Council for Exceptional Children

Supporting Early Career Teachers through State Partnerships

What is a State

State partnerships are agreem **Partnership** and state departments of education that provide strategic support to large groups of members and competitive rates.

State partnerships are:

- A collaboration between CEC and the state Unit
- Customized agreements with many parts
 - Membership
 - Publications
 - Professional development
 - Convention registrations
- Long-term agreements (1+ years)
- Complex, long-term conversations
- Led by CEC's senior management

State partnerships are not:

- One-way conversations
- "Solo missions"
- Short-term agreements
- Simple memberships; they are substantive
- Small conversations

State of Ohio

Package components:

• A 1-Year Full Membership in CEC

Publications

• The Survival Guide for New Special Educators

Professional development:

- JumpStart for New and Early Career Special Educators
- High Leverage Practices program
- Working with Paraeducators

Ohio CEC Unit Support

- Welcome webinar
- Email communication throughout the year
- Additional communication from Ohio DOE
- Mentoring Program

Result: 100 Members

Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5
Identify an appropriate contact at the state's Department of Education	Connect with CEC's senior management to develop a strategy	CEC will reach out to the contact and start the conversation	CEC will negotiate a package of benefits for the organization	CEC acquires the group and coordinates with the state Unit to deliver benefits

Key considerations:

- The contact should be someone with the authority to advocate for our services or has budgetary authority.
- Don't approach the contact without first notifying CEC and developing a plan.
- CEC will work with local Units to develop a plan of support and benefits for the group. This may include things like professional development seminars, events, and more.

5-7 business days	2-5 business days	Month 1	Months 2-11	Month 12
CEC Member Services Team manually processes each membership.	CEC senior leadership works with the state Unit to develop an action plan	Onboarding sequence sends a series of welcome emails to members	CEC & Unit engages cohort members with programming	Renewal

Things to remember:

- You are not alone in this journey! CEC is here to support you throughout this process.
- CEC HQ will handle most of the initial engagement and data entry.
- If you are ever in doubt, reach out!

→ Offered CEC membership to ALL Fall 2022 new teachers in Ohio

- 100 new teachers signed up for free membership
- 72 signed up for the mentoring program
- → Goal: 1 Mentor: 5-10 Mentees
 - 17 mentors
 - 1-5 mentees per mentor
 - 3 mentees seems to be the ideal amount
- → Grouped by proximity and/or license (determined by need)
 - Assigned based on proximity, however did not always allow for in person meetings.
 - One mentoring cohort did have the opportunity to meet in person.



→ Provided resources, networking, and a community for first year teachers

Guide to Success

→ Mentoring groups met monthly with suggested topics for discussion provided.

- Mentors noted difficulty finding a common date to meet with all mentees.
- → Gave mentors the opportunity to perfect and reflect on their craft while networking with the other mentors and their mentees.
 - We hosted mentor check-ins via Zoom.
- → All 1st year teacher and mentors were given a pre-, mid- and post-survey.
 - Surveys were sent out, however responses were lower than we anticipated.

→ Recruit 120 1st year teachers for CEC membership

- At least 100 for mentoring
- 20 mentors
- → Reach out to new teachers earlier to gain more participation
- → Gathering non-school email addresses and mailing addresses
 - Emails may have been blocked from school emails
- → Host an in person meet and greet in the fall
- → Host mentor/mentee themed events more often
 - We hosted a self-care event in May