

AT-A-GLANCE: ADVOCACY DURING COVID-19

How Has Advocacy Changed During the Pandemic?

- Congress and the U.S. Department of Education are closed to the public
- Focus has shifted to pandemic-related work

How Has Advocacy Stayed the Same?

- Staff are still conducting meetings at the same rate, typically via phone or video conference
- Cyclical business such as Fiscal Year 2021 appropriations remains a priority

What Are CEC's Current COVID-19 Priorities?

- ❑ Support and pass the *Supporting Children with Disabilities During COVID-19 Act*
- ❑ Provide no less than \$175 billion in emergency relief funds to help school districts address the litany of needs for students playing catch up in the aftermath of COVID-19
- ❑ Provide an additional \$100 million for the Teacher Quality Partnership (TQP) Grants in Title II of the Higher Education Act
- ❑ Appropriate \$5 billion for an Emergency Connectivity Fund, administered through the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) E-Rate program
- ❑ Provide emergency funding to support evidence-based professional development on remote learning for special education teachers and support staff

Why Is It Important For You to Advocate During the Pandemic?

- Lawmakers are being asked to quickly legislate to address pandemic-related needs
- To write the most accurate legislation, they must have as much timely and relevant information as possible
- Lawmakers rely on experts such as you to relay information from their districts/states

Educate. Motivate. Advocate.