



Professionals for Emerging Leaders Networking Session AUCD Conference 2026

Overview

AUCD is seeking current and former trainees who are attending the AUCD 2026 conference to participate in a Trainee Networking Session. Professionals will have the opportunity to share their experiences and perspectives on leadership within the AUCD network and the broader disability field.

Selected professionals will serve on a panel during the Sunday ELC meeting. This networking session is designed to create meaningful connections and help trainees navigate their own career.

Time Commitment

All professionals must be registered to attend the 2026 AUCD Conference.

Selected participants will be invited to a virtual meeting prior to the conference to:

- Review the goals and format of the networking sessions
- Meet fellow professionals participating in the sessions
- Review discussion questions and expectations
- Ask questions and prepare for the conference experience

Panelists for the Networking Session on Sunday will be expected to be in the room from 12:45 PM – 3:00 PM.

Trainee Networking Session Panelist

Sunday, November 8 from 1:00-3:00 PM

The panel will center around the theme, “The Power of Partnership”. Panelists will be provided with questions in advance but will not be expected to prepare formal responses.



The goal is an interactive conversation that gives trainees an opportunity to learn from diverse professional experiences.

Strong panelists will:

- Have experience working collaboratively across disciplines, organizations, or communities
- Be willing to share both successes and challenges
- Offer practical advice that trainees can apply to their own career development

Application Process

We encourage applications from former AUCD trainees who:

- Are registered for or plan to attend the **2026 AUCD Conference**
- Are interested in mentoring and supporting emerging leaders
- Can share meaningful professional or career-development experiences

[Submit the interest form](#) by **Monday, September 14th at 11:59 PM ET.**

- The following should be included in the form:
 - Your resume or CV (no more than 2 pages)
 - Answer to the following questions:
 1. What relevant experiences, knowledge, or perspectives would you bring to the AUCD conference?
 2. How has AUCD network membership enhanced your career?
 3. What makes collaboration successful, particularly when bringing together people or organizations with different resources or areas of expertise?

Please submit this interest form no later than **Monday, September 14, by 11:59 PM ET.**

Email the AUCD MCH Engagement Team at mchengage@aucd.org for more information or accommodation requests.