



AUCD
2026

Annual Conference

Impact through
Innovation and
Partnership

AUCD CONFERENCE SPONSORSHIP & EXHIBITOR OPPORTUNITIES

Partner with AUCD and help make a meaningful impact on the lives of people with disabilities.



November 8-11 | **Washington, DC**



About AUCD

The Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUCD) is a national nonprofit association with a reach that extends to every U.S. state and territory. At its heart, AUCD works to improve the lives of people with disabilities through research, training, technical assistance, and service.

AUCD supports and represents:

- 68 University Centers for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCEDDs)
- 60 Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities (LENDs) Programs
- 15 Intellectual and Developmental Disability Research Centers (IDDRCs)
- 13 Developmental-Behavioral Pediatrics Training Programs (DBPs)

Our Centers and Partners serve as a bridge between knowledge and practice, strengthening the disability community and expanding what we know about how to improve the lives of people with disabilities and their families.



AUCD 2026 Conference

Impact through Innovation and Partnership

The AUCD 2026 Conference is a premier national event focused on advancing the well-being and empowerment of people with disabilities. This year's theme, *Impact Through Innovation and Partnership*, reflects the power of new ideas and strong partnerships to create lasting change in communities across the country. Through collaboration within the AUCD Network and the broader disability community, attendees will explore new approaches and strengthen connections throughout the field.

The support of conference sponsors helps AUCD bring this national community together, creating opportunities to learn, collaborate, and build partnerships that strengthen our collective work.

Join us as we build on that progress and work together to improve opportunities and outcomes for people with disabilities and their families.



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The AUCD Conference brings together more than 1,000 participants from across the country, including:

- Community and disability leaders
- Researchers and academics
- Policymakers and federal partners
- Practitioners, professionals, trainees, and students

Attendees bring a broad range of expertise and experience, creating an environment for learning, collaboration, and new partnerships.

Throughout the Conference, participants have opportunities to:

- Engage with disability leaders: Connect with leaders from across the AUCD Network, federal agencies, Capitol Hill, national organizations, and the broader disability community.
- Connect with AUCD's national network: Meet directors, researchers, practitioners, and emerging leaders representing programs and communities in every U.S. state and territory.
- Join a national conversation: Take part in discussions about current priorities, promising approaches, and opportunities to improve outcomes for people with disabilities.
- Expand your reach: Share your organization's work and build relationships with others working toward common goals.



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Conference Highlights

- Innovation-focused sessions: Explore new ideas and practical approaches that are shaping the disability field. Sessions are designed to spark discussion and help attendees think about how promising work can be adapted or applied in their own communities.
- Strategic location in Washington, D.C.: The Conference brings attendees together in the nation's capital, creating opportunities to engage with federal partners and national leaders. Its location also supports conversations about the policies and priorities affecting people with disabilities and their families.
- Sponsorship and exhibition opportunities: Sponsors and exhibitors can engage directly with attendees and share their organization's work throughout the Conference. A range of options allows organizations to choose the level and type of involvement that best fits their goals.

AUCD invites you to be a part of this transformative event this November. Join us to drive innovation, foster partnerships, and make a tangible difference in the lives of people with disabilities.



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AUCD 2026 Sponsor / Exhibitor Opportunities Overview

	PRESENTING PARTNER	NATIONAL IMPACT PARTNER	COMMUNITY PARTNER	STRATEGIC PARTNER	CONFERENCE PARTNER	NETWORK PARTNER	SUPPORTING PARTNER	EXHIBITOR
BENEFITS	\$40,000	\$25,000	\$20,000	\$15,000	\$10,000	\$7,500	\$5,000	\$2,000
Branding	Website, app, key signage, & sponsor materials	Website, app, & selected signage	Website, app, & selected signage	Website, app, & sponsor signage	Website, app, & sponsor signage	Website and app	Website and app	Website and app
Conference registrations	8	6	5	4	4	3	2	1
Exhibit table	Premium Placement	Priority Placement	Priority Placement	Priority Placement	Included	Included	50% Discount	Included
Voluntary attendee contact collection	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Recognition	Rotating banner add and plenary sessions	Plenary sessions	During event	During event	During event	During event		
Acknowledgment on promotional materials	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Promotional Communication	Sponsored email, up to 2 app notifications & social media	Sponsored message, 1 app notification & social media	Sponsored spotlight, 1 app notification & social media	Sponsored spotlight and social media	Social media recognition	Social media recognition		
Private reception with Executive Director	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Additional invitations to private reception	4	3	2	1				
Featured website video	✓							

Additional Opportunities	Investment	Benefits
Plenary Partner	\$20,000 per plenary	Prominent recognition before and during a selected plenary, five registrations, exhibit table, website and app branding, and sponsor acknowledgment.
Exhibit Hall Partner	\$15,000	Naming recognition for the exhibit hall, four registrations, exhibit table, hall signage, website and app branding, and exhibitor communications.
Awards Ceremony Partner	\$10,000	Recognition during the awards program, three registrations, exhibit table, ceremony signage, and website and app branding.
Access Partner	\$10,000	Recognition connected to conference accessibility supports, three registrations, website and app branding, and a short impact summary after the conference.
Refreshment Break Partner	\$7,500 per break	Branded break signage, two registrations, exhibit table, website and app recognition, and the option to provide an approved attendee item.
Conference Scholarship Partner	Starting at \$5,000	Recognition for supporting registration or participation assistance, website and app branding, and a post-conference summary of the support provided.

