

Workshops & Academies 2022

Addressing Racial Disparities in SPED: Working for More Equitable Outcomes for Students of Color AA #3799

Diona Lewis

Wednesday, April 20, 2022 - 8:30am - 3:00pm [Register Here](#)

The purpose of this course is to examine the constructs within educational systems that have created racial disparities, disproportionality, and inequalities in special education and work to create frameworks and systems to overcome these constructs; with a goal of better meeting the needs of students of color with IEPs and preparing them for post-secondary success.

Participants will be able to:

- 1.) Identify the constructs which contribute to disproportionality and racial disparities in special education.
- 2.) Identify concrete methods to combat disproportionality and racial disparities within education institutions and the classroom.
- 3.) Effectively design supports for students of color and struggling learners.
- 4.) Identify frameworks to decrease disproportionality in the eligibility process for special education.
- 5.) Effectively develop training and supports for school professionals to support students of color

Target Audience: Special Education Administrators, Special Education Bookkeepers, Finance staff
Max Number of Attendees: 75



Dr. Diona Lewis is the Director of Special Education at Evanston Township High School. Diona's passion is for working with students, families, and instructional leaders to provide the best education possible for every student. She works to construct authentic situations for special education students to use their skills and to adequately prepare for any post-secondary option they choose to pursue. Throughout her career she has been a special education classroom teacher, Athletic Director, Pupil Services Coordinator, Assistant Principal, and Assistant Superintendent.

Presenter:
Diona Lewis

Dr. Lewis wrote her dissertation on programs in juvenile detention centers to reduce recidivism for African-American males. In addition to her Ed.D in Educational Leadership Curriculum and Instruction from the University of Phoenix, Diona holds a M.A. in Special Education from Northeastern Illinois University, an administrative endorsement from Aurora University, and a B.S. in Secondary Education from Northwestern University. Diona is also a fellow with the Georgetown University Center for Juvenile Justice Reform earning a certification through the School and Justice Partnerships Program.