2025 NCME Annual Meeting Call for Proposals
Due Friday, September 13, 11:59PM PDT.

April 23-26, 2025 – Denver, Colorado

Greetings!

We are pleased to announce that the 2025 National Council on Measurement in Education (NCME) Annual Meeting will take place April 23-26. Wednesday, April 23, is the in-person training day, and program sessions will run from Thursday, April 24 through Saturday, April 26. The Annual Meeting will be held in Denver, Colorado.

The theme of the 2025 NCME Annual Meeting is "Educational Measurement: In Service of Society." The theme emphasizes the “why” of our work in educational measurement and echoes the last three words of the NCME mission: “to advance theory and applications of educational measurement to benefit society” (emphasis added). We improve and innovate theory and practice not simply to advance the field but to serve society, such as with research that propels changes in educational policy and practice to improve learning and well-being. The extent to which our research benefits society depends on many factors, including the appropriateness of our methods, the richness of our partnerships, the nuance of our communications, and the quality of our data visualizations. Rigorous research coupled with outreach and effective communication are key ingredients in fulfilling our mission.

The Program Committee seeks a range of proposals related to educational measurement but especially encourages proposals about:

- methods for evaluating and improving test fairness that have potential for broad adoption;
- applications of artificial intelligence to improve efficiency and insight of student measurements;
- evidence of past harmful testing practices and alternative approaches that redress these harms;
- research and symposia that build consensus around central publications (e.g., EM5, the Joint Standards) and improve application of these principles in society;
- evidence of using classroom assessments to support instructional decisions;
- advances in the measurement of civics education; and
- research that reveals the impact of score reports on student success.
Quick Reference

- Proposal Submission Deadline: **Friday, September 13, 11:59PM PDT**
  - Do not expect extensions
  - Ensure your NCME membership is current to receive notifications
- Maximum Number of Presenting Roles: 3

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<td>6. Training Sessions</td>
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Notes:
- Abstracts are included in the full program.
- References, tables, and figures do not count toward the word limits.

1  Proposal Submission Timeline

NCME invites you to submit a proposal for presentations and training sessions at its 2025 Annual Meeting. NCME will accept the submission of proposals through **Friday, September 13, 2024, at 11:59 PM PDT**. We have extended the submission window relative to past years to allow everyone sufficient time to complete their proposals. We do not anticipate extending the deadline.

**The link to the submission system will be sent out separately when it is open.**

2  Proposal Submission Guidelines

The Program Committee will consider proposals in the following categories:

1) Coordinated Paper Sessions
2) Organized Discussions
3) Individual Paper Presentations
4) Graduate Student Paper Presentations
5) Innovation Demonstrations
6) Training Sessions

In the spirit of one of the presidential themes of the year, **unity**, the Program Committee recommends reaching out to colleagues in the field to organize a coordinated paper session or organized discussion proposal rather than submitting a standalone individual paper (though that is still an option). To assist in creating a proposed coordinated session or discussion, the Program Committee recommends reviewing past NCME programs, professional social media profiles (e.g., LinkedIn), and Google Scholar, as well as engaging with NCME SIGIMIEs to identify others conducting research or doing work on similar topics. In
convening a team, consider the diversity of presenters, including contributors at different stages of their career from graduate students to more senior experts.

2.1 Coordinated Paper Sessions

60- OR 90-MINUTE SESSIONS • LECTURE STYLE PRESENTATIONS ON A COMMON THEME PAPERS, CHAIR, AND DISCUSSANT IDENTIFIED BY PROPOSERS

2.1.1 Formats for Coordinated Paper Sessions

The Program Committee defines a coordinated paper session as a set of papers organized around a central theme or topic. The Program Committee expects that coordinated sessions will be lecture-style presentations with 3-5 papers and a discussant. Preference will be given to proposals that have presenters from multiple organizations.

2.1.2 Specific Guidelines for Coordinated Paper Sessions

Proposals for coordinated paper sessions must identify all contributors. Authors’ and presenters’ names (up to 10 per paper) should be included, NOT blinded. Proposals must consist of:

- a session title of no more than 12 words;
- an abstract of no more than 200 words (for inclusion in the final program);
- a summary of the coordinated paper session of no more than 1600 words; and
- references, tables, and figures as appropriate.

The Program Committee will reject proposals whose titles, abstracts, or summaries exceed the word limit. References, tables, and figures do not count toward the word limits. Organizers may use their 1600 words however they wish, for example, a conventional 4-paper coordinated paper session may have a 400-word introduction with four 300-word paper descriptions that highlight the main methods and findings of each paper. It should be clear that the research will be ready to be presented for the Annual Meeting in April 2025. Proposals should also identify a discussant/moderator where appropriate.

