

10/18/11



## Statewide Conference on Education of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

**July 30 – August 1, 2012**

***Westin Galleria Houston***

Dear Parents,

This is a special invitation for you and your family to join us for the *2012 Statewide Conference on Education of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing* to be held in Houston on July 30 – August 1, 2012 at the beautiful Westin Galleria Houston [www.westin.com/galleria](http://www.westin.com/galleria). This conference, held every other year, is an awesome opportunity for parents to meet other families with children who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing. There will be presentations from state and national leaders in the field of deaf education and multiple sessions focused on information specifically for families. Take advantage of this great opportunity, gain knowledge and learn how to be an active member of your child's educational team!

Save the dates on your calendar now. Registration will be available on-line in late October/early November 2011 at [www.swced.org](http://www.swced.org). The conference registration fee is \$30 per family and includes two adults (families must have at least one child who is Deaf or Hard of Hearing to qualify for this rate). High school students may register and attend the conference for free! Onsite childcare/children's programs will be available on July 30<sup>th</sup> and July 31<sup>st</sup> and half-day on August 1<sup>st</sup>. The childcare programs are open to your d/hh children and their hearing siblings aged 6 months to 15 years of age. You MUST pre-register your children to reserve a space. Childcare availability is on a first come, first served basis - so register early. Onsite registration is NOT available. Childcare availability for children with special medical and/or behavioral needs will be considered dependent on child/staff ratios. Any special accommodation requests, such as translators, interpreters, etc. for any attendee must be submitted with your registration to allow time for needs to be considered and arrangements to be made, if approved.

A discounted room rate is available for conference attendees interested in staying at the Westin Galleria hotel. A list of nearby hotels and family attractions in and around the Houston area will also be available to help you plan your trip. Reservations should be made early. For questions or more information, please contact Lisa Crawford at [lisa.crawford@tsd.state.us.tx](mailto:lisa.crawford@tsd.state.us.tx) or 512-462-5447. Don't miss the free Family Fun Night/ Ice Cream Social hosted by Texas Hands & Voices [www.txhandsandvoices.org](http://www.txhandsandvoices.org) on Monday evening from 7:00 – 8:30pm in the Woodway II room. Set aside this time to join together with other Texas families for games, food, sharing and fun!

We hope you will take advantage of this wonderful opportunity and join us in July. We look forward to seeing you.

Sincerely,

The Family Involvement Committee

*2012 Texas Statewide Conference on Education of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing*