



A Publication of the Council for Learning Disabilities

April 2022

President's Message



Spring greetings, colleagues of the Council for Learning Disabilities!

I hope this message finds you amid a healthy, productive, and exciting spring semester. I know that the past few months have been a busy, hectic time for all citizens of the world. I sincerely hope that

you are taking opportunities during this season of renewal to take care of yourself and those around you while also continuing your impactful work as advocates on behalf of diverse individuals with learning disabilities. I continue to be proud to serve as the president of this organization; collectives like ours are going to be critical as we move forward in shaping our new reality and as we work together to provide evidence-based academic, behavioral, and social-emotional supports to our students, our teachers, and our communities.

The Board of Trustees of CLD continues to work diligently to ensure the mission, vision, and goals of our organization are being met, and that the work of the collective continues to move forward. I want to take a moment and highlight some of the accomplishments of our organizational leaders during the past few months. First, I would like to congratulate our newly elected officers for the CLD Executive Committee, Dr. Sara Flanagan (vice president) and Dr. Beverly Weiser (treasurer). Dr. Flanagan will begin her term in the presidential line on July 1, 2022, and Dr. Weiser will serve a second three-year term as the treasurer. We very much look forward to working with you in the coming years. Thank you also to all candidates for office (Drs. Sarah Vach, Mindy Gumpert, and Yan Wei) for participating in the election; your willingness to serve our organization is admired, and we hope to continue to engage with your leadership in the coming years. And, finally, thank you to Dr. Brittany Hott (past president) and the members of the Nominations and Elections committee (Drs. Diane Bryant, David Scanlon, and Yun-Ju Hsiao) for recruiting a slate of candidates and coordinating our annual election efforts.

Dr. Margaret Flores (vice president) and the Conference Planning Committee have been working diligently in

preparation for the 2022 conference to be held in Richmond, Virginia, on October 20 and 21. The Call for Proposals closed on February 28, and the process of reviewing submitted proposals has begun with an anticipated notification timeline of early April. We had over 200 proposals submitted for consideration and are looking forward to another great meeting of our organization. In partnership with the leadership of the Virginia Council for Learning Disabilities and their advocacy for teachers, we are excited to be able to highlight a strand of practitioner-oriented sessions at this conference that will help translate the work of renowned scholars to K-12 classroom environments. Registration information for this conference will be available later this spring and we do hope that you will consider joining us!

Dr. Donna Sacco (Leadership Development) has been working with Cohorts 9 and 10 of the Leadership Academy to provide them mentorship support and coordinate their work on a leadership project—another annual activity of our organization. Thank you to Dr. Benikia Kressler for supporting the mentorship and development of Leadership Academy 9. We do hope that you will consider applying for the 2022 [Leadership Institute](#) or [Leadership Academy](#), to be held

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at our annual conference. Applications are due by **May 15, 2022**; this is a great way for doctoral students and junior faculty to learn the history of our organization, collaborate with others interested in serving in leadership capacities in the field of learning disabilities, and engage in professional development and mentorship throughout the year.

Finally, we are seeking nominations for our annual awards; we hope you will consider submitting a nomination for yourself or a deserving colleague. These awards highlight the outstanding and impactful work of our organization members, and we hope to have a diverse array of nominees for these prestigious honors. Nominations for the **Early Career Research, Educators/Teachers of the Year**, and **Floyd G. Hudson Outstanding Service** awards are due by **May 31, 2022**. Please contact the respective committee chair coordinating these awards if you have questions.

Amy Poehler is quoted as saying, "Find a group of people who challenge and inspire you. Spend a lot of time with

them and it will change your life." I, again, am proud to serve this wonderful organization and its members: you, the people who challenge and inspire me to continue to do the work that we do with and for diverse individuals with learning disabilities, their families, and their communities. I know that we have seen trying times these last few months and years, and no doubt more are on their way, but I take comfort in knowing that there are people like you in the world who are always willing to roll up their sleeves and ask, "What can we do next?" I hope that you will continue to find ways to connect and support CLD in demanding access to a high-quality education for all individuals and that we can continue to serve as a place for you to come and be inspired by others working toward the same goal.

