

Benefits of Joining CEF:

- CEF brings together more than 100 organizations and institutions in the nation's largest education coalition representing the 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 8000 Twitter followers

Information Resources

CEF produces multiple members-only e-mail updates and alerts each week 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 advocacy actions, concise message statements, funding charts, meeting notices, and education job announcements. 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 – always available on a virtual platform – CEF members coordinate strategy and advocacy for the education community. Examples include grassroots efforts such as the [#HearOurEdStories social media campaign](#), CEF team visits to Members of Congress, Hill briefings on Zoom, and press outreach. CEF serves as the only united voice for the entire education community on issues affecting federal education funding.

CEF members have the opportunity to actively participate through our Advocacy and Hill Teams, Research Committee, Social Media Committee, Gala planning, and Membership and Bylaws Committee.

Access to Key Congressional & Administration Staff

Our weekly Friday membership meetings provide CEF members the chance to hear from key staff from Congress, the Administration, and other entities. 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 Book](#) and the CEF Membership Directory.

- **CEF's Education Budget Book:** This annual report includes a summary and analysis of the President's education budget, charts, and articles about each federal education program written by experts among our members.

It includes a vignette describing how the program has worked in a particular place and some video testimonials, 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 development;
- 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 holds the national education community's largest gathering at its annual Awards Gala and Legislative Conference. 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 have held the following events:

- briefings on the President's budget featuring education practitioners from the continuum;
- receptions for Members of Congress and their staff, and education staff from the Administration;
- a Budget/Appropriations 101 Workshop explaining the intricacies of the federal budget and appropriations processes
- special research briefings (now on Zoom) on topics such as shortages in the educator workforce, the impact of COVID-19 on education jobs and state budgets, education technology, mental health needs and resources as a result of the pandemic, tax reform implications for education, equity in education, CTE, the census, and reauthorization of the Higher Education Act; and
- an education funding fair on Capitol Hill.

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