



Call for Proposal 2011 National Smart Start Conference

Deadline: August 30, 2010

The National Smart Start Conference is the nation's largest conference devoted to early education systems and strategies. It provides professional development for early education leaders committed to improving the quality of and access to early childhood services for all children. As such, it attracts attendees from all facets of early care and education, including government, nonprofit, community, and business leaders.

The 2011 Conference will feature workshops on:

- **Early Care & Education Program and Practitioner Support** includes program improvement & support initiatives such as technical assistance, grants & incentives, shared services and accreditation facilitation, and workforce development strategies including training, education, and compensation.
- **Policy, Public Engagement, & Advocacy** includes federal and state policy, sustainability efforts and effective advocacy through use of communication techniques and plans, tools, media outreach and marketing programs to mobilize the community.
- **Governance & Administration** includes best practices for non-profit board governance and leadership development including, among others, board operations, responsibilities and diversity development, human resource management and financial management to meet fiduciary obligations.
- **Standards & Accountability** includes child, family, and program assessment, monitoring, licensing, accreditation, early learning and infant toddler standards, program evaluation methods and accountability systems for early childhood programs and systems-building initiatives.
- **Research** includes presentations of recent research studies, evaluations, or data releases in such areas as, among others, child care program quality, child care workforce strategies, family support, health, consultation, early childhood systems building initiatives and board development to support improved outcomes for constituents.
- **Early Childhood Systems Development** includes local, state, and national systems-building efforts to address cross-system integration of data, blended funding, financing models, collaboration, and PK-3 or Ready Schools efforts.
- **Family Support** is achieved through use of evidence-based programs that address family strengthening and social emotional support, literacy of child and family, home visitation, parent education and support, involvement and leadership, fatherhood and grand-parenting programs, as well as strategies for including diverse ethnic and cultural groups represented in communities.

- Standards & Accountability
- Research
- Early Childhood Systems Development
- Family Support
- Early Care Health & Mental Health

Narrative: Please describe your workshop in 300 words, including intended outcomes for participants and implications for practice.

Conference Program Description: Please provide a brief description of the workshop to be included in the conference program should your workshop be selected. **It should be no more than 60 words.**

Length of workshop: 90-minute 3-hour

Level of workshop (pick only one):

Introductory Intermediate Advanced

Target audience:

- NC Participants only
- Both NC and out of state participants

Rooms accommodate varying size groups. Please indicate the number of participants you can address.

- 0-50
- 51-100
- more than 100

Equipment: Laptop, LCD, and screen will be available in every room.