AUCD 2026 Sponsorship Opportunities

\$40,000 – Presenting Partner

Opportunity: Premier conference-wide partnership

Benefits:

- Full-scale branding (website, app, key signage, and sponsor materials)
- 8 conference registrations
- Premium exhibit placement
- Voluntary attendee contact collection
- Rotating banner ad and recognition during plenary sessions
- Acknowledgment on promotional materials
- Sponsored email, up to 2 app notifications, and social media recognition
- Private reception with the Executive Director
- 4 additional invitations to the private reception
- Featured website video

\$25,000 – National Impact Partner

Opportunity: National Conference Partnership

Benefits:

- Branding on the website, app, and selected signage
- 6 conference registrations
- Priority exhibit placement
- Voluntary attendee contact collection
- Recognition during plenary sessions
- Acknowledgment on promotional materials
- Sponsored message, 1 app notification, and social media recognition
- Private reception with the Executive Director
- 3 additional invitations to the private reception

\$20,000 – Community Partner

Opportunity: Conference-Wide Partnership Benefits:

- Branding on the website, app, and selected signage
- 5 conference registrations
- Priority exhibit placement
- Voluntary attendee contact collection
- Recognition during the Conference
- Acknowledgment on promotional materials
- Sponsored spotlight, 1 app notification, and social media recognition
- Private reception with the Executive Director
- 2 additional invitations to the private reception

AUCD 2026 Sponsorship Opportunities

\$15,000 – Strategic Partner

Opportunity: Strategic Conference Partnership

Benefits:

- Branding on the website, app, and sponsor signage
- 4 conference registrations
- Priority exhibit placement
- Voluntary attendee contact collection
- Recognition during the Conference
- Acknowledgment on promotional materials
- Sponsored spotlight and social media recognition
- Private reception with the Executive Director
- 1 additional invitation to the private reception

\$10,000 – Conference Partner

Opportunity: Conference Partnership

Benefits:

- Branding on the website, app, and sponsor signage
- 4 conference registrations
- Exhibit table
- Voluntary attendee contact collection
- Recognition during the Conference
- Acknowledgment on promotional materials
- Social media recognition
- Private reception with the Executive Director

\$7,500 – Network Partner

Opportunity: Network Partnership

Benefits:

- Branding on the Conference website and mobile app
- 3 conference registrations
- Exhibit table
- Voluntary attendee contact collection
- Recognition during the Conference
- Acknowledgment on promotional materials
- Social media recognition

\$5,000 – Supporting Partner

Opportunity: Conference Support

Benefits:

- Branding on the Conference website and mobile app
- 2 conference registrations
- 50% discount on an exhibit table
- Voluntary attendee contact collection



Signature Sponsorship Opportunities

Emerging Leaders Networking Experience

\$20,000

Exclusive sponsorship of a signature networking experience connecting up to 200 trainees and professionals across the AUCD Network.

- A dedicated sponsor activation area for demonstrations, networking, and informal conversation.
- Up to three minutes of welcome remarks at the opening of the experience.
- Five full-conference registrations and one exhibit table.
- Prominent logo placement on experience signage, materials, the conference website, and the mobile app.
- Recognition in attendee communications promoting the experience.
- Opt-in lead capture from attendees who choose to engage with the sponsor.

Sponsored Innovation Session

\$12,500

A 60-minute sponsor-led educational session in a designated sponsored content block.

- Sponsor proposes the title, description, learning objectives, and up to two speakers for AUCD review and approval.
- Educational content may include a product or service demonstration, but the session may not be solely a sales presentation.
- Session listing in the conference agenda, website, and mobile app, clearly identified as sponsored content.
- Standard meeting room setup and audiovisual support.
- Three full-conference registrations and one exhibit table.
- One scheduled session reminder through the mobile app.
- Opt-in lead capture from session participants.

Partner Spotlight

\$7,500

A focused 30-minute demonstration or discussion designed for attendees seeking practical tools, products, services, or partnership opportunities.

- Dedicated spotlight time in a designated sponsor showcase area.
- Listing in the conference website and mobile app.
- Two full-conference registrations and one exhibit table.
- Sponsor signage and one scheduled app reminder.
- Opt-in lead capture from participating attendees.

Session Support Sponsor

\$5,000

Support a concurrent session or topic area without influencing the educational content or speaker selection.

- Logo recognition on the selected session listing and room signage.
- Verbal acknowledgment at the beginning of the session.
- One full-conference registration.
- Recognition on the conference website and mobile app.
- No role in content development, speaker selection, or attendee data access.

Exhibitor Opportunities

\$2,000 – Exhibitor

Opportunity: Direct Attendee Engagement

Benefits:

- Exhibitor identification sign
- 1 full conference registration
- Exhibitor listing on the Conference website and mobile app
- Participation in the attendee Scavenger Hunt
- Pre-conference welcome webinar with the Executive Director and Board leadership
- Post-conference follow-up webinar
- Opportunity to collect contact information from attendees who voluntarily choose to connect with the exhibitor

Exhibitor Information

Prominently display your materials and products and enjoy valuable one-on-one time with Conference attendees on Monday and Tuesday of the Conference. All exhibitors will be located in the Rock Creek Ballroom, a prominent area that allows for maximum exposure and return on your investment. Come share your innovation and promising practices with more than 1,000 disability leaders, practitioners, and self-advocates.

This year, we ask that exhibitors create an interactive experience for attendees. A game? A spinning wheel? Fun giveaways? AUCD is here to help brainstorm!

Before and during the Conference, we will encourage attendees to participate, learn, and connect with each exhibitor. Attendees will be invited to participate in an Exhibitor Passport where they'll visit exhibitors, ask them engaging questions, and have a chance to win a fun prize at the end of the Conference. We aim to create meaningful connections between exhibitors and attendees and hope you will join us. Spaces are limited so submit your exhibitor application today!



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