NOVEMBER 28

9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Registration Open

11 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.  ANCILLARY MEETING
Executive Committee Session
ROOM: FELICIANA
(Invitation Only: Education Commission of the States Executive Committee Members)

2 - 3:30 p.m.  OPENING PLENARY
ROOM: LOUISIANA BALLROOM

Welcome
JEREMY ANDERSON, President, Education Commission of the States

2017-19 Chair’s Initiative: Early Learning
PHIL BRYANT, Governor, State of Mississippi and 2017-19 Education Commission of the States Chair

2018 Elections: Changes in State Education Leadership
JEREMY ANDERSON, President, Education Commission of the States
SARA SHELTON, Director, State Relations, Education Commission of the States

3:30 - 3:45 p.m.  |  BREAK

3:45 - 4:45 p.m.  BREAKOUT SESSIONS
(Repeated Thursday morning.)

Education Governance From Early Learning to Postsecondary Education
ROOM: ST. LANDRY
How states are structuring governance of education systems from early learning to postsecondary education is a constant line of inquiry from Education Commission of the States Commissioners. Aligning policymaking across the P-20 spectrum, ensuring smooth transitions for students and education funding, and meeting political needs of state leaders are just a few of the themes that emerge from these inquiries. In this workshop-style session, presenters will explore the ways states are currently structuring governance arrangements and lead participants through a brainstorming session on how leaders may choose to think about adjusting their state’s governance in the future.

PRESENTERS
Brian Sponsler, Vice President, Policy, Education Commission of the States; Aaron Thompson, Executive Vice President & Chief Academic Officer, Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education; Gerrit Westervelt, Director, Early Childhood Policy and Resource Development, Center for Child and Family Studies, WestEd

Recent Trends and Future Challenges in Funding K-12 Education
ROOM: LA FOURCHE
Adequately funding K-12 education to meet often competing needs and goals is a perennial challenge for state education leaders. As states prepare for the 2019 legislative sessions, several key issues are emerging, including funding for special education, concerns about teacher recruitment and retention, and ensuring dollars are getting desired results for students and systems alike. Join a dynamic conversation dissecting recent trends in K-12 funding and the unique approaches leaders are taking in anticipation of the challenges ahead.

PRESENTERS
Michael Griffith, Principal Contractor, School Finance, Education Commission of the States; Wendy Horman, Representative, Idaho House of Representatives; Pedro Rivera, Secretary of Education, Pennsylvania Department of Education

MODERATOR
Emily Parker, Senior Policy Analyst, Education Commission of the States

Reforms Generating Returns: Outcomes of a Return on Investment Study
ROOM: ST. TAMMANY
Education reforms are often touted as holding the promise of positively increasing student outcomes and simultaneously generating positive ROIs. And for most, these promises have
fallen short. But what if they were true? In this session, hear from national experts in developmental education reform on the positive impacts observed at institutions across the country that are adopting and scaling a set of research-based practices that support better student outcomes. The session will also reveal and discuss the results from a national return on investment study conducted by Boston Consulting Group, adding new information for state policymakers to consider as they evaluate approaches to reforming developmental education.

PRESENTERS
Melanie Diaz, Consultant, Boston Consulting Group; Chris Mullin, Director, Strong Start to Finish, Education Commission of the States; Richard Rhodes, President, Austin Community College; Uri Treisman, Founder and Executive Director, Charles A. Dana Center and Education Commission of the States Distinguished Senior Fellow

State Efforts to Improve K-3 Quality in Support of Student Success
ROOM: TERREBONNE
High-quality early educational experiences have lasting impacts on student performance. But what can states do to ensure that these early years are of high quality for all students? Working in concert as a cohort, and with the support of Education Commission of the States, five states have been undertaking intentional efforts to improve the quality of kindergarten through third grade. In this session, leaders will share outcomes from their efforts to increase K-3 quality, as well as key considerations for others looking to do the same.

PRESENTERS
Amanda Ellis, Associate Commissioner, Kentucky Department of Education; Janice Palmer, Vice President, Policy, Helios Education Foundation, Arizona; Laurie T. Smith, Executive Director, State Workforce Investment Board, Office of Governor Phil Bryant, Mississippi; Donna Traynham, Early Learning Team Lead, Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

MODERATOR
Bruce Atchison, Principal, Education Commission of the States

| 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. |
| Registration Open |

| 8:30 - 9:30 a.m. |
| Commissioners Business Meeting and Breakfast |
ROOM: FELICIANA
(Open to all Education Commission of the States Commissioners)

| 8:30 - 9:30 a.m. |
| Networking Breakfast for Non-Commissioners |
ROOM: PRE-FUNCTION, 9TH FLOOR

| 9:45 - 10:30 a.m. |
| MORNING PLENARY |
| Success in New Orleans: School Improvement Efforts Post-Katrina |
ROOM: LOUISIANA BALLROOM
Before hurricane Katrina, New Orleans students scored far below the Louisiana average on reading, math, science and social studies. Today, they hover near the state average, despite living amid poverty. High school graduation, college attendance and college graduation have also increased. Join us for an inspiring look at the impact of post-Katrina school reform efforts as depicted in a new study by Education Research Alliance for New Orleans.

PATRICK DOBARD, CEO, New Schools for New Orleans
DOUG HARRIS, Director, Education Research Alliance for New Orleans

| 10:30 - 10:45 a.m. | BREAK |

| 10:45 - 11:45 a.m. |
| BREAKOUT SESSIONS |
| Education Governance From Early Learning to Postsecondary Education |
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| 4:45 - 5 p.m. | BREAK |

| 5 - 6:30 p.m. |
| Reception at Piazza D’Italia |
LOCATION: LOBBY-LEVEL COURTYARD
(In the event of inclement weather, reception will be located in Parish Hall.)
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MODERATOR
Kate Wolff, Assistant Director, Education Commission of the States

11:45 a.m. - 12 p.m. | BREAK

12 - 1:15 p.m. LUNCH PLENARY
Approaches for Aligning Postsecondary Education With Workforce Needs
ROOM: LOUISIANA BALLROOM
Higher education systems are increasingly being asked to intentionally align degree and certification programs with state and local workforce needs. This requires a range of program and policy changes. This plenary will discuss approaches to aligning postsecondary education with workforce preparation, including the important partnerships between K-12, postsecondary, business and workforce/labor departments.

BEN CANNON, Executive Director, Oregon Higher Education Coordinating Commission
KIM HUNTER REED, Commissioner of Higher Education, Louisiana Board of Regents
BRIAN SPONSLER, Vice President, Policy, Education Commission of the States

1:15 - 2 p.m. CHARITABLE ACTIVITY
Education Commission of the States Gives Back(packs)
ROOM: PARISH HALL
AGENDA

Prior to departing, we invite you to join us in a giving program stuffing backpacks with much-needed school supplies for local students.

2:30 - 4 p.m. ANCILLARY MEETING
Nominating Committee Meeting
ROOM: ST. TAMMANY
Nominating Committee members only.

LOEWS NEW ORLEANS HOTEL MAP

WI-FI NAME: ecswcm  PASSWORD: edpolicyteam (Case Sensitive.)