

**Institute  
Designed for  
Educating  
All  
Students**

**June 6-9, 2017**  
Epworth by the Sea, St. Simons Island, Georgia

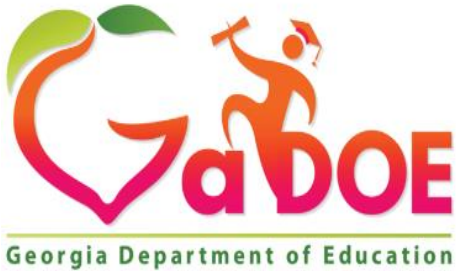
For more information and to register,  
visit the **IDEAS Conference 2017** webpage.

**Division for Special Education Services and Supports**

In Partnership with

**Georgia Tools for Life**

**Georgia Council for Exceptional Children**



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## IDEAS

The mission of the Institute Designed for Educating All Students (**IDEAS**) 2017 is to improve access to the curriculum for all students, including students with disabilities, by providing opportunities for educators and parents to learn about effective educational practices and strategies. The IDEAS Conference will provide numerous opportunities for professionals to acquire new information and ideas to meet the needs of students with special needs. Educators and related service providers will enhance their knowledge of best practice in instructional strategies by attending selected concurrent sessions to best meet their professional needs.

### Who Should Attend?

- Special Education Teachers
- General Education Teachers
- School Administrators
- Support Coordinators
- Individuals with Disabilities
- Parents and Family Members
- Paraprofessionals
- OTs, PTs, SLPs
- Assistive Technology Specialists
- Teachers of Visually Impaired
- Postsecondary Disability Services Staff
- Rehabilitation Counselors
- Vocational Rehabilitation Counselors
- Any other interested persons

### Opening and Closing Sessions

The opening session of **IDEAS 2017** will be held on Tuesday, June 6, 2017 at 12:45 in the Strickland Auditorium. The closing session will be held on Friday, June 9, 2017 at 10:30 in the Strickland Auditorium.

### Agenda

Sessions will begin at 8:00 each day and will end at 4:30 - 4:45 except for Friday when sessions end at 11:30. A detailed agenda including session titles, descriptions, and presenters will be provided to attendees at conference check-in. A draft agenda for the conference will be available on the Georgia Department of Education's Division for Special Education Services and

Supports [IDEAS webpage](#) on or before May 12, 2017.

### IDEAS Conference Concurrent Sessions

The **IDEAS** Conference will offer a wide range of topics from a variety of national and local presenters encompassing a full range of topics and issues such as: Accessibility, Assistive Technology, Behavior and Mental Health, Innovative Teaching Practices, Transition, Speech, Language & Communication, High and Low Incidence Disabilities. Attendees will have numerous opportunities to learn from experts in the field, network and ask questions during the sessions.

### Going Green and Handouts

In the interest of the planet, **IDEAS** will be green. Therefore, we will not be providing paper handouts for sessions. Handouts, as provided by presenters\*, will be posted on the [IDEAS webpage](#) for attendees to download in advance of and after the **IDEAS** conference. Additionally, meeting rooms may not have wireless access and will have limited electrical outlets. Please make sure you download any available handouts prior to arriving for the sessions and that your computer/tablet is charged each morning.

*\*Please note: While presenters are encouraged to provide handouts, it is not a requirement. Not all sessions will have handouts as it is the presenter's choice as to whether or not to provide them.*

### IDEAS Registration Information

Registration for IDEAS 2017 is available only online at the [IDEAS webpage](#). Registration for the IDEAS conference is **free** for all attendees, however everyone **must** register **in advance** to attend. Seats for the conference are limited and will be allocated on a first registered, first-served basis. Once capacity has been reached for the conference, registration will be closed and no waitlist will be available. Attendees will be responsible for their own transportation, lodging and meals for the duration of the conference.

**Advanced registration for the conference is required. Due to limited seats, onsite/walk-up registration for the conference will not be permitted.** Please ensure you have pre-registered before arriving at the conference. Registration closes on May 15, 2017.

If you have any questions or problems regarding your registration, please contact the registration office at 706-250-4800.

## **IDEAS Cancellation and Refund Policy**

**IDEAS Conference:** The IDEAS conference incurs costs for materials and facilities for registered attendees. Registered guests who are unable to attend are asked to cancel their registration before May 15, 2017 by calling 706-250-4800.