Note to SIGIMIEs: We encourage SIGIMIEs to submit a coordinated paper session (or organized discussion) proposal in accordance with the guidelines in the NCME Governance Handbook. Proposals will be evaluated along the same criteria as all other coordinated paper sessions (see Section 2.1.3). Please indicate in the submission system that the session is being proposed by a SIGIMIE.

2.1.3 Review Criteria for Coordinated Paper Sessions

Review ratings for all paper proposals (i.e., coordinated paper sessions, individual paper presentations, and graduate student paper presentations) will be based on:

- relevance to NCME membership;
- scholarly or practical significance;
- coherence of methods, techniques, and modes of inquiry;
- quality of results, findings, and conclusions; and
2.2 Organized Discussions

PLANNED DEBATE • TOPICS WITH BROAD APPEAL • FLEXIBLE FORMATS • 60- OR 90-MINUTE SESSIONS • LIMITED SLOTS AVAILABLE

2.2.1 Formats for Organized Discussions

The Program Committee defines an organized discussion as a planned conversation among researchers and/or practitioners around a theme or topic, and expects 3-5 presenters. We encourage debates, panel discussions, and other innovative formats, especially those involving interactivity with the audience. Preference will be given to proposals that have presenters from multiple organizations and those that offer potential actionable solutions, in contrast to just offering opinions.

2.2.2 Specific Guidelines for Organized Discussions

Proposals for organized discussion sessions must identify all presenters, NOT blinded. Proposals must consist of:

- a title for the session of no more than 12 words;
- an abstract of no more than 200 words (for inclusion in the final program); and
- a summary of no more than 800 words.

The summary should include:

- the theme or topic of the discussion;
- the proposed format for the discussion;
- the significance or implications of the issues for discussion, including key questions to be addressed; and
- the perspective(s) that each presenter would represent.

The Program Committee will reject proposals whose titles, abstracts, or summaries exceed the word limits. The proposed format should be clearly motivated and clearly described. Proposals should also identify a discussant/moderator where appropriate.

2.2.3 Review Criteria for Organized Discussions

For proposals of organized discussions, review ratings will be based on:

- relevance to NCME membership;
- scholarly or practical significance;
- diversity of perspectives;
- likelihood of high-quality discussion; and
- likelihood of completion by Annual Meeting.
2.3 Individual Paper Presentations

60- OR 90-MINUTE SESSIONS • DIFFERENT FORMATS
PAPERS, CHAIR, AND DISCUSSANT IDENTIFIED BY PROGRAM COMMITTEE

2.3.1 Formats for Individual Paper Presentations

Proposals should describe a single paper written by one or more authors. The first author should be the primary presenter, although authors may present together. Individual paper presentations at the 2025 Annual Meeting will be in one of two formats:

1) a traditional lecture-style presentation of approximately 12-15 minutes, to be presented in a multiple-paper session with related papers grouped by the Program Committee; or

2) an individual poster-style presentation using an electronic board (eBoard) in a 60- or 90-minute session.

Authors must indicate their preferred presentation format, although the Program Committee may override these preferences to resolve scheduling constraints. Authors will be notified of their assigned presentation format as part of the proposal notification communication.

All accepted individual papers will be assigned to a qualified discussant to ensure opportunity for engagement and discussion. Presenters should expect to send their papers to their discussants at least two weeks before the 2025 Annual Meeting.

2.3.2 Specific Guidelines for Individual Paper Presentations

Proposals for individual paper presentations must be prepared for blind review (i.e., author names should not be included in the proposal). Proposals must consist of:

- a title of no more than 12 words;
- an abstract of no more than 50 words (for inclusion in the final program);
- a summary of research of no more than 800 words; and
- references, tables, and figures as appropriate.

The summary should include:

- research questions,
- contributions to the field,
- methods,
- findings, and
- practical implications of their research.

The Program Committee will reject proposals that are not blind, or whose titles, abstracts, or summaries exceed the word limits. References, tables, and figures do not count toward the word limits. It should be clear that the research will be ready to be presented for the Annual Meeting in April 2025.
2.3.3 Review Criteria for Individual Paper Presentations

The review criteria for individual paper presentations are the same as those for coordinated paper sessions, listed in Section 2.1.3.

2.4 Graduate Student Paper Presentations

60- OR 90-MINUTE SESSIONS • ELECTRONIC BOARD FORMAT

Graduate students are encouraged to submit proposals in any presentation category. Additionally, graduate students may submit a proposal for a Graduate Student Paper Presentation. Papers submitted for consideration in this Graduate Student Research session may include either completed research OR research-in-progress with preliminary findings. All presenters in this session will use the electronic board (eBoard) format.

