Georgia Department of Education’s
Division for Special Education Services and Supports
In partnership with
Georgia Tools for Life
Georgia Sensory Assistance Project
Announces
Institute Designed for Educating All Students (IDEAS)
Promoting Access for ALL Students to the General Education Curriculum

June 4 - 7, 2012
Epworth by the Sea
St. Simons Island, Georgia
IDEAS Opening Session

The opening session of the Institute Designed for Educating All Students (IDEAS) 2012 will be held on Monday, June 4, 2012 at 12:45 in the Strickland Auditorium.

Agenda

Sessions will begin at 8:00 each day and will end at 4:30 except for Thursday when sessions end at noon. A detailed agenda including session titles, descriptions, and presenters will be provided to participants at conference check-in. A tentative agenda for the conference will be available on the IDEAS 2012 webpage at the Georgia Department of Education’s Division for Special Education Services and Supports webpage under Related Links on or before 05/18/12.

Pre-conference Sessions

Half day pre-conference sessions give you the opportunity to start your IDEAS experience early and explore a particular topic in an in-depth manner. Pre-conference session information is available on the IDEAS 2012 webpage at the Georgia Department of Education’s Division for Special Education Services and Supports webpage under Related Links. Pre-conference sessions will be offered Monday, June 4, 2012 from 8:00 – 11:45.

Pre-registration is required for pre-conference workshops. Please sign up when you register. Limited space is available and will be offered on a first-come, first-served basis. The cost of all pre-conference sessions is $50.00. Refunds are not available for pre-conference cancellations.

Concurrent Sessions

The IDEAS Conference will offer a wide range of session topics from a variety of presenters. Participants will have numerous opportunities to learn from experts in the field, network and ask questions during the sessions. Sessions will be conducted by national and local presenters to enhance learning opportunities. Topics may include, but not be limited to:

- Autism
- Assistive Technology
- Transition
- Universal Design for Learning
- Best Practice Instruction
- Content Area Instruction: Math, Reading, Science
- Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports
- Parent Involvement
- Curriculum, Instruction, & Data
- Web 2.0 Tools & Digital Media
- iPads in the Classroom

Educator Showcase Sessions

The Division for Special Education Services and Supports has invited special education teachers and related service providers to present sessions at the institute. At these sessions, participants will learn how these educators have successfully provided access for students with disabilities to the general education curriculum.

Closing Session

IDEAS will end with a General Closing Session on Thursday, June 7 beginning at 10:05 in Strickland Auditorium. We invite you to join us for Closing Awards and comments!

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 Division for Special Education Services and Supports website for participants to download in advance and after the IDEAS conference.

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.

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 is charged each morning. We encourage you to download the handouts to your laptop or handheld electronic device.
Registration Information

Registration for IDEAS 2012 is available online only. The registration fee for the IDEAS Conference is $75.00 (not including pre-conference). The institute can be paid for with checks or purchase orders. A printable voucher will be emailed to you upon completion of the online registration process. You will then mail your payment (check or PO #) payable to Epworth by the Sea to the address provided on the registration confirmation/ voucher email. Purchase orders will be accepted, but full payment must be made by 06/01/12. Credit cards cannot be accepted as a method of payment for the IDEAS registration fees.

If you experience any difficulties registering for the IDEAS online, please contact Carson Cochran at ccochran@doe.k12.ga.us.

Onsite registration for the institute will not be permitted. If you have not received confirmation (sent via email) of your registration prior to 05-25-12, please contact Carson Cochran at ccochran@doe.k12.ga.us.

Conference Check-In

Upon arrival, participants may pick up pre-conference/conference materials in the Strickland Auditorium lobby from 4:00 – 6:00 PM Sunday, June 3, 2012. Participants arriving after 6:00 PM Sunday can pick up pre-conference/conference materials in the Strickland Auditorium lobby on Monday, June 4 beginning at 7:00 AM.

Special Accommodations

Accommodations for individuals with accessibility needs will be available to provide access to conference materials. Requests for accommodations must be made in writing and submitted with your IDEAS registration by 04-30-12. Simply check the box next to the required accessibility needs on the registration form. Please inform us as soon as possible, but no later than 04-30-12, of the accommodations that you require so that we can make them available.

PLU and Contact Hours Credit

PLU Credit: Participants may earn two Professional Learning Unit (PLU) credits for attending the IDEAS Conference. In order to earn PLU credit, participants must:
- Have a completed and signed PLU Prior Approval form with your district
- Have paid the registration fee
- Have signed in & out each day of the institute
- Have completed the institute evaluation form
- Have submitted the completed Documentation of Attendance form

Partial PLU credit cannot be issued. Participants must attend the entire IDEAS Conference in order to receive PLU credit.

Please note: Attendance at pre-conference sessions is not required for PLU credit.