### **Special Accommodations**

Accommodations for individuals with accessibility needs, in order to access conference materials, will be available upon request. Requests for accommodations must be made in writing and submitted with your IDEAS registration by **05-01-17**. On the registration form, check the box next to the accessibility needs you require. Please inform us as soon as possible, but no later than **05-01-17**, so that we can make all efforts to make them available.

Unless arrangements are made **in advance**, there will not be sign interpreter services provided at the conference.

Accessible materials and services requested **in advance** will be available at the onsite service and registration center.

If you have questions or need to discuss your accommodations, please contact Martha Rust at [martha.rust@gatfl.gatech.edu](mailto:martha.rust@gatfl.gatech.edu).

**Captioning** will be provided by AMAC as a courtesy during the opening and closing sessions of the **IDEAS** Conference.

### **Conference Check-In**

Upon arrival, attendees may pick up conference materials at the registration center from 12:00-4:30 Monday, June 5, 2017. Attendees arriving after 4:30 Monday can pick up conference materials Tuesday, June 6, 2017 at the registration center.

### **IDEAS Communications**

IDEAS communications, including cancelled sessions, repeated sessions, room changes, etc., will be posted in the conference registration/help desk area, the [IDEAS Conference Facebook](#) page, and outside rooms where the sessions were scheduled.

### **CEU, CRC and Contact Hours Credit**

Attendees who meet the requirements will be eligible to receive CEU, CRC credit, and/or contact hours.

**Session Attendance Scanning:** An electronic scanning system will be implemented to document attendance at each session during the **IDEAS** Conference. Individual session attendance will be

recorded by scanning participant nametags. It is critical your nametag is scanned before you leave each session to document your session attendance. **This cannot be done at a later time.**

Each participant will be assigned an account number that will be connected to the barcode on participant nametags (attendee ID). Participants will be able to access their credit from <http://www.mtsreport.com/dsess/>.

**Criteria of Course Completion:** Attendees must attend the conference in its entirety and submit a completed IDEAS Conference Evaluation. Attendees seeking credit must follow the guidelines listed below. Failure to follow these guidelines will result in forfeited credit.

**Continuing Education Units (CEU)** will be available for the **IDEAS pre-conference** sessions and **IDEAS** Conference. Through collaboration between Georgia Tools for Life and the AAC Institute, IACET (International Association for Continuing Education and Training) is authorized to provide CEUs. Attendees must document session attendance by having nametags scanned before leaving attended sessions. Partial CEUs may be awarded. Session attendance cannot be documented once you leave a session. To earn CEUs for IDEAS pre-conference sessions, attendees must sign-in both days of the session.

Credit should be requested during the IDEAS registration process.

### **Certified Rehabilitation Counselor (CRC)**

**Continuing Education Credit:** Georgia Tools for Life is approved to offer CRC continuing education credits for rehabilitation counselors through the Commission on Rehabilitation Counselor Certification (CRCC). This event has been pre-approved for 16 clock hours of CRC credits. Partial CRCs may be awarded with a minimum of 1.00 clock hour documented. Attendees must document session attendance by having nametags scanned before leaving attended sessions. Session attendance cannot be documented once you leave a session.

Credit should be requested during the IDEAS registration process.

**Contact Hours:** Attendees may earn up to 15 **contact hours** for attending **IDEAS**. Attendees must document session attendance by having nametags scanned before leaving attended sessions. Session attendance cannot be documented once you leave a session.

**Course Credit:** Contact Hours Certificate verification can be obtained from

<http://www.mtsreport.com/dsess/> approximately one (1) week after the conference has ended.

## Lodging

**Epworth Lodging Facilities:** The Division for Special Education Services and Supports has reserved rooms at Epworth by the Sea for **IDEAS**. There are a limited number of rooms available at Epworth for the conference and will be reserved in the order in which the reservations are received at Epworth. Reservations must be made on the online Epworth Lodging Reservation form. Attendees can designate which building they prefer on the online Epworth Lodging Reservation link available on the [IDEAS webpage](#). However, if that location is full, then attendees will be placed in the next available building. Changes in room type cannot be made at check-in.

