



COLLABORATION    SUPPORT    ADVOCACY



## Membership Guide



Dear Learning Specialists and Friends,

Welcome to NEALS' Membership Guide!

Founded in 1999 by a small group of learning specialists in response to the growth of academic support programs and learning centers in independent schools, **NEALS' mission is to promote professional development for learning specialists, creating community through collaboration, support, and advocacy.** Recognized as a 501(c)(3) organization since 2004, and now managed and run by a Board of dedicated and passionate professionals, NEALS is proud to be the largest nonprofit supporting learning specialists. We aim to be the preeminent resource for strengthening knowledge, communication, and collaboration among learning specialists and thus improve academic support services for all learners.

To this end, NEALS offers its members **annual conferences** with nationally renowned speakers as well as more intimate **regional gatherings** for members to share resources and strategies for students with learning challenges. At meetings and on a **private, online discussion board**, members **network with fellow learning specialists** and discuss common issues and innovations in the profession. NEALS also offers its members **private online access** to peer-reviewed professional development resources and a **regularly updated website** with information and news pertinent to its members. We bring together learning specialists, often isolated in their schools, who are eager to provide the most efficacious support for children with learning disabilities.

**NEALS is rooted in the belief that ongoing professional development and networking are necessary for professional growth and program enhancement.** The sustaining collaboration of our membership invigorates our mission and expands our initiatives for members' enduring support for students who rely on our strength and leadership.

**Please review this membership guide to learn about NEALS' mission, vision, values, leadership, membership benefits, and ways to stay in touch. We look forward to working together in the spirit of collaboration, support, and advocacy.**

Sincerely,

The NEALS Board



# ABOUT NEALS

*"We aim to be the preeminent resource for strengthening knowledge, communication, and collaboration among learning specialists and improving academic support services for all learners in northeast U.S. independent schools and beyond."*



## MISSION

Promoting professional development for learning specialists

Creating community through collaboration, support, and advocacy



## VISION

The premier professional development resource empowering learning specialists in supporting all learners



## VALUES

Collaborate  
Support  
Advocate

We are committed to helping our members provide high quality services to the students, parents and colleagues in their schools and programs.



[@NEALSONline](#)



[nealsonline.org](http://nealsonline.org)



[info@nealsonline.org](mailto:info@nealsonline.org)

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## RESEARCH BASE

NEALS offers connections with national researchers and speakers on the forefront of research into providing support for children and youth with learning challenges.

## RESOURCES

NEALS brings together learning specialists - in person and online - to share information, mentoring, and cutting edge resources.

# MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

## NEWSLETTERS

Monthly newsletters keep members informed of Board activities, membership events and useful professional development resources.

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## NETWORKING

NEALS membership includes many in person and virtual networking opportunities to discuss common issues and innovations in the profession.

## ONLINE DISCUSSION

NEALS provides private online access to active member discussion pages, professional development resources, and a regularly updated website with information, links, and news pertinent to its members

## ANNUAL CONFERENCES

NEALS offers its members free annual conferences with national speakers.

**INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP**  
(FOR INDIVIDUALS WORKING WITHIN A SCHOOL)  
\$100

**ADJUNCT MEMBERSHIP**  
(FOR THOSE WORKING WITH  
STUDENTS OUTSIDE THE SCHOOL SETTING)  
\$125

**INSTITUTIONAL MEMBERSHIP**  
(UP TO 5 PEOPLE)  
\$300

**LARGE INSTITUTIONAL MEMBERSHIP**  
(UP TO 10 PEOPLE)  
\$500

