

The theme of the AACTE 2025 Annual Meeting, **Beyond the Horizon: Charting the Course for Educator Preparation**, and its five strands align with the Association’s vision and mission to revolutionize education by enhancing educator preparation through research, professional practice, advocacy, and collaboration. Learn more about each strand.



Strand I: Advancing Innovation and Impact

Educators are no longer content providers; they are skills-based, student-centered, personalized learning experts. The skills and knowledge that educators need to succeed in the 21st century is changing. Future educators need to be prepared to teach and work in rapidly changing educational landscapes requiring innovative and impactful approaches to education. The Advancing Innovation and Impact strand features sessions that address the latest practices and advancements in the field and seeks to answer questions that shape the future of teaching and learning.

Strand II: Resilient Leadership During Unprecedented Times

Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, leaders at all levels of education — from elementary to higher education — have

implemented new policies and procedures for online learning, technology integration, and student engagement, while navigating censorship efforts that infringe on educators’ abilities to teach and counsel students. This infringements come leaders have made efforts to support diverse students, faculty, teachers, principals, school counselors, nurses, and superintendents. This strand explores leadership in the 21st century across the education landscape.

Strand III: Education Policy and Advocacy in an Era of Inequity

Education policy impacts the day-to-day learning of students in PK-12 and higher education, the capacity of teachers and faculty to teach, and the experiences of families and communities. The Education Policy and Advocacy in an Era of Inequity strand offers programming that translates

research into policy and practice — while providing information on relevant state and federal policies impacting the educator profession. This strand also promotes public advocacy and civic engagement with the intent of offering policy recommendations to current challenges in the field including the following: academic censorship, faculty tenure, teacher licensure and certification, critical shortages in all areas of educator preparation, educator enrollment and retention, teacher induction, student and educator mental health, and school safety. The objective is to offer strategies and examples to enhance collaboration between education stakeholders and policymakers.

and how educator preparation programs can be designed, developed, improved, and promoted. Session content is grounded in equity and may include diverse methodologies, in addition to community-based research, conceptual papers, empirical research studies, peer-reviewed scholarly papers, research briefs, and research that increases the use of evidence-based practices.



Strand IV: Deepening the Impact of Education Research and Research to Practice

The Deepening the Impact of Education Research and Research to Practice strand seeks to address the needs of faculty pursuing educational research and those engaged in implementing research findings into practice. This strand includes high-quality, contemporary, and impactful sessions that advance teaching and learning,

Strand V: Prioritizing Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

Research has unequivocally proven that all students benefit from diverse educators and inclusive learning environments that are affirming and cultivate a sense of belonging. To holistically address diversity, equity, and inclusion, educators should consider any community that has been historically and systematically denied access to quality education or communities that have been discriminated against in the education system, including but not limited to the following communities: Black and Brown, low-income, migrant, limited-English

proficiency, Native and Indigenous, AANHPI, disabled, and LGBTQIA+. The Prioritizing Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion strand offers sessions demonstrating a commitment to preparing diverse and anti-racist educators,

recruitment of educators in critical shortage areas, global perspectives in education, inclusive education, equitable engagement of families, and access to high-quality learning environments for all students.

SESSION CONTENT

Keynote Sessions are the highlight of the Annual Meeting. So that all may attend, no other conference sessions are scheduled during the times when these plenary events take place.

in today’s world. Topics at these sessions reflect work that is central to AACTE’s mission and its ongoing initiatives, including presentations from collaborating institutions, affiliate organizations, government agencies, think tanks, and thought leaders from the field. Attendees are sure to walk away with innovative and inspiring content to apply in their work.

Featured Sessions are highly interactive and timely learning experiences that target developing skills and exploring practices and dispositions crucial to educator preparation



Learning Labs cover a large spectrum of professional topics in support of the theme and strands of the Annual Meeting. These concurrent sessions are selected through the 2025 Call for Proposals via an anonymous, peer-review process. These learning experiences incorporate a variety of formats, including (but not limited to) case studies, peer-to-peer learning, small-group interaction, and lecture-based instruction.

- Case Stories
- Research to Action
- Scenario Planning
- Roundtable Discussions
- Poster Gallery
- Scholarly Papers



NEW THIS YEAR

- **AACTE Mini Workshops** will ignite your curiosity, spark engaging discussions, and foster collaboration on the latest hot topics and novel issues in an interactive and dynamic setting.
- **Coffee Hour Roundtables** provide attendees with a relaxed setting to discuss conference takeaways, network with colleagues, or simply unwind before finishing the day.

PRELIMINARY SCHEDULE

Please visit [the AACTE 2025 Annual Meeting webpage](#) for the latest information and details about #AACTE25. All times are listed in Pacific Standard Time and are subject to change.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20

- 7:45 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Holmes Programming
- 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. AACTE Pre-conference events
- 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Affiliate Meetings

- 3:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. Topical Action Group Meetings
- 3:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. Programmatic Advisory Committee Meetings
- 5:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Awards Reception*
- 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Affiliate Receptions
- 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Awards Ceremony*

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21

- 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Registration Open
- 8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. Opening Keynote
- 10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Brunch in Exhibit Hall
Scholarly Paper Presentations

- 9:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Exhibit Hall Open
- 11:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Poster Presentations
- 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Advisory Council of State Representatives Meeting
- 11:45 a.m. - 12:45 p.m. Learning Labs
Scholarly Paper Presentations

- 1:00 p.m. - 2:15 p.m. AACTE Featured Sessions
- 2:15 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. Afternoon Break
- 3:45 p.m. - 4:45 p.m. Learning Labs
Roundtable Discussions
- 3:45 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. CEO Listening Session
- 5:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. AACTE Board Business Meeting and Reception
- 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Opening Reception

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22

- 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Registration Open
- 8:30 a.m. - 9:45 a.m. AACTE Featured Sessions
- 10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Brunch in Exhibit Hall
Scholarly Paper Presentations

- 9:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Exhibit Hall Open
- 11:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Poster Presentations
- 11:45 a.m. - 12:45 p.m. Learning Labs
Scholarly Paper Presentations

- 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. Learning Labs
Roundtable Discussions
- 2:15 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. Afternoon Break
- 3:45 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. AACTE Mini Workshops
- 5:15 p.m. - 6:45 p.m. Constituent Receptions
- 5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. AACTE Past Presidents and Chairs Reception*
- 9:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. AACTE After Hours

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23

College Gear Day – Display Your School Spirit

- 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Registration Open
- 8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. Closing Keynote
- 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Coffee Hour Roundtables

**invitation only*