PLU Prior Approval Form: A link to the PLU Prior Approval form will be emailed to you upon completion of the online registration. The completed Prior Approval form must be sent to your district's Professional Learning Coordinator.

Contact Hours: Participants may earn up to 20 contact hours for attending IDEAS by submitting the completed Documentation of Attendance form. Participants are responsible for maintaining records of sessions they have attended.

Documentation of Attendance: The Documentation of Attendance form will be provided to participants upon arrival at the institute. This form will be used to verify session attendance and must be completed and submitted for PLU and/or Contact Hours.

Course Completion Form: Course Completion Forms reflecting Professional Learning Units and/or Contact Hours will be issued following the institute via email. Participants are responsible for keeping supporting documentation (such as agenda/session descriptions) to support specific continuing education requirements of their field of practice.

IDEAS Cancellations

If you must cancel, we regret that we cannot offer refunds. IDEAS registration fees are non-refundable for any cancellations. A pre-registered participant who cannot attend may select an alternate or substitute.

Conference registrants who do not attend the conference are still responsible for full payment of the registration fee.

Meals during the Conference

If you are staying at Epworth, meals are included in your lodging. Meals during the conference are on your own.
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. Rooms will be reserved in the order in which the reservations are received at Epworth. Participants can designate which building they prefer on the Lodging Reservation form. However, if that location is full, then participants will be placed in the next available building. Changes in room type cannot be made after check in.

Reservations and Room Rates: Each attendee is responsible for making her/his lodging arrangements for the conference. If you are staying at Epworth, reservations must be made using the Lodging Reservation form. A link to the Lodging Reservation form, with room rates, is provided after completion of the online registration process if you indicated that you are staying at Epworth.

The Lodging Reservation form must be printed and submitted directly to Epworth. The address is provided on the Lodging 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 your reservation. Checks must be made payable to Epworth by the Sea and submitted with the Lodging Reservation form. Purchase orders to Epworth can be submitted for lodging; however, final payment must be received by 5/10/12.

Room rates are also available at the Division for Special Education Services and Supports IDEAS 2012 webpage.

Meals at Epworth: Your reservation at Epworth includes your lodging fee and meals from the evening supper on day of arrival to Thursday lunch.

If you are not staying at Epworth, but plan to eat at Epworth, you will need to purchase a meal ticket at the Epworth registration desk. Meal Ticket Prices:
- Breakfast: $8.65 (served 7:00 - 9:00)
- Lunch: $11.36 (served 11:45 - 1:00)
- Supper: $12.44 (served 5:30 - 7:00)

Epworth Per Person Lodging Rates: Each person must pay the per person listed lodging fee depending on the number of people sharing a room. For example, if a participant brings a spouse and/or children to the institute, 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 your lodging reservation will be mailed to the address listed on your Lodging Reservation form. If you do not receive confirmation of your lodging, please call Epworth at 912-638-8688. Be sure to inform them that you are inquiring about lodging for the IDEAS Conference through the GaDOE, Division for Special Education Services and Supports.

Epworth Lodging Cancellation: Any Epworth reservation cancelled after 5/21/12 will result in a forfeiture of one night’s lodging charges. A full refund of lodging payments will be made only for reservations cancelled before 4:00 PM on 5/21/12.

Directions: Directions to Epworth by the Sea and a map of the facilities are available at http://www.epworthbythesea.org/maps.html.

Extended stay at Epworth: If you are planning on arriving before the IDEAS Conference (before check-in on 06-03-12) or staying beyond the institute (after check-out 06-07-12) to get in a little R & R at the beach, please contact Kelly Maloy (912-638-8688) at Epworth to discuss what your rates will be before or after the institute and to ensure room availability!
IDEAS is excited to offer an exhibit hall opportunity for participants. On Wednesday, June 6, 2012, Strickland Auditorium will house a number of exhibitors showcasing their products for you. You will have quality time to explore, learn and ask questions about potential solutions for all disabilities and ages. Conference attendees are encouraged to visit with all exhibitors and while doing so express thanks for joining our conference.

Helpful Hints

**Name Tags:** Please wear your nametags at all times. Your nametag provides you access to all IDEAS sessions, the exhibit hall, meal ticket for Epworth lodging and daily refreshment breaks.

**Session Seating:** Seating in all sessions is on a first-come, first-served basis. Seating capacity limits for each session will be enforced.

**Conference Expectations:** In order for all conference attendees to receive maximum benefits from this institute, there are certain expectations of which all attendees should be aware. These expectations will be posted around the Epworth facilities and in your conference materials.

**What to wear:** The weather at St. Simons Island is hot and humid in June and dress is casual for the institute. You may want to bring a sweater or jacket as some of the conference rooms get cold. You may also want to pack an umbrella as afternoon showers are quite frequent in the area.

**Child Care:** Child care cannot be provided by the Division for Special Education Services and Supports or Epworth personnel. If child care is needed, participants are responsible for making their own arrangements for the care of their 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.*