Onward,
Joseph Morgan
2021–2022 CLD President

Diversity Committee Announcement

The CLD Diversity Committee continues to stay active. Its members have formed more research groups and continue to disseminate vital information about supporting students with learning disabilities from underrepresented communities. Our members also had a great turnout in volunteering to review conference proposals for this year. For this and all of the other hard work moving the field forward, we want to thank you.

Additionally, please help me welcome the new Diversity Committee chair, **Dr. Yun-Ju Hsiao**, from Washington State University Tri-Cities. Dr. Hsiao will begin her new role starting July 1st. She has been a key member of this commit-

tee for many years and led or participated in many research groups. As the committee's outgoing chair, I cannot thank the members and the CLD leadership enough for their hard work, their never-ending support, and their commitment to equity and diversity over the past three years. Although there is a lot more work to do, we can accomplish anything together. If you or someone you know would like to get involved, please email Dr. Hsiao at yhsiao@wsu.edu or join our Facebook group at facebook.com/groups/CLDdiversity.

Brenda Barrio
Outgoing Diversity Committee Chair

Nominations and Elections Committee Election Results

On behalf of the Nominations and Elections Committee, please join me in congratulating Sara Flanagan, who will serve as our incoming vice president, and Beverly Weiser, who will begin her second term as treasurer, effective July 1,

2022. Thank you to Diane Bryant, Yun-Ju Hsiao, and David Scanlon, who verified our election results.

Brittany L. Hott, PhD, BCBA-D
Immediate Past President

Liaison Committee Announcement

*The CLD Liaison Committee recently signed onto a letter sponsored by the Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities that was sent to the U.S. House Subcommittee for Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies regarding 2022 appropriations. That letter is included below. The US Department of Education also made available in February the **Fact Sheet: Providing Students with Disabilities Free Appropriate Public Education During the COVID-19 Pandemic and Addressing the Need for Compensatory Services Under Section 504.***

January 2022

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro, Chair
House Appropriations Subcommittee on
Labor, HHS, Education, and Related Agencies
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Patty Murray, Chair
Appropriations Subcommittee on
Labor, HHS, Education, and Related Agencies
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Tom Cole, Ranking Member
House Appropriations Subcommittee on
Labor, HHS, Education, and Related Agencies
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Roy Blunt, Ranking Member
Appropriations Subcommittee on
Labor, HHS, Education, and Related Agencies
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chair DeLauro, Ranking Member Cole, Chair Murray, and Ranking Member Blunt:

As you work to finalize the Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 appropriations bill for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies (Labor-HHS-ED), the Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities (CCD) Education Task Force strongly urges you to adopt the highest proposed levels for the federal investment in education programs that support infants, toddlers, children, and youth with disabilities, their families, and the educators who serve them. Likewise, we voice our firm opposition to a year-long continuing resolution (CR).

CCD is the largest coalition of national organizations working together to advocate for federal public policy that ensures the self-determination, independence, empowerment, integration, and inclusion of children and adults with disabilities in all aspects of society. To support these goals and ensure that students with disabilities have every opportunity to succeed in school and beyond, Congress must uphold its responsibility to pass comprehensive appropriations bills each year and deliver on its commitment to funding education costs for students with disabilities.

Congress has consistently supported increasing resources to provide essential services to infants, toddlers, children, and youth with disabilities as a bipartisan priority. These programs are more critical than ever as many infants, toddlers, children, and youth with disabilities have struggled to access special education services over the last year. Schools and dis-

tricts will also need increased funding to reverse crisis-level staffing shortages within special education.

This year, Congress has put forward historic proposals that would significantly increase programs that support infants, toddlers, children, and youth with disabilities, their families, and the educators who serve them. These funds are essential to assuring states and key federally funded programs have the ongoing annual funding necessary to provide the early intervention, education, supports and services that individuals with disabilities as well as educators and providers need. Thus, we respectfully request no less than the following amounts for each program within IDEA in FY 2022, as proposed in the House and/or Senate Labor-HHS-ED appropriations bills:

- Part B Section 611 (Grants to States): \$15.5 billion
- Part B Section 619 (Preschool Grants): \$503 million
- Part C (Grants to serve infants and toddlers): \$732 million
- Part D (National Activities):
 - State Personnel Development: \$39 million
 - Technical Assistance and Dissemination: \$49 million
 - Personnel Preparation: \$250 million
 - Parent Training and Information Centers: \$33 million
 - Media and Technology: \$32 million