**Reservations and Room Rates:** Each attendee is responsible for making their lodging arrangements for the conference. If staying at Epworth, reservations must be made using the **Online Lodging Reservation link** on the [IDEAS webpage](#). **Please ensure that duplicate room reservations are not being made in the name of attendees (individual and district each make a room reservation)**. Room charges will be incurred if room reservations are not cancelled.

Lodging reservations must be made directly with Epworth using the online reservation form. Payment for lodging at Epworth can be made by check, PO, or credit card. *Please note, Epworth runs credit card charges upon receipt for the reservation form.* Checks must be made payable to **Epworth by the Sea** and submitted immediately following the submission of the Lodging Reservation form. Tax exempt forms should be mailed or faxed to Kelly Maloy immediately. Purchase orders to Epworth can be submitted for lodging; however, final payment must be received by 5/09/17. For questions regarding lodging, please contact Kelly Maloy [kmaloy@epworthbythesea.org](mailto:kmaloy@epworthbythesea.org) or Renthia Lewis [rlewis@epworthbythesea.org](mailto:rlewis@epworthbythesea.org). Room rates are also available on the [IDEAS webpage](#).

**Lodging Roommates:** If rooming with someone each person must submit a registration form.

**Meals at Epworth:** Reservations at Epworth includes the lodging fee and meals from the evening supper on day of arrival to Friday lunch.

**Epworth Per Person Lodging Rates:** Each person staying at Epworth must pay the per person listed lodging fee depending on the number of people sharing a room. For example, if an attendee brings a spouse and/or children to the conference, each person must pay the room rate listed on the Lodging Reservation form.

Information regarding rates for children staying at Epworth is included on the Lodging Reservation form. Individuals sharing rooms will need to identify their roommates on the Lodging Reservation form.

**Accessible Lodging Rooms:** Accessible lodging room/accommodation requests should be directed to Epworth by the Sea.

**Lodging Confirmation:** Confirmation from Epworth verifying lodging reservations will be mailed or emailed to the address/email listed on the Lodging Reservation form. If lodging confirmation is not received, please email Kelly ([kmaloy@epworthbythesea.org](mailto:kmaloy@epworthbythesea.org)) or Renthia ([rlewis@epworthbythesea.org](mailto:rlewis@epworthbythesea.org)) at Epworth. Be sure to inform them that this is in reference to **IDEAS** Conference lodging.

**Epworth Lodging Cancellation:** In order to receive a full refund, reservations must be cancelled before 4:00 PM on 5/09/17 or forfeit the first nights lodging charge.

## Meals during the Conference

For attendees staying at Epworth, meals are included in the lodging rates. Otherwise, meals during the conference are 'on your own'. Attendees who are not staying at Epworth, but plan to eat at Epworth, will need to purchase a meal ticket at the Epworth registration desk. If you have questions concerning meals please contact Epworth.

## Exhibit Hall & Exhibitors

**IDEAS** is excited to offer an exhibit hall opportunity sponsored by Georgia Tools for Life. on June 7 & 8, 2017, Strickland Auditorium will house a number of exhibitors showcasing their products for you. Attendees will have quality time to explore, learn and ask questions about potential solutions for all struggling students and students with disabilities. Conference attendees are encouraged to visit with all exhibitors and while doing so express thanks for joining the conference.

**Registration for exhibition hall** at IDEAS 2017 is available only online visit the [IDEAS webpage](#). Credit cards are the accepted method of payment for exhibitors. Exhibitors do not need to register through the link on the IDEAS webpage in addition to the Tools for Life registration.

Exhibit Hall fees are \$200.00. The exhibit hall will be held in Strickland Auditorium at Epworth by the Sea on Wednesday, June 7, 2017 from 12:30-4:30 and on Thursday, June 8, 2017 from 8:00-5:00. The \$200.00 exhibit fee includes the cost for

two complimentary conference registrations for up to two (2) representatives from your company, one 2' X 8' exhibiting table (table will be covered), printed tabletop signage showing company name, box lunch for two (2) company representatives on Thursday, June 8, 2017, name badges, and listing in the official conference program. Each additional representative after the first two registered will be charged \$75.00 per person which helps to cover additional overhead and meal functions in the exhibit hall. An additional table may be provided for \$10. Tables will be assigned on a first-registered, first-served basis. Representatives are invited to participate in conference sessions on a space available basis. Additional information will be sent once your exhibit registration is received.

