

THE FUND

The NEA Fund for Children and Public Education is a political action fund. Voluntary fundraising during the RA is to help influence politics in a positive direction for our members and the students they serve. We encourage our delegates to participate, if they wish, at whatever level they can afford. You will receive more info on this once you get elected, but for now consider ways to meet the suggested contribution of \$200/delegate. Contribute at neafund.org.

WHAT ELSE SHOULD I KNOW?

- Know or find out nomination deadlines.
- A goal of NEA-NM is to encourage ethnic minority participation in all activities to ensure we represent our diverse membership. This is also true for the RA so we can meet our 3-1(g) goals.
- If you plan to go as a delegate start saving RA money now. Loose change in a jar, \$5/week or the equivalent of one soda a day will add up for your slush fund.
- Fundraising. Sell enchilada plates on Fridays to your wing or grade level; have a garage sale or have the local have a garage sale. Take donations from those not spending their 4th of July in all-day meetings.
- Experience the RA at least once in your NEA life. Talk about the power of democracy in action— you work hard and play hard with approximately 9,000 of your colleagues from all around the country.
- Contact your roommate (s) to coordinate arrival and departure dates so you'll be sure of who's paying what and when.
- Bring Travelers Cheques and/or credit card.
- Call the hotel and your roommates if for any reason you are delayed and cannot arrive on your arrival date.

DATES TO REMEMBER

MARCH–APRIL

Elected delegates notify NEA-NM of their intent to attend and begin to make arrangements and receive information. If not attending, NEA-NM contacts successors in order of number of votes received.

State receives Student Delegate Allocation and conducts Student Election on **March 16**.

The online election opens **March 20**.

On **April 1, 2026**, Local Associations conduct local RA Delegate elections, ensuring open nominations and one-person one-vote secret ballots.

Locals hold their open nominations and secret ballot elections for Local Delegates/successors and submit to NEA-NM by **April 3**. The Student election closes, 5 PM MST on **April 3**.

Deadline for receipt of local delegate forms by NEA-New Mexico is **April 7**.

MAY

Deadline for receipt of all local, state, and cluster delegate forms by NEA is **May 15**.

Submit Hotel Reservation form to NEA-NM no later than **May 27, 2026**.

FUTURE RA LOCATIONS

June 30-July 4, 2027 - Indianapolis, IN

June 30-July 4, 2028 - Washington, DC

QUESTIONS—NEED HELP?

Call (505) 982-1916

Sarah Blake, RA Coordinator

sblake@neanm.org

Bethany Jarrell, President

bjarrell@neanm.org

See website (www.neanm.org) for more info



NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION
REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY

July 3-7, 2026

Magnolia Hotel Denver
818 17th St, Denver, CO 80202



2007 Botulph Rd, Santa Fe, NM 87505
(505) 982-1916
www.neanm.org

WHAT'S THE RA?

It is NEA's annual meeting called the "Representative Assembly." It is held over the July 4th holiday period. While the actual RA is 4 days long, pre-RA meetings make it a 6-7 day adventure.

WHO GETS TO GO?

Each state is allotted elected delegates in 3 categories: Local, Cluster, and State. Each delegate is elected to represent 150 members or major fraction thereof. The RA draws over 9,000 delegates and about 6,000 guests. Family members and friends can register as guests at the RA.

HOW DO I GET ELECTED?

Any member can run as a STATE Delegate. The self-nominating downloadable form is available on NEA-NM's website from **August through October 20th**. Nomination forms must be received at the NEA-NM headquarters office by **October 20th**. NEA-NM elects 15 State Delegates.

Members in locals with fewer than 76 members (*major fraction of 150) can run for CLUSTER Delegates, also by self-nominating on the form located on NEA-NM's website and received by NEA-NM by **October 20th**. NEA-NM elects up to 6 Cluster Delegates, depending on membership.

Members in locals with 76 members or more can run for LOCAL Delegate. Each local with 76 members or more is to hold open nominations and a secret ballot election for Local RA Delegate(s) and successors by **April 3rd**. Notify your local president if you want to be a candidate.

WHAT DO DELEGATES DO?

Our state caucus (our delegation) meets every morning from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. to discuss the business of the NEA: new business items, resolutions, budget, legislative program and, of course, ways of raising money for NEA's Fund for Children and Public Education. We go to the RA itself at the convention center where we participate in the world's largest democratic, deliberative body of 9,000 of our colleagues, each with the right and opportunity to go to one of 40 microphones and speak on an issue. While we may take official positions in our state caucus, all delegates are free to vote their conscience or vote in conjunction with their local's viewpoint. Voting for candidates and constitutional amendments are by secret ballot and others are by voice vote. Delegates are expected to be on the RA floor and participate in the process.

IS THERE ANY FINANCIAL HELP?

NEA-NM helps State and Cluster Delegates with partial funding of an \$800 stipend. Local Delegates do not receive national or state funding to attend the RA. However, many local Associations provide full or partial funding for delegates. Ask your local president about your local's funding. Most of NEA-New Mexico's governing regions also provide some funding for delegates from the region. The NEA-NM American Indian Alaska Native Caucus and Minority Caucus provide some funding for delegates dependent on the success and participation in their year-round fundraising activities. If you are an ethnic-minority member of NEA-NM interested in being a delegate, find out more information about joining either of these caucuses.

FOR WHAT COSTS AM I RESPONSIBLE?

Getting there: Whether you fly, drive, or take a train, the 2026 RA is in Denver, CO. You are responsible for making reservations and paying your travel costs.

Arrival and Hotel: In 2026, NEA-NM is slated to stay at the Magnolia Denver. Our block rate is as follows:

Double Queen (1-2 people) \$219 + Current Tax per night. Check-in: 4:00 pm.

Plan to arrive July 3, in time for the first NM Caucus meeting, which is on Wednesday, July 3, 2026, 8:00 am, Magnolia Denver Stout Room.

NEA-NM can assist you in finding other New Mexico delegates who need roommates to lessen your hotel costs. NEA-NM cannot "guarantee" you will have a roommate. While many delegates pay with credit card, those paying with cash may need to put down an amount for a portion of the stay upon check-in and the balance at the mid-point of the stay. Most hotels will not run a cash account without collateral such as a copy of your credit card. Most hotels will not accept personal checks. A credit card is recommended.

Local Transportation: NEA provides free bus service to/from hotels for official events and to the RA. Delegates are responsible for any local transportation to restaurants or entertainment.

Meals: Delegates staying at Magnolia Denver will have access to local fare especially at the nearby restaurants. Meals are on your own. Coffee, tea and juice will be available in all meeting rooms during the duration of the conference.