



Wednesday, June 9, 2021

I. Sign up to participate in CEF's Day of Advocacy on July 21, from 1pm-5:00pm ET

- **All CEF members are encouraged to participate** – Throughout the year CEF advocates to increase the federal investment in education through briefings and reports, letters, social media outreach, and meetings with Hill staff and of Members of Congress who are instrumental in making decisions on education funding. On Wednesday, July 21, from 1-5pm we are combining all those efforts in one virtual Day of Advocacy with meetings with congressional education staffers held on a virtual platform, supported by social media messaging and also offering a way for grassroots involvement with an easy way to send an automatic email directly to their Members of Congress. This will be the week after we release our annual education budget book and about the time that the House will be producing its education funding bill. All CEF members are encouraged to join our virtual Hill meetings and help amplify our message with social media support! We'll provide a training session on what these meetings are like during this Friday's Hill Teams and Advocacy Committee quarterly meeting, and give another brief overview at the start of the Advocacy Day on July 21.
- **Sign up today to participate** – Please [sign up here](#) so we can get a preliminary number of participants in the virtual Hill meetings. If you want to add more people later, that is fine. Let us know if others from your organization are participating, and if so, which states they are from so we can match people with their Members of Congress. We'll be back in touch to confirm attendance, but a preliminary count will help us know how many meetings to schedule; if you are involving savvy grassroots members from our targeted states (see list below) we will note their participation when requesting and confirming the meetings.

What's involved – You can participate in any or all of the actions on July 21 listed below.

- **Overview Zoom meeting at 1pm** – We'll go over current status of education funding (pandemic relief, the President's budget, congressional action, if any), background information on education funding, and an overview of CEF's request for an increase in education funding, and guidelines for productive Hill meetings.
- **Virtual Hill Teams meetings from 1:30-5pm** – CEF will schedule the meetings with education staffers in targeted Hill offices. In advance, participants will be put into groups of about five people led by an experienced Hill Teams member. Each will have virtual meetings with up to four Hill offices. CEF will match you when possible with meetings where you have a geographical connection. We'll send you a list of your meetings in advance and provide all the materials via electronic links to CEF [fact sheets](#), CEF [letters](#) to Congress and the

Administration, CEF's [funding table](#) showing education programmatic funding levels for the last few years and the [President's request for new mandatory education funding, education charts](#) illustrating the low level of federal education funding over the last 10 years and the need for more, and the [Department of Education](#) table showing federal education funding for that state.

▪ We are requesting meeting with:

- Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations Subcommittee members in both chambers
- Appropriations and Budget Committee leaders
- House Education and Labor Committee subcommittee chairs and freshmen
- Senate education leaders
- **We are targeting a number of states and welcome participation of effective grassroots members in those states.** These targeted states are those where we'll request meetings with more than one member of the delegation, including CA, CT, FL, IN, MD, MI, NM, NV, NY, PA, WA, WI, and WV.
- **Social media support throughout the day** – CEF members can tweet and post on Facebook and Instagram making the case why Congress should increase federal investments in education. We'll provide sample tweets, charts, and other information. Those participating in meetings can post about those, tagging the Member of Congress.
- **Platform to automatically email your Member of Congress** – As we did last year on our advocacy day, we will have access to an online advocacy platform that makes it very easy for people to send a pre-written email – that they can personalize – to their Members of Congress asking to increase education funding.

· **Who can participate** – We hope you will involve grassroots members from your organization from the states we're targeting (see the list above), others staffers in your office, and summer interns.

· **What to do now to sign up** – Here's what you need to do now:

1. [Sign up here](#) today!
2. [Block your calendar from 1pm-5:00 on July 21.](#) We'll follow up with you as the date draws nearer with all the information you will need.
3. [Involve your social media colleagues.](#) We will provide sample Tweets and Facebook posts in advance that you can use to publicize the message and encourage others to join in. We hope participants in the virtual meetings will post on Twitter and Instagram that afternoon about their CEF's Day of Advocacy.

Please feel free to contact me, Sheryl Cohen, or the Hill Teams and Advocacy Committee chairs ([Sarah Cohen](#) with AFT, [Zach Scott](#) with NASSP, and [Sam Chasin](#) at YMCA), if you have questions or suggestions.

II. Deadline today to sign on to community letter urging high allocation for Labor-HHS-Education funding bill

- **Today is the last chance to sign on to community letter to Appropriations leaders about Labor-HHS-ED funding** – More than 200 organizations have already signed on to the annual [community letter](#) seeking a strong funding allocation for the House and Senate Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations Subcommittee bills, but we want more before the today's deadline! CEF writes this letter each year in conjunction with the Coalition for Health Funding, Coalition on Human Needs, and Campaign to Invest in America's Workforce. We urge all CEF members to consider signing the letter and to share it with your networks. Individuals cannot sign the letter, but we accept signatures from national, state, and local organizations, institutions, businesses, companies, etc. (please ignore the last box on the form that says it is only for national organizations). To sign, [CLICK HERE](#) by COB today.