Additionally, we respectfully request funding in the following amounts for additional programs that impact education and outcomes for individuals with disabilities:

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(CCD Letter, continued from page 3)

- Institute for Education Sciences (IES): \$814 million
- National Center for Special Education Research (within IES): \$65 million
- Office for Civil Rights: \$144 million
- ESSA Title I: \$36 billion
- ESSA Title II: \$2.3 billion
- Model Demonstrations and TPSID National Coordinating Center (NCC): \$15 million
- Protection and Advocacy for Individual Rights (PAIR) program: \$20 million
- American Printing House for the Blind (APH): \$41 million
- Assistive Technology Act Programs: \$44 million

The need for additional funding, as identified above, is critical and cannot be overstated. Congress must fulfill its fiscal duties and pass an FY 2022 rather than continuing to pass CRs that put these historic and much-needed increases in peril. We urge you to provide no less than the amounts noted above to education programs that support infants, toddlers, children, and youth with disabilities, their families, and the educators who serve them.

Sincerely,

American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities

American Academy of Pediatrics

American Foundation for the Blind

American Music Therapy Association

American Occupational Therapy Association

American Physical Therapy Association

American Printing House for the Blind

American Psychological Association

American Speech-Language-Hearing Association

American Therapeutic Recreation Association

Assistive Technology Industry Association

Association of Assistive Technology Act Programs

Association of University Centers on Disabilities

Autism Society of America

Autistic Self Advocacy Network

Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law

Center for Learner Equity

Children and Adults with Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder

CommunicationFIRST

Conference of Educational Administrators of Schools and Programs for the Deaf

Council for Exceptional Children

Council for Learning Disabilities

Council of Administrators of Special Education

Council of State Administrators of Vocational Rehabilitation

Council of Parent Attorneys and Advocates

Cure SMA

Disability Rights Education & Defense Fund

Division for Early Childhood of the Council for Exceptional Children

Division for Learning Disabilities (DLDD) of the Council for Exceptional Children

Easterseals

Higher Education Consortium for Special Education

IDEA Infant and Toddler Coordinators Association

Learning Disabilities Association of America

National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities

National Association of School Psychologists

National Association of State Directors of Special Education

National Association of State Head Injury Administrators

National Center for Learning Disabilities

National Disability Rights Network

National Down Syndrome Congress

National Down Syndrome Society

National PTA

Teacher Education Division of the Council for Exceptional Children

The Advocacy Institute

The Arc of the United States

CCD Education Task Force Co-Chairs:

Kim Musheno, Autism Society of America
kmusheno@autism-society.org

Lindsay Kubatzky, National Center for Learning Disabilities
lkubatsky@ncld.org

Bart Devon, National Down Syndrome Society
bdevon@ndss.org

Laura Kaloi, Council of Parent Attorneys & Advocates and Center for Learner Equity
lkaloi@stridepolicy.com

The Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities (CCD) is the largest coalition of national organizations working together to advocate for federal public policy that ensures the self-determination, independence, empowerment, integration and inclusion of children and adults with disabilities in all aspects of society. The Education Task Force of CCD monitors federal legislation and regulations that address the educational needs of children and youth with disabilities and their families, including regulatory efforts under federal law such as the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The Education Task Force advocates for high expectations for children with disabilities under these and other laws.

www.c-c-d.org

Conference Planning Committee Announcements

We enjoyed seeing so many of you at the 43rd annual conference in fabulous Las Vegas, Nevada, last October! Now, the conference planning committee is busy preparing for the 2022 conference. We hope you will plan to join us in beautiful Richmond, Virginia, on October 20th and 21st at the Richmond Marriott. We look forward to seeing you there!

We are also seeking individuals who may be interested in serving on various conference planning committee sub-committees. If you are interested, please email **Vicki Luther** at luther_vl@mercer.edu and **Maria Peterson-Ahmad** at mpeterson3@twu.edu.

