

ASCA Monthly Update

JUNE 2024

#ASCA24 Media Toolkit

A social media toolkit for the 2024 Annual Conference and LDI is now available. Access it [here](#).



ASCA Board of Directors

The slate of candidates has been announced. Their statements can be found [here](#).

As per ASCA policies, state school counselor associations may promote the elections as a whole but may not use SCA resources to endorse, promote or solicit votes for individual candidates. No appearance shall be given that ASCA or an SCA is endorsing a candidate. ASCA is available to review promotional language if desired.

Upcoming Meetings & Dates

June

12 [Executive Directors & Association Staff Meeting](#)

15 [ASCA-Certified School Counselor application deadline](#)

July

11-12 [Leadership Development Institute \(LDI\)](#), Kansas City, Mo

13-16 [ASCA Annual Conference](#), Kansas City, Mo

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE PROFESSIONAL DEMONSTRATION GRANT

ASCA wrote a letter of support for the Mental Health Service Professional Demonstration Grant for the University of New York at Buffalo for a project titled "Empowering Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Communities Together (ENACT) and Florida Atlantic University's application titled Making WAVES (Wellness Advocates Valuing Educators and Students) – A Mental Health Service Professional Grant.

FEDERAL ADVOCACY

ASCA, along with the National Association of School Psychologists, the School Social Work Association of America and the American Psychological Association, authored a letter to the House Appropriators Committee requesting \$250 million to be divided between the Mental Health Service Professional Demonstration Grant Program and the School-Based Mental Health Services Grant Program. Together, these grants support efforts to train, recruit and retain school mental health professionals to increase the pipeline of qualified school mental health professionals and expand access to comprehensive school mental health services.

ASCA signed on to a letter by the Social and Emotional Learning Coalition to the Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies Appropriations Subcommittee to encourage funding of the Education Innovation and Research program at \$269,000,000, consistent with the president's FY25 budget request, including providing continued support for social and emotional learning grants.

ASCA, along with 180+ national, state and local organizations, signed on to a letter to urge U.S. House and Senate Appropriations Committees to provide \$1.6 billion in fiscal year 2025 for the Student Support and Academic Enrichment grant program, known as Title IV-A, authorized under the Every Student Succeeds Act.

APPLICATION FOR FUNDING: FAFSA STUDENT SUPPORT STRATEGY

A \$50 million program is part of the FAFSA Student Support Strategy to help districts, states, nonprofits and other public and private organizations with efforts to boost FAFSA completion. The program will be implemented by ECMC to support organizations with demonstrated experience in expanding college access and enrollment. The funding will be prioritized for organizations currently working with schools and districts and those that have deep ties with students and families that have the reach and capacity to help decrease barriers and increase FAFSA submissions. It will also facilitate FAFSA submission clinics, including through partnerships with schools and districts, and provide transportation support as needed.

Please feel free to share this with your networks. More information here: <https://www.ecmc.org/fafsa-support>

COLLABORATION

On May 14, Jill Cook and Amanda Fitzgerald participated in a webinar commemorating the 70th anniversary of Brown v. Board of Education – 70 Years after Brown v. Board of Education: The Legacy, the Work Done, and the Work. The attorney general, secretary of education, assistant attorney general for Civil Rights, president of the NAACP Legal Defense Fund, co-founder and chief legal counsel of Brown's Promise spoke.

ASCA, as part of the Leading with Social Emotional Learning Coalition, sent a letter to the U.S. Senate and House Appropriations Committees urging continued funding for the Education Innovation and Research program at \$269 million for the fiscal year 2025.

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

[Call for Conference Proposals](#)

The call for proposals for the 2025 ASCA Annual Conference is now open and will close on Aug. 20, 2023, at 11:59 PM ET.



**Navigate
AND
Innovate**
JULY 12-15, 2025
LONG BEACH, CALIF.

[Governance Capacity Building](#)

Each SCA is eligible to select one package each year that meets their governance training needs. Any costs beyond the provided ASCA allotment will be contracted and paid directly by the SCA to the consultant.

[2024 RAMP OFFICE HOURS](#)

RAMP® office hours are one of several resources for those seeking to earn RAMP for their school. Office hours events give applicants an opportunity to ask questions as they are working on various sections of the application. RAMP team captains are there live to offer immediate responses to questions. This resource is available to members and nonmembers.

Click the date below to join.

[Thursday, Aug. 8, 5 p.m. EDT](#)

[Thursday, Sept. 12, 5 p.m. EDT](#)

[Thursday, Sept. 26, 5 p.m. EDT](#)

[Thursday, Oct. 10, 5 p.m. EDT](#)



ASCA Conference, LDI & Delegate Assembly



Schedule

LDI will take place in the Basie Ballroom of the Kansas City Downtown Marriott. The program is scheduled to begin at 1 p.m. CT on July 11; July 12 is expected to conclude by approximately 6 p.m. CT.

The updated [schedule is available here](#).

All updates can be found at www.schoolcounselor.org/ldi.

Delegate Rates for #ASCA24

Those attending LDI and Delegate Assembly are eligible for the the delegate rate to attend the ASCA Conference: \$399 [Register online](#) by adding the email for the individual and selecting "Member" and then "Delegate rate" option.



Out and About

Amanda participated in a coalition meeting with the Association for Career & Technical Education.

ASCA hosted the quarterly Learning First Alliance (LFA) board of directors meeting.

ASCA staff attended the advisory board meeting of the Evidence-Based School Counseling Conference.

Jill participated in the School-Based Health Care Coordination Initiative partners meeting.

ASCA staff participated in the National Coalition on Personnel Shortages in Special Education and Related Services meeting.

Amanda attended the CCR & Advising meeting at The Education Trust.

ASCA staff attended the Leading with SEL Coalition meeting.

Jill met with the executive director of LFA.

Amanda attended the School-Based Health Alliance policy meeting.

Out and About



On May 11, Jill spoke at the University of North Carolina School of Education graduation ceremony on Saturday and met with school counseling faculty.



PRESS

- *Education Week* – An article on school mental health resources.
- *Education Week* – A story on middle school students and digital citizenship.
- *Scripps* – A story on difficulties surrounding the financial aid process and the uncertainty facing students and their families.
- *Cox Media* – A story about the role of the school counselor and school counselor ratios. The interview will be distributed to Cox Media affiliates across the country.
- *Axios* – A story about the school counselor ratios.
- *CounselingSchools.com* – Former School Counselor of the Year finalist Ashley Wright was interviewed by CounselingSchools.com on the process of becoming a school counselor.

STATE CONFERENCES

ASCA staff attended the following state school counselor association conference:

- Kansas