

Justification Toolkit

Join Us in Aurora

The 2019 SHAPE Colorado Convention will take place at the Hyatt Regency Denver in Aurora, October 3-5!!!

But first...

Use This Toolkit to Make the Case to Attend

- **Develop talking points using the needs/benefits table** to explain to your supervisor/principal how attending the national convention will help you meet the needs of the school/district's current initiatives.
- **Customize and send the justification template letter** to your supervisor to set up a face-to-face meeting.
- **Review our talking tips** before meeting with your supervisor.
 - Use the toolkit to match the benefits of attending to specific needs within your school/district. Once the convention program is available online, select specific sessions you plan to attend and share how they align with your specific goals and responsibilities.
 - Use your most recent evaluation to address areas you could improve upon by attending the national convention.
 - After the convention, follow up on how you plan to apply what you learned at the convention throughout the school year.
 - Offer to hold a brief training session on new tactics and best practices for the staff who did not attend.
- Finally, use this toolkit to **share how this professional**



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development experience will lead to more effective teaching and better learners in the classroom.

School District's Needs	Attendee Benefits
<p>Ensure all students are given the best opportunity to meet the local, state and national standards for health and physical education (HPE)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Discover dynamic ideas to create and deliver a standards-based curriculum so that students acquire the skills, knowledge and behaviors that will lead to living an active, healthy life✓ Learn best practices for creating an inclusive environment in health and physical education class✓ Explore the latest tools in measuring how well students are progressing toward achieving the standards for HPE
<p>Help students become better learners</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Increases in academic achievement and test scores✓ Positive associations with attention, concentration and on-task behavior✓ Improved classroom behavior and decreased disciplinary issues and reduced participation in high-risk behaviors
<p>Develop expertise in differentiated instruction to meet the learning needs of all students</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Gain strategies to refine your approach to teaching and effectively address all students' learning needs✓ Acquire a sharper focus on teaching the essential ideas and skills of various content areas✓ Learn new ways to assess, reflect, and adjust content and the learning process to meet student needs✓ Learn best practices for responding to individual student differences that can lead to a more inclusive learning environment (such as learning style, prior knowledge, interests, and level of engagement)



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Better understand the whole-child approach to education to ensure students are healthy and successful academically

- ✓ Strategies to address the 10 components of the model, including
 - **using a skills-based approach to deliver health education** and promote healthy literacy in schools
 - **developing a comprehensive school physical activity program**, which includes a well-designed physical education program and opportunities for physical activity before, during and after school.
- ✓ Resources to **implement a skills-based curriculum** that will lead students to make healthy choices
- ✓ **Tactics to link CDC’s identified “six risk behaviors”** to the teaching and instruction of health education

Understand how to maximize opportunities to receive funding under the *Every Student Succeeds Act* (ESSA) federal education law

- ✓ **Become the expert on ESSA** and learn the latest on the implementation timeline and process for distributing funds
- ✓ Learn how to make the best use of SHAPE America’s resources to **ensure that HPE are included in ESSA implementation plans**
- ✓ **Explore new avenues for funding** and support for HPE programs
- ✓ **Identify new communication tactics and key messages** to share with various education and community stakeholders to garner support for HPE
- ✓ **Discover strategies for coalition building** and creating successful partnerships in support of HPE



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Explore the latest technologies to improve student engagement and find ways to capitalize on existing school technologies

- ✓ **Maximize student engagement using modified equipment** for students with disabilities
- ✓ Create a **personalized, tech-assisted learning environment**
- ✓ **Collect meaningful formative data** to assess student learning
- ✓ **Manage student data** related to standards-based curriculum objectives

Create active learning environments that can positively affect a broad range of student social, health, behavioral, and academic needs

- ✓ Get the latest research on the effects and benefits of **social and emotional learning (SEL)** on students
- ✓ Learn how to create **positive learning environments** that have caring teacher-student relationships at their center
- ✓ Identify new **instructional practices and strategies** to help you teach, model, and reinforce social and emotional skills in the classroom
- ✓ Understand the ways that health and physical education achieve SEL competencies and **learn how to communicate this connection** to school administrators.



Justification Letter

<Date>

Dear <Name of Principal or Supervisor>,

With more and more evidence showcasing the benefits of health and physical education for students in the classroom, I am eager to tell you about an upcoming national professional development opportunity that can improve my teaching skills and lead to better learning in the school for all students.

On October 3-5, my professional organization, SHAPE Colorado– Society of Health and Physical Educators, will be hosting its 2019 Convention. As an attendee, I will have an opportunity to gain hands-on experience and learn from SHAPE America Teachers of the Year who will share how I can:

- Meet the local, state and national standards for health and physical education
- Help students become active learners
- Implement a whole-child approach at our school to ensure students are healthy and ready to learn
- Incorporate practical ideas to infuse more physical activity during the day
- Meet the needs of all students through differentiated instruction
- Maximize opportunities to receive funding under the *Every Student Succeeds Act*
- Meet the needs of all learners to maximize student engagement using the latest technologies
- Create active learning environments that can positively affect a broad range of student social, health, behavioral, and academic needs

Additionally, the scheduled presentations are research and evidence-based and incorporate the most recent findings on best practices.

I would appreciate the time to discuss this professional development opportunity and how you can support my attendance.

Sincerely,

<Full Name>

<Title>