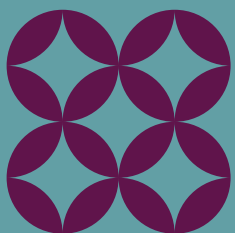




# Sponsorship Opportunities

June 3-5, 2026

Gaylord Texas Resort and Convention Center



## Rural Empowerment Conference

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Contact: Susan Grove  
[sgrove@edu-nation.org](mailto:sgrove@edu-nation.org)

# About Us

Collegiate Edu-Nation (CEN) is a nonprofit organization transforming rural education and workforce development through an education-to-career model. By partnering with local school districts, colleges, and employers, CEN builds sustainable pathways that prepare students—from Pre-K through postsecondary—for high-wage, high-demand careers. Our innovative P-20 system equips rural learners with the tools, credentials, and confidence to thrive in their communities—driving local prosperity and national impact.

## Meet Our Leaders



Dr. Kim Alexander  
CEO



Michelle Carroll Smith  
Chief of Schools



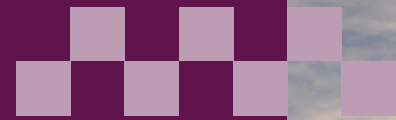
Brittany Williams  
Chief Partnership Officer



Kendall Guynes  
Chief Financial Officer



Dr. Susan Grove  
Chief Development Officer







## ABOUT REC 2025

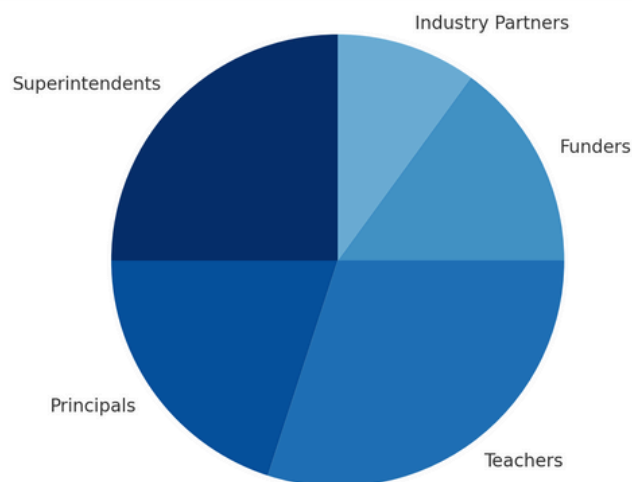
The 2025 Rural Empowerment Conference (REC) marked the inaugural year of Collegiate Edu-Nation's signature event, uniting rural educators, industry leaders, and community partners. Designed to spark collaboration and innovation, REC sets the stage for transforming education and career pathways in rural communities nationwide.



## GOALS FOR 2026

Building on the success of our inaugural year, Collegiate Edu-Nation aims to grow the Rural Empowerment Conference (REC) to **400 attendees in 2026**, with a focused effort to increase participation from workforce partners and postsecondary institutions. This expansion will deepen cross-sector collaboration and strengthen the pipeline from rural education to high-wage, high-demand careers—creating even greater impact for sponsors, students, and communities.

## 2025 ATTENDEE DATA



## TOTAL REACH

- **Email Distribution:** 3000+ direct recipients, over 1000+ indirect recipients
- **Social Media:** 14,000+ impressions across LinkedIn, Facebook, Instagram, and X/Twitter.
- **On-Site Attendees:** 200–250 participants over three days, including rural education leaders, funders, and industry partners.
- **Event Branding:** Sponsor Logos in printed programs, digital agendas, signage, and session screens.

# Sponsorship Opportunities



**\$50,000**

## Platinum Sponsor – \$50,000 (Exclusive)

### Official Dinner Sponsor

- **10-minute speaking opportunity** during the Dinner Event.
- Recognized as the **Official Platinum Sponsor** throughout the 2026 Rural Empowerment Conference.
- **6 full conference registrations** with VIP seating at keynote and dinner events.
- **Co-host a breakout session** with a CEN ISD partner.
- **Logo featured** on attendee badges, conference app, and digital signage across all venues.
- Public acknowledgment as the **Opening Session Sponsor**.
- **Premium on-site exhibit location** and virtual advertising placement.
- **Access to full attendee list** with emails following the event.
- **Exclusive media visibility:**
  - Dedicated *spotlight article* in CEN's post-conference newsletter.
  - 3 standalone social media posts with logo, tag, and link.
  - Featured "Thank You" with logo in CEN's e-newsletter and press recap.
  - Recognition during CEN's **Fall 2026 Lunch & Learn** webinars.

