

Use This Toolkit to Make a Strong Case for Attending the LAHPERD State Convention

Step 1: Use the information below to plead your case in attending the LAHPERD State Convention (Nov. 5-7, 2025, in Baton Rouge).

Step 2: Customize the email letter below.

Step 3: Be Prepared

Review the Talking Tips before your meeting so you can clearly explain how your attendance will support school/district goals.

Purpose of Attendance

Attending LAHPERD provides access to cutting-edge professional development, peer collaboration, and innovative practices that directly impact student outcomes in health, physical education, recreation, and dance. The conference is tailored for Louisiana educators and supports state standards and initiatives.

How Attending LAHPERD Meets School & District Needs

Key Benefits

1. Professional Development Aligned with State Standards
 - Sessions are directly aligned with Louisiana's PE and health standards.
 - Hands-on workshops to implement evidence-based practices in the classroom or gym.
2. Networking Opportunities
 - Connect with fellow educators across the state.
 - Share strategies and challenges with professionals who understand Louisiana's unique context.
3. Access to Resources
 - Discover new curriculum materials, technologies, and equipment.
 - Learn from nationally recognized speakers and leading practitioners.
4. Boost for Student Engagement & Learning
 - Bring back practical strategies to enhance student motivation, activity levels, and wellness.
 - Learn new activities that promote inclusion, SEL, and physical literacy.

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What I Will Bring Back

- Summary of key takeaways and new teaching methods.
- Materials from sessions and exhibitors.
- A presentation or PD session for colleagues to share knowledge gained.

Justification for Time and Cost

| Item | Explanation |
|------------------------------|--|
| Time Away from School | Will return with actionable strategies to improve instruction. |
| Cost of Attendance | Includes registration, travel, and lodging—cost-effective given the professional development value. |
| Return on Investment | Immediate classroom impact, stronger professional network, and improved student outcomes. |

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How to Make a Strong Case for Attending the LAHPERD State Convention

1. Schedule a Meeting

Request a dedicated time to speak with your principal or supervisor. A focused conversation shows professionalism and respect for their time.

2. Connect Convention Benefits to School/District Goals

Use the LAHPERD toolkit to align the benefits of attending with specific goals or challenges your school or district is facing. Once the full convention program is published, highlight particular sessions you plan to attend and explain how they support your teaching goals, school initiatives, or curriculum standards.

3. Reference Your Most Recent Evaluation

Identify growth areas noted in your latest professional evaluation and explain how attending LAHPERD can help you address those areas. This shows initiative and a commitment to professional growth.

4. Plan a Post-Convention Follow-Up

Let your principal/supervisor know you'll report back after the event with key takeaways and a plan for how you will integrate what you learned into your instruction throughout the school year.

5. Offer to Share What You Learn

Volunteer to lead a short training or informal session for your colleagues to share best practices, resources, or activities from the convention. This demonstrates leadership and maximizes the value of your attendance for the entire school.