



2026 SERID Conference

Biloxi, Mississippi

**Sunday
October 25**

6:00pm - 10:00pm

AGENDA

SERID Board Meeting

**Monday
October 26**

TBD

Pre-Conference Workshops

9:00am - 12:00pm

State Coordinator for the DeafBlind (SCDB) Meeting | Ship Island A

9:00am - 12:00pm

State Coordinator for the Deaf (SCD) Meeting | Ship Island C

12:00pm - 1:00pm

Lunch

SCD & SCDB | Ship Island B

1:00pm - 5:00pm

State Coordinator for the DeafBlind (SCDB) Meeting | Ship Island A

1:00pm - 5:00pm

State Coordinator for the Deaf (SCD) Meeting | Ship Island C

12:00pm - 6:00pm

Exhibitor Registration | Round Island B

Additional setup time - Tuesday October 27 | 7:30 - 9:00am

Exhibitor Set-up | Deer Island Ballroom

3:00pm - 8:00pm

Hotel Check-In

3:00pm - 6:00pm

Attendee Registration | Round Island B

6:00pm - 8:00pm

President's Welcome Reception | H2O Pool

Grand Ballroom if inclement weather

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**SOUTHEAST REGIONAL
INSTITUTE ON DEAFNESS**





2026 SERID Conference

Biloxi, Mississippi

**Tuesday
October 27**

8:00am - 10:00am

10:00am

AGENDA

Attendee Registration | Round Island B

Welcome to SERID | Grand Ballroom

MDRS Executive Director - Billy Taylor

SERID President - Denee Smith

10:45am - 11:00am

Break - Visit Vendors | Deer Island Ballroom

11:00am - 12:00pm

Keynote Speakers | Grand Ballroom

Scott Lehmann and Shayna Unger

12:00pm - 1:00pm

Lunch On Your Own - Visit Vendors | Deer Island Ballroom

1:00pm - 2:15pm

Breakout Sessions

Ship Island A - **Charity Reedy Warigon**

"Connecting IDEA, WIOA, and Employment: Understanding the School-to-VR Process"

Ship Island C - **Kasee Stratton-Gadke**

"Communication and Educational Needs for Persons with CHARGE Syndrome"

Petit Bois - **Miranda Beard**

"From Voice to Power: Centering DeafBlind Leadership in Decision Making"

2:15pm - 2:30pm

Break - Visit Vendors | Deer Island Ballroom

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2:30pm - 3:45pm

AGENDA

Breakout Sessions

Ship Island A - **Charity Reedy Warigon**

"The Invisible Curriculum: Teaching the Soft Skills That Lead to Employment Success"

Ship Island C - **Charlene J. Crump**

"Language Dysfluency and Language Deprivation in Community Based Settings"

Petit Bois - **Cindy Camp**

"Riding the Wave of Accessibility: Best Practices for Virtual Meetings with Deaf Participants"

3:45pm - 5:00pm

Breakout Sessions

Ship Island A - **Shonna Magee**

"Good Intentions Are Not Enough"

Ship Island C - **Nicky Gillies**

"The Usher Syndrome Career Mentoring Program: A Novel Pilot"

Petit Bois - **Candice Tate and Kelly Sterling**

"Policy, Power, and Succession: Building State-Level Deaf Services in a complex System"

5:00pm

Visit Vendors | Deer Island Ballroom

6:00pm

Dinner On Your Own

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2026 SERID Conference

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**Wednesday
October 28**

9:00am - 10:30am

General Session | Grand Ballroom
Wyatt Hall
"Language Deprivation"

10:30am - 10:45am

Break - Visit Vendors | Deer Island Ballroom

10:45am - 12:00pm

Breakout Sessions

Ship Island A - **Shonna Magee**
"Interpreting in Emergency Management Settings"

Ship Island C - **Caroline Solomon**
"A synthesis: The Current Landscape of STEM Education for Deaf, DeafBlind, and Hard of Hearing Students"

Petit Bois - **Cindy Camp**
"Creating Classroom Access for All Through Captioned, Described and Signed Videos"

12:00pm - 1:00pm

Lunch On Your Own - Visit Vendors | Deer Island Ballroom

1:00pm - 2:15pm

Breakout Sessions

Ship Island A - **Marilyn C. Trader, MSW**
"Riding the Waves Together! Collaborative Approach Working with Current and Future DeafBlind Job Seekers Requiring Additional Complex Support Needs"