Recognition on **CEN website** and in the **2026 Annual Report donor listing**.

**\$40,000**

## Gold Sponsorship Package-\$40,000 (Exclusive)

### Official Lunch Sponsor

- **5-minute speaking opportunity** during the Lunch Event.
- Recognized as the **Official Gold Sponsor** throughout the conference.
- **4 full conference registrations** with reserved seating at the lunch event and dinner event
- **Co-host a breakout session** with a CEN ISD partner or workforce collaborator.
- **Preferred on-site exhibit location** and virtual advertising placement.
- **Access to attendee list** following the event.
- **Expanded brand exposure:**
  - 2 exclusive social media highlights with logo and link.
  - Recognition with logo in CEN's post-event newsletter.
  - Acknowledgment during one **Fall 2026 Lunch & Learn** webinar.
  - Inclusion on the CEN website and in the 2026 Annual Report donor listing.

Public acknowledgment as the **Mid-Conference Lunch Sponsor** during general session announcements.



\$30,000

## Silver Sponsor—\$30,000 (Exclusive)

### Official Reception Sponsor

- **5-minute speaking opportunity** during the Reception Event.
  - Recognized as the **Official Silver Sponsor** throughout the conference.
  - **2 full conference registrations** plus 2 complimentary reception guests and dinner event tickets
  - **Public acknowledgment** as the Closing Session Sponsor.
  - **On-site exhibit location** and digital advertising.
  - **Visibility enhancements:**
    - 1 featured social media thank-you post with logo.
    - Recognition with logo in post-event newsletter and Annual Report.
    - Logo displayed on reception signage and slides.
  - **Access to attendee list** following the event.
- 

\$20,000

## Bronze Sponsorship Package—\$20,000

- Recognized as an Official Bronze Sponsor throughout the conference.
  - 2 full conference registrations and 2 dinner tickets
  - On-site exhibit location and virtual advertising placement.
  - Recognition touchpoints:
    - Group social media “thank-you” post.
    - Logo displayed on sponsor signage and digital agenda.
  - Inclusion on the CEN website and in the 2026 Annual Report donor listing.
  - Public acknowledgment during at least one general session.
  - **Access to attendee list** following the event.
- 

\$10,000

## Rural Advocate Sponsor—\$10,000

- Recognized as an Advocate Sponsor supporting the Rural Empowerment Conference.
- 1 on-site exhibit location with priority placement.
- 2 full conference registrations.
- Recognition in social media “thank-you” post and post-event newsletter.
- Logo featured on conference signage and slides.
- Access to attendee list following the event.
- Recognition on CEN website and in the 2026 Annual Report donor listing.



**\$5,000**

## Rural Supporter Sponsor – \$5,000

- Recognized as a Supporter Sponsor throughout the conference.
- 1 on-site exhibit location.
- 2 full conference registrations.
- Group recognition in social media and digital thank-you listings.
- Logo displayed on conference signage and sponsor slides.
- Inclusion on CEN website and in the 2026 Annual Report donor listing.

**\$500**

## Exhibit Opportunity – \$500

Showcase your programs, products, or services directly to more than 400 attendees from across rural education, workforce, and community development sectors.

Includes:

- One exhibit space during the conference.
- Participation in the Conference Passport Program, designed to drive attendee engagement and increase booth traffic throughout the event.
- Recognition as a Participating Exhibitor on digital materials and the CEN website.
- Group social media “thank-you” listing.
- One complimentary event registration for exhibit staff, which includes full access to the conference sessions, reception, and lunch event.
- Additional conference registrations may be purchased separately if desired.

## Additional Conference Details

- **Early Bird Registration: \$199 per attendee through April 15, 2026.**
- **Final Registration Deadline: May 15, 2026.**
- **Exhibit Registration Deadline: May 1, 2026, or until all spaces are filled.**
- **Exhibit spaces are limited to approximately 30 booths and will be assigned on a first-come, first-served basis.**