

How to Join Us

To join Maine DEC you must join the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) and select the Division for Early Childhood (DEC) as your division. DEC is one of 17 Divisions of CEC.



Online: <http://www.cec.sped.org/mb/>



By Phone: 888/232-7733 (888/CEC-SPED); or 866/915-5000 (TTY)



By Mail: You may complete the proper online application form, print it, and send it with your payment to The Council for Exceptional Children, P.O. Box 79026, Baltimore, MD 21279-0026

For More Information

Contact:



Martie Kendrick
207/892-0455
martie.kendrick@umit.maine.edu

Sandy Doctoroff
207/892-0455
sandra.doctoroff@umit.maine.edu

Fax: 207/581-1231
TTY: 207/581-1084

Maine DEC website address:
www.umaine.edu/mdec



maine

**Division for
Early Childhood**



Purpose

The Maine Division for Early Childhood (MDEC) is the State of Maine subdivision of the Division for Early Childhood (DEC). DEC is affiliated with the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC).

The MDEC is a non-profit membership organization designed for individuals who work with or on behalf of children with special needs, birth through age eight, and their families. Children with special needs include those who have disabilities, developmental delays, are gifted/talented, or are at risk of future developmental problems. MDEC is dedicated to promoting policies and practices that support families and enhance the optimal development of young children.













Benefits of Membership

-  Subscription to four professional journals:
 -  Journal of Early Intervention
 -  Young Exceptional Children
 -  Exceptional Children
 -  Teaching Exceptional Children
-  Reduced registration fee for national DEC and CEC professional conferences
-  Reduced fee for Maine DEC professional development activities
-  Networking with colleagues nationally and in Maine
-  Communication with other members through Maine DEC's listserv
-  Lending your voice to advocacy for young children and their families
-  Developing your leadership abilities



Goals

The MDEC and its members are committed to:

-  Promoting family-professional partnerships in all aspects of planning, designing, and implementing early intervention services.
-  Advocating for comprehensive, coordinated, easily accessible early intervention services.
-  Advocating for full access for young children with special needs and their families to early care and all educational and community opportunities.
-  Promoting respect for children and families from diverse cultures and backgrounds in early intervention service delivery.
-  Educating state policymakers and the public about the needs of infants and young children with special needs and their families.
-  Supporting those who work with or on behalf of young children and their families by promoting:
 -  Interdisciplinary collaboration and communication among organizations, practitioners and family members
 -  Innovations in research and development of new knowledge
 -  Dissemination and use of information about research, resources, best practices and current issues
 -  Professional development through an array of activities and strategies