If a company is unable to send representatives to the conference and would like to send literature for attendees to pick up in the Exhibit Hall, the cost to display the literature is \$25.

If you have any questions or need additional information please contact the [2017 IDEAS Exhibit Hall Coordinator](#); Liz Persaud, [liz.persaud@gatfl.gatech.edu](mailto:liz.persaud@gatfl.gatech.edu) or visit the [IDEAS webpage](#).

**Exhibiting fees are non-refundable.** Exhibitors who do not show for the exhibit hall are still responsible for full payment of the exhibit registration fee.

### **GATFL Awards**

Each year Tools for Life encourages the nomination of deserving individuals or teams demonstrating exemplary practices in the area of assistive technology. Nominations are accepted in the areas of:

- Excellence in AT - Team Award
- Tools for Life Visionary Award
- Tools for Life Innovative Design Award
- Tools for Life Emerging Leader Award
- Naomi Walker "Catalyst for Positive Change" Award
- Melinda Quinn "Squeaky Wheel" Award

These awards will be presented during the opening and closing sessions of IDEAS!

For more information and/or to nominate someone, visit the [IDEAS webpage](#).

### **Confirmed Speakers and Exhibitors**

While all speakers and exhibitors listed in the conference materials have been confirmed, IDEAS recognizes that there are times when circumstances change, emergencies happen, etc.

To that end, it should be noted that speakers, exhibitors and schedules are subject to change at any time, with or without notice.

### **Social Media**



Follow IDEAS Conference, @IDEAS\_GaDOE on Twitter. Use #IDEAS2017.



Like the IDEAS Conference on Facebook.

### **Permission to Photograph**

By registering for IDEAS you are agreeing that you may be photographed at this event and you allow your photo to be used for any conference-related legitimate purpose by the event holders or organizers.

### **Conference Expectations**

**Name Tags:** It is critical that nametags are worn at all times. Your nametag is proof of registration. Nametags provide access to all **IDEAS** sessions, the exhibit hall, and is used to document attendance in sessions when scanned. It also serves as the meal ticket for those lodging at **Epworth**.

**Cell Phone Courtesy:** Be respectful of others and turn off or mute your phones. If you must take a phone call, please leave the session.

**Session Rooms:** Clean up as you leave the room so it's ready for the next group.

### **Conference Tips**

**Session Seating:** Seating in opening, closing and breakout sessions is available on a first-come, first-served basis, so you do not have to let IDEAS know which of the sessions you plan to attend. This practice allows all attendees an equal opportunity to attend the session(s) of their choice. Please note that seating is limited to the capacity of the meeting room and capacity varies for each session. Please arrive early to assure a seat. Seating capacity limits for each session will be enforced.

Reserved seating in sessions is intended for use by individuals with disabilities and their companions. Please do not remove or move "reserved seating" signs in sessions.

If a session is full and no seats are available, please attend a different session. Sitting on the floor is considered a fire code violation by order of the Fire Marshal of each event.

**Parking:** If not lodging at Epworth, additional, general parking is available beside Strickland Auditorium during the conference.

**What to wear:** The weather at St. Simons Island is hot and humid in June and dress is casual for

the conference. Attendees may want to bring a sweater or jacket as some of the conference rooms get cold. The session breakout rooms are spread around the Epworth facilities so comfortable shoes are recommended! An umbrella is also suggested as afternoon showers are quite frequent in the area.

**Child Care:** Child care **is not provided** by the Division for Special Education Services and Supports or Epworth personnel.

### **Conference Content**

The contents of presentations and exhibitors are the work of the presenters and do not necessarily reflect the policies or positions of Georgia Department of Education, Georgia Tools for Life or Georgia Council for Exceptional Children.

### **Georgia Department of Education Non-Endorsement Statement**

*Neither the Georgia Department of Education nor the State of Georgia operates or controls in any respect any information, products, materials or services that third parties may provide. Listing a particular product or posting of a link does not indicate Georgia Department of Education endorsement of that product or site. We encourage our users to research each product themselves and to read the privacy statements of each and every site they visit.*