Preconference](#)



**ACCESS  
CULTIVATES  
OPPORTUNITY**

# Additional Exciting Features

- Vendor and Exhibitor Tables
- Evening Events
  - Preconference Receptions
  - Youth/Young Adults
  - Parents and Families
  - Professionals—Secondary Transition focus
- Student Artwork Gallery
- Secondary Transition Services Awards



# Conference Registration

Professional is **\$400 per person**.

Payable by credit card, check, or purchase order. Act soon, as spots are expected to fill.

## Process:

1. **Request a Seat:** [Submit your seat request](#) by **July 25, 2025**.
2. **Submit Payment:** Once your seat request is approved, you will receive payment instructions to complete your registration through the Arizona Professional Learning & Development (APLD) application.

# Lodging

**Conference Room Block Rate:** \$199/night (excluding taxes and fees)

**Room Block Dates:** Tuesday, August 19, 2025 – Thursday, August 22, 2025.

*Notes: Limited rooms on Tuesday night. Rooms are not available on Friday, August 22, 2025.*

[Make your reservation at the JW Marriott Desert Ridge Resort's conference website](#) or call the Reservations Center at 1-888-236-2427. The last day to book at the conference rate is **July 30, 2025**.

The room rate for Arizona's 2025 IDEA Conference is \$199/night, which exceeds the State rate. Participants should check their lodging reimbursement policies and request exceptions if needed. [Please use this document to support an exception.](#)



# Contact Us

**Email:**

[IDEAConference@azed.gov](mailto:IDEAConference@azed.gov)

**Website:**

[www.azed.gov/ideaconference](http://www.azed.gov/ideaconference)

or scan the QR code

