

2024 MECEC Frequently Asked Questions

How do I access the registration website? The link to the conference registration website is: <https://eregister.info/portal/index.cfm>

What are the registration rates?

February 1st – March 31st: \$350 (Early Bird Registration)

April 1st – April 30th: \$400 (Regular Registration)

May 1st – May 31st: \$450 (Late Registration)

***Note:** Registration will close on May 31st or once the capacity has been reached. Once capacity is reached, you will no longer be able to register attendees.

Payment Information:

All payments will need to be made via check. All checks should be made payable to:

**Mississippi Head Start Association (MHSA)
921 North Congress St.
Jackson, MS 39202**

****NOTE: NO REFUNDS WILL BE ISSUED!!**

What if I need to submit a purchase order? If you need to submit a purchase order, select yes during registration. Once your registration is submitted, please email Candice Pittman at info@msheadstart.org. In the subject line include: “[Insert Agency/Organization/School Name and District] needs to register for MECEC with Purchase Order.”

Once your inquiry email is received, we will reply with registration instructions for this payment option. To efficiently track this process, we ask that all registration related inquiries be isolated to the initial email conversation thread. This process will enable you and MHSA staff to easily refer to specific communications within the single thread.

Can I cancel my registration? Yes, you can cancel your registration. However, no refunds will be allowed. As conference expenses are based on the number of registered participants, you will only be able to substitute.

Can I receive credit if I need to cancel? No. Unfortunately, conference credit will not be allowed. There will also be no refunds allowed.

Will substitutions be allowed? Yes, substitutions will be allowed. All substitutions will need to be made within the system to properly account for attendees. Once conference capacity has been reached, you will no longer be able to make substitutions in the system. At that point, please email Candice Pittman at info@msheadstart.org. In the subject line include: “[Insert Agency/Organization/School Name and District] needs to make substitutions for MECEC.”

Once your inquiry email is received, we will reply with substitution instructions. To efficiently track this process, we ask that all substitution related inquiries be isolated to the initial email conversation thread. This process will enable you and MHSA staff to easily refer to specific communications within the single thread.

Will there be onsite registration? No, onsite registration will not be allowed.

Will there be health and safety mitigation measures? MECEC is committed to the health and safety of all participants - attendees, speakers, exhibitors, and staff. We plan to deliver the same world-class conference experience associated with our brand, in addition to, the industry-leading hygiene practices of our event venue.

For security purposes, venue authorities ask that conference attendees wear their conference badge at all conference functions in the venue. In alignment with the recent CDC guidance update, MECEC does not require proof of vaccination. However, all participants are encouraged to: (1) wear masks (not required), (2) obtain a COVID-19 vaccination including any boosters, (2) stay abreast of their COVID-19 status especially prior to attending the event, and (4) refrain from attending the event if COVID-19 positive or exhibiting symptoms. During the event, the venue will regularly sanitize meeting space and have sanitizing stations available throughout the property.

By attending the event, participants accept responsibility to act in the best interests of their health, the health of others who attend, and the communities to which they will return after the Event.

What are the room rates?

The Natchez Grand is the conference's host hotel and room rates are as follows:

Luxury King 99.99 + taxes and fees

Luxury Queen 129.99 + taxes and fees

Terrace King 129.99 + taxes and fees

Terrace Queen 139.99 + taxes and fees

Junior Suite 149.99 + taxes and fees

Are other area hotels available? Yes, you can book hotel rooms at other hotels in the area. The following hotels are available:

Hampton Inn
627 S Canal St.
Natchez, MS 39120
Phone Number: 601-446-6770

Room Type	Cost per Night
Double Queens	\$130.00 + taxes and fees
King	\$139.00 + taxes and fees

Holiday Inn
639 S Canal St.
Natchez, MS 39120
Phone Number: 601-442-4462

Room Type	Cost per Night
Double Queens	\$130.00 + taxes and fees
King	\$139.00 + taxes and fees

Magnolia Bluffs
645 S Canal St.
Natchez, MS 39120
Phone Number: 601-861-4600

Room Type	Cost per Night
Double Queens	\$106.00 + taxes and fees
King	\$106.00 + taxes and fees

Is there a conference agenda available? At this time, we can provide a general agenda for the conference. Once the conference grid has been completed, it will be available at msheadstart.org.

General MECEC Agenda:

Monday, June 17th

Early Learning Collaboratives (ELC)/State Invested Preschool (SIP) Meeting

Time: 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Location: Community Center

Registration: 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Opening Session/Vendor Showcase: 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Tuesday, June 18th

Registration: 7:30 a.m.

General Session: 8:30 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.

Workshops: 9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Networking Reception: 5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, June 19th

Workshops: 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Thursday, June 20th

Closing Session: 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

**** Lunch is “On Your Own.”**

Will CEUs be available? Yes, CEUs will be available (only if you are a certified teacher).

- Participants must attend **ALL** sessions to apply for CEUs, SEMIs, and OSLs:

- 17 contact hours
 - 1.7 CEUs
 - 10 SEMIs
 - 1 OSL
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- The credit application link can be accessed at: <https://www.northmsec.com/msec-conference>
 - Only participants who complete the full 17.5 hours are eligible for credits.
 - Partial credits will not be awarded.
 - All participants are responsible for their own certificates and labels (You will be required to upload your certificate when your application is submitted).
 - Replacement certificates and labels cannot be provided.
 - Participants will use the electronic link to apply for CEUs, SEMIs, and OSL.
 - CEU may be purchased electronically, using credit card or PayPal (\$16.50). The application also provides an address to mail checks (\$15.00), if necessary.

PARTICIPANTS HAVE ONLY ONE (1) MONTH TO APPLY, FOR CEUS, SEMIS, OR OSLS. THE APPLICATION WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE AFTER JULY 20, 2024.

- To apply for CEUs/SEMIs/OSLs, you must first login on the NMEC website (<https://www.northmsec.com/msec-conference>). Please read all NMEC instructions to apply for credit.
- Choose “**MECEC 2024 Summer Conference**” as your conference title. If you have any questions once your application is submitted, please contact NMEC.

Other registration questions? Contact info@msheadstart.org.