Ship Island C - **Trisha Zyrowski and Mariann Christman**
"Ensuring Quality Practitioners and Leaders in Deaf Education: Advancing Excellence Through the Quill Model Competencies and Certification Pathways"

Petit Bois - **Amanda Gerson**
"Welcome to Gally-Land: Supporting Gallaudet Students Through Sweet Successes and Sticky Situations"



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**Wednesday
October 28**

2:15pm - 2:45pm

Break - Visit Vendors | Deer Island Ballroom

2:45pm - 4:00pm

Breakout Sessions

Ship Island A - **Dawn Sonntag**

"From Accommodation to Belonging: What Communication Access Looks Like When It Actually Works"

Ship Island C - **Adam Garfinkel**

"The Benefits of Dual Enrollment for Deaf and Hard of Hearing High School Students: Bridging the Gap to Postsecondary Success"

Petit Bois - **Amanda Gerson**

"Welcome to Gally-Land: Supporting Gallaudet Students Through Sweet Successes and Sticky Situations"

6:30pm - 8:00pm

Awards Banquet | Grand Ballroom

Dinner Provided

**Thursday
October 29**

9:00am - 10:15am

Breakout Sessions

Ship Island A - **Roger Williams**

"Where the Rubber Meets the Road: Real Life Applications of Demand Control Schema to Ethical Decision-Making"

Ship Island C - **Mariann Christman, Rylina Dey, Holly May, Aileen Welch**

"Language, Identity and Well-Being: Addressing the Long Term Effects of Language Deprivation"

Petit Bois - **Todd A. Czubek**

"ASL Skills and Their Impact on Academic Success"

10:15am - 10:45am

Break - Visit Vendors | Deer Island Ballroom



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**Thursday
October 29**

10:45am - 12:00pm

AGENDA

Breakout Sessions

Ship Island A - **Dara Baril, Laura Robison, Candice Tate**

"Waves of Change: What North Carolina's Listening Sessions Reveal About Improving Mental Health Access"

Ship Island C - **Mary Lundy Meruvia, Kambree Chickaway**

"Providing Services to Native American Individuals with Disabilities"

Petit Bois - **Erin Salmon, Jasmine Lowe, Kelly Spell**

"Deaf and What: Reframing Our Works and Its Impact on the Intersectionality of the Deaf and Developmental Disability Communities"

12:00pm - 1:00pm

Lunch On Your Own - Visit Vendors | Deer Island Ballroom

1:00pm - 2:15pm

Breakout Sessions

Ship Island A - **Ashley Benton, David Volper**

"Dive In: Exploring the DeafBlind Experience-An Introduction to DeafBlind Community Needs and HKNC Services!"

Ship Island C - **Roger Williams**

"Where the Rubber Meets the Road: Real Life Applications of Demand Control Schema to Ethical Decision-Making"

Petit Bois - **Dorothy Young**

"The EMERGE Center"

2:15pm - 2:45pm

Break - Visit Vendors | Deer Island Ballroom

2:45pm - 4:00pm

Breakout Sessions

Ship Island A - **Dawn Sonntag**

"Beyond the Bot 2.0: The Human Behind Accessibility-Becoming the Advocate in the Age of AI"



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**Thursday
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2:45pm - 4:00pm

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Breakout Sessions

Ship Island C - **Rylina Dey, Aileen Welch**

"Reframing Self Advocacy: A Global Inclusion Approach for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Students"

Petit Bois - **Michelle Montelongo**

"Promoting Ethical Practice: Nevada's DC-S Supervision Model as a Blueprint for Addressing Interpreter Development, Isolation, Burnout, Attrition and Retention"

4:00pm - 5:00pm

Break - Visit Vendors | Deer Island Ballroom

5:00pm

Dinner On Your Own

7:00pm

Dancing Through The Decades Party | Costume Contest
Grand Ballroom

**Friday
October 30**

8:00am - 10:00am

Farewell Breakfast | Grand Ballroom

10:00am - 11:00am

General Session

Grand Ballroom - **JC Jerome Smith**
Closing Keynote

11:00am - 11:30am

Welcome to SERID 2027 - Kentucky

11:30am

Adjourn | Safe Travels!

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