

# Speaker Biography

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**Margaret M. Wakelin, Esq.**

Margie Wakelin is a Staff Attorney in the Philadelphia office of the Education Law Center. Her work focuses on litigation efforts to advance educational access issues for all students. Prior to joining ELC in July 2018, Margie was a supervising attorney with the Special Education Clinic at Equip for Equality in Illinois. There, she led a multi-attorney team to represent students with disabilities in both individual and systemic educational matters. She also worked on statewide policy issues involving the educational rights of students with disabilities. Before becoming a supervising attorney, Margie was a staff attorney and an Equal Justice Works Fellow at Equip for Equality. As a 2008 Fellow, Margie created the Autism Project, which provided legal representation and self-advocacy training to families seeking to obtain critical research-based educational services and appropriate school placements for their children with autism. Margie began her career as a high school special education teacher in Mississippi and later attended Northwestern University School of Law. At Northwestern, Margie represented students at-risk of school expulsion and served as the Managing Attorney of the Journal of Law and Social Policy.