

Benefits of Joining CEF:

- CEF brings together more than 110 organizations in the nation's largest education coalition representing the entire education continuum
- CEF advocates on the need to increase the federal investment in education, regularly lobbying on Capitol Hill
- CEF provides members with up-to-date intelligence on Congressional and Administration education funding news
- CEF holds weekly briefings featuring key Congressional and Administration staffers
- CEF reaches more than 7300 Twitter followers

Information Services

CEF produces weekly, members-only e-mail updates and alerts on budget and appropriations issues and information on the broad range of education policy. Alerts contain analyses and updates on Administration and Congressional actions, suggested field action, concise message statements, model letters, funding charts, and meeting notices. CEF also keeps members current on legislative issues that affect them.

Expert Staff & Credibility

CEF membership is like having your own funding experts on staff. Our skilled staff focuses on budget and appropriations issues for education. This gives our members access to timely, accurate information and effective strategies with a relatively low investment of their own staff time. The media, the Administration, Members of Congress and staff look to CEF as the experts on educational funding issues. They regard CEF as the prime source of the education community's positions on appropriations and budget issues.

Coalition Advocacy

Membership with CEF offers organizations and institutions the opportunity to be actively involved in developing and implementing high-profile strategy on education budget and appropriations issues. During weekly meetings, CEF members develop a consensus position for the education community and coordinate an action plan. Examples of that strategy include unified web-based grassroots efforts, press events, Hill briefings, and CEF team visits to Members of Congress. CEF serves as the only united voice for the entire education community on issues affecting federal education funding.

CEF members actively participate in a number of committees, including Advocacy and Research, Hill Teams, Gala planning, and Membership and Bylaws.

CEF co-chairs NDD United, a coalition of over 2,500 organizations working together to maintain parity and ultimately repeal the sequester to increase investments in nondefense discretionary programs.

Access to Key Congressional & Administration Staff

Our weekly Friday membership meetings provide CEF members the chance to hear from key staff from both Congress and the Administration. Speakers provide CEF members with off-the-record news and insights into the latest federal actions on education budget, appropriations, and policy issues.

Publications

In addition to CEF's [website](#) and [Twitter](#) account, CEF produces several valuable publications, including our annual [Education Budget Response](#) and the [CEF Membership Directory](#).

- **Education Budget Response:**

This annual report includes a summary and analysis of the President's education budget, funding tables, and articles for each federal education program written by experts among our members. It includes details of program goals, supported activities, and funding history, as well as the projected impact of the President's budget request. This report is one of the most popular and useful education publications in Washington, and is eagerly anticipated by those inside and outside the beltway.

- **CEF Membership Directory:**

This guide is a comprehensive listing of all the education institutions, agencies, associations, and other organizations that comprise CEF's membership. Officers, executive directors, and CEF government relations contacts are listed with their email, phone number, and mailing addresses. The directory includes a brief description of all member organizations.

Networking and Professional Development

CEF is the only coalition whose membership includes organizations and institutions that represent the entire education continuum from the public and private sectors:

- early childhood education;
- elementary and secondary education;
- special education;
- career, technical, and adult education;
- higher education;
- workforce training;
- libraries; museums; and
- educational research.

CEF members have regular access to their peers from across the education community, opportunities to advocate alongside and learn from their colleagues, participate in committee work, contribute to publications and events, and take on a leadership role through the committees or the board of directors.

Special Events

CEF also holds the largest gathering of the national education community at its annual Legislative Conference and Awards Gala. During this event CEF recognizes outstanding advocates for education investment.

In addition to weekly meetings when Congress is in session, CEF members have access to special events each year – all without charge! In recent years we've hosted the following events:

- briefings on the President's budget featuring education practitioners, or high level Administration and Congressional staff;
- a Budget/Appropriations 101 Workshop explaining the intricacies of the federal budget and appropriations processes
- receptions for new members of Congress and Congressional staff;
- special research briefings on topics such as the implications of tax reform, equity in education, CTE, the census, and student aid;
- an education funding fair on Capitol Hill;
- briefings with current and former Congressional committee staff;
- a forum with education reporters;
- panels with pollsters and pundits; and
- a Presidential Forum featuring representatives of major party candidates.

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CEF is a non-partisan, nonprofit 501(C)4 organization.