SAVE THE DATE

44TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON LEARNING DISABILITIES

October 20–21, 2022

Richmond Marriott • Richmond, Virginia



Visit our website for conference updates:
<https://council-for-learning-disabilities.org/>

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CLD 2022 Award Nominations Due

Floyd G. Hudson Service Award

The Floyd G. Hudson Service Award is presented by the Council for Learning Disabilities for outstanding performance and commitment by a professional who works in the field of learning disabilities in a role outside of the classroom. This CLD member, working in a leadership capacity, enhances the professional learning of others in the field and impacts the lives of persons with learning disabilities. Eligibility for consideration of the Floyd G. Hudson Service Award includes educational professionals who:

- provide professional development, consulting services, or serve in a leadership role working with teachers, other professionals, parents, and students, and
- have provided exemplary services to the LD field for a minimum of five years.

This award is named in memory of Dr. Floyd G. Hudson, a professor at the University of Kansas, who was a leader in the early years of CLD. Dr. Hudson was instrumental in formulating early policy to drive federal and state initiatives in the area of learning disabilities. Don Deshler has said of Dr. Hudson,

As I visit many schools across Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska, I can really see Floyd's lasting influence. He was a kind, generous, innovative, and collaborative professional. He worked closely with many school districts solving problems, preparing teachers, and implementing more effective programs. Even today, many people here in the Midwest and around the country tell me about their positive experiences working with Floyd, many of which took place more than 20 years ago.

Local chapters and members of the Board of Trustees may nominate candidates, one of whom is selected and then recognized at the annual international conference. In states without active chapters, nominations can be made by CLD members. The award recipient also receives a complimentary registration and membership renewal. During the award program, the recipient is presented with a certificate of recognition and an honorarium. The recipient will also be profiled in *LD Forum* and on the CLD website. It is expected that the award recipient will give a poster presentation on a topic of their choosing (e.g., effective teaching practices) during the CLD annual conference. Nomination forms are due **Tuesday, May 31, 2022**. Please see the Call for Nomina-

tions on the CLD website (<https://council-for-learning-disabilities.org/floyd-g-hudson-service-award/>).

For additional information, please contact **Dr. Donna Sacco**, Leadership Development Committee co-chair, at dmsacco60@gmail.com.

Outstanding Educator/Teacher of the Year Award

Each year, the Council for Learning Disabilities recognizes outstanding teachers who are CLD members and who consistently provide quality instruction to students with learning disabilities. These teachers, selected by local chapters, provide direct services to students. In states without active chapters, nominations can be made by CLD members. Outstanding teachers are dedicated to implementing evidence-based instructional practices and collaborating with classroom teachers and other service providers to greatly improve the quality of education for all struggling learners.

Candidates for nomination must:

- be active, dues-paying members of CLD, including state chapter membership if state chapter is active,
- provide direct services to students with learning disabilities,
- implement evidence-based instructional practices that result in significant gains in achievement for children, adolescents, or adults who struggle academically, and
- advocate for persons with learning disabilities.

Recipients are guests at the annual international conference. They receive a complimentary registration and a one-year membership renewal. During the conference award program, they receive a certificate of recognition and an honorarium. These members are also profiled in *LD Forum* and on the national website. Please see the Call for Nominations on the CLD website (<https://council-for-learning-disabilities.org/council-learning-disabilities-outstanding-educator-teacher-of-the-year-award/>) for additional information. The submission deadline is **Tuesday, May 31, 2022**.

Information entered into the online nomination form should only be entered by active CLD chapter presidents or current CLD members in states without an active chapter.

For additional information, please contact **Dr. Donna Sacco**, Leadership Development Committee co-chair, at dmsacco60@gmail.com.

(Award Nominations, continued from page 8)

Early Career Research Award

To promote and recognize research, the Council for Learning Disabilities annually presents an award for an outstanding manuscript-length paper about learning disabilities based on a doctoral dissertation completed within the last five (5) years. The manuscript may be submitted for publication but published (or accepted) articles are not eligible for consideration. This recipient receives a complimentary registration and CLD membership or renewal. The recipient is also presented with an honorarium and plaque at the 2022 Inter-

national Conference on Learning Disabilities in Richmond, Virginia. The recipient will be profiled in *LD Forum* and on the national CLD website. Additionally, the award winner will present their research at the CLD Conference and will be invited to submit their paper for possible publication in *Learning Disability Quarterly*.

For complete information on submitting to CLD's Early Career Research Award (formerly the Outstanding Researcher Award) competition, please visit <https://council-for-learning-disabilities.org/council-learning-disabilities-outstanding-researcher-award>.

The current deadline for submissions for the Early Career Research Award is **Tuesday, May 31, 2022**. For more information, please contact **Dr. Jessica Toste**, Research Committee co-chair, at jrtoste@austin.utexas.edu.

Have a Question About Research?

Do you have a question about research that you would like to have answered by an experienced CLD researcher? Drop us an email at AskACLDResearcher@cldinternational.org, and we'll do our best to find answers for you. We welcome questions related to theory, methodology, and logistics, including the challenges of conducting research in schools. Your questions can be specific and technical, related to your

own project, or more generally seeking advice as you begin your career as a researcher. Once we receive your question, we will provide a response or connect you with someone who has expertise in that area. Additionally, we will prepare a quarterly summary of common questions and answers that will be published on our website and here in *LD Forum*.

CLD 2022 Leadership Institute and Academy Nominations Due

Do you work with an advanced doctoral student or an early career professional interested in becoming involved in CLD and who demonstrates leadership potential? CLD is committed to building the leadership capacity of professionals who are entering the special education field. Consider nominating a deserving individual for participation in CLD's Leadership Institute and Academy.

Nomination forms are due **Sunday, May 15, 2022**. Please see the Call for Nominations on the CLD website:

- **CLD Leadership Institute | Council for Learning Disabilities** (council-for-learning-disabilities.org)
- **Leadership Academy | Service of Students with Learning Disabilities | Council for Learning Disabilities** (council-for-learning-disabilities.org)

For additional information, please contact **Dr. Donna Sacco**, Leadership Development Committee co-chair, at dmsacco60@gmail.com.

AmazonSmile Announcement

How many of you are frequent Amazon shoppers? How would you like to continue shopping and know that you are supporting CLD every time you shop, at no cost to you? Now you can with AmazonSmile! When you shop AmazonSmile, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection, and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added benefit that AmazonSmile will donate 0.5% of your eligible purchases to CLD! Plus, you do not need to be a member of CLD to identify it as the charitable organization, so please feel free to share with family and friends!

Add CLD to your AmazonSmile:

1. Sign in to smile.amazon.com on your desktop or mobile phone browser with your Amazon credentials.
2. From your desktop, go to **Your Account** from the navigation at the top of any page and then select the option to **Select your AmazonSmile Charity** (under **Other Programs**). Or, from your mobile browser, select **Select Your AmazonSmile Charity** (under **Other Programs**) from the options at the bottom of the page.
3. Select **Search** and type in **Council for Learning Disabilities** as your charitable organization.
4. Bookmark smile.amazon.com so you can see your generated donations to the Council for Learning Disabilities each time you shop at Amazon.

Change Your Current AmazonSmile Charitable Organization to CLD:

1. Sign in to smile.amazon.com on your desktop or mobile phone browser.
2. From your desktop, go to **Your Account** from the navigation at the top of any page and then select the option to **Change your AmazonSmile Charity** (under **Other Programs**). Or, from your mobile browser, select **Change your AmazonSmile Charity** (under **Other Programs**) from the options at the bottom of the page.
3. Select **Search** and type in **Council for Learning Disabilities** as your new charitable organization.
4. Bookmark smile.amazon.com so you can see your generated donations to the Council for Learning Disabilities each time you shop at Amazon.

Diversity Statement

The Council for Learning Disabilities is committed to celebrating and enriching the field of special education through its diversity. As a group, we pursue the best practices, research, and policies that exemplify enhancing the lives of individuals with learning disabilities, including those from diverse cultural and linguistic backgrounds. As a diverse group of professionals in the field of special education, we believe that this work cannot be completed in a silo, but rather, it must be embedded within every part of what we do. As an organization, we are committed to welcoming, understanding, learning about, and honoring individual diversity.

CLD Mission & Vision

Mission Statement: The Council for Learning Disabilities (CLD), an international organization composed of professionals who represent diverse disciplines, is committed to enhancing the education and quality of life for individuals with learning disabilities across the life span. CLD accomplishes this by promoting and disseminating evidence-based research and practices related to the education of individuals with learn-

ing disabilities. In addition, CLD fosters (a) collaboration among professionals; (b) development of leaders in the field; and (c) advocacy for policies that support individuals with learning disabilities at local, state, and national levels.

Vision Statement: All individuals with learning disabilities are empowered to achieve their potential.