2.4.1 Specific Guidelines for Graduate Student Paper Presentations

Proposals should follow the structure and word limit guidelines for individual paper presentations listed in Section 2.3.2. The Program Committee will reject proposals that exceed the word limits. Proposals submitted for consideration in the Graduate Student Research session cannot be submitted as an individual paper presentation nor as part of a coordinated paper session. The committee will reject all duplicated proposals.

2.4.2 Review Criteria for Graduate Student Paper Presentations

The review criteria for graduate student paper presentations are the same as those for coordinated paper sessions, listed in Section 2.1.3.

2.5 Innovation Demonstrations

60- OR 90-MINUTE SESSIONS • DIFFERENT FORMATS

2.5.1 Formats for Innovations Demonstrations

Initiated by the 2022 Annual Meeting Program Committee, demonstrations are intended for sharing innovations that do not fit the traditional format of a research paper nor a training session. For example, the innovation could be a new app or software for participants, a novel solution to a commonly faced problem, or a resource that can benefit the measurement community. Proposals that aim to sell commercial products at the conference will be rejected. However, we welcome proposals that introduce free innovations that run on commercial software.

Innovation demonstrations at the 2025 Annual Meeting will be in one of two formats:
1) a 15-minute demonstration, to be presented in a session with other related demonstrations grouped by the Program Committee; or

2) an individual poster-style electronic board (eBoard) demonstration in a 60- or 90-minute session.

Authors must indicate their preferred presentation format, although the Program Committee may override these preferences to resolve scheduling constraints. Authors will be notified of their assigned presentation format as part of the proposal notification communication.

2.5.2 Specific Guidelines for Innovations Demonstrations

Proposals for innovation demonstrations must be prepared for blind review (i.e., author names should not be included in the proposal). Proposals must consist of:

- a title of no more than 12 words;
- an abstract of no more than 50 words (for inclusion in the final program);
- a summary of the demonstration in no more than 500 words (see description below);
- any software packages required (if applicable); and
- references, tables, and figures as appropriate.

The summary should:

1) *Introduce the innovation itself.* Describe the problem it addresses, typical users (e.g., classroom teachers, researchers), and, if available, evidence of the innovation being put to use. One way to do this quickly and clearly is through a value proposition statement (“This helps X do Y by doing Z”). The summary should clarify the practical utility and implications of the innovation and should not be written as a business case, a product roadmap, or marketing collateral. The innovation can be based on technology or based on creativity, logic, and argumentation without reliance on technology. The innovation should address the stated problem in a unique and novel way. It may build upon prior research, but should go beyond demonstrating minor updates to an existing tool.

2) *Describe the format of the demonstration (e.g., lecture, brief hands-on training).* The format should be well-aligned with the innovation itself and feasible given time and technology constraints. For example, some innovations might be best introduced through a lecture and guided tour rather than a hands-on activity requiring special equipment or technology. (Presenters are responsible for providing any such special equipment or technology.)

3) *Explain what attendees will be able to do after the demonstration.* Attendees should walk away with a concrete new skill, insight, or technological support that they can leverage in their work without much additional research or training.

The Program Committee will reject proposals that are not blind or whose titles, abstracts, or summaries exceed the word limits. Descriptions of software packages, references, tables, and figures do not count toward the word limits.
2.5.3 Review Criteria for Innovations Demonstrations

Review ratings for innovation demonstrations will be based on:

- relevance to NCME membership;
- significance of problem;
- elegance and practicality of proposed solution;
- quality of learning objectives; and
- likelihood of completion by Annual Meeting.

2.6 Training Sessions

NCME training sessions are a vital component of the Annual Meeting and should serve the mission goals of promoting best practices in assessment and advancing the science of educational measurement. Training sessions will be held in person along with the Annual Meeting and can either be half-day (4-hour) or mini (2-hour) sessions. The four-hour format is typical for intensive measurement or methodological training. This year, we are adding a two-hour format as a trial for shorter demonstrations or professional development (e.g., effective presentations, academic writing/publishing). If a topic can be naturally split into two parts (e.g., beginner and intermediate/advanced), we recommend submitting two half-day proposals. Please note that in that case, each proposal will be reviewed separately, and it is possible that none, one, or both are accepted.

2.6.1 Specific Guidelines for Training Sessions

Proposals for training sessions must identify all presenters, NOT blinded. Proposals must consist of:

- A title of no more than 12 words. It should be as descriptive as possible to give NCME members a clear sense of what will be covered.
- An abstract of no more than 200 words (for inclusion in the final program). It should provide an overview of the session content, learning objectives, and the intended audience, and if there are any prerequisites for attending the session. Please indicate if attendees need to bring their own laptops and whether software needs to be installed prior to the session.
- A summary of no more than 500 words. It should highlight the relevance and importance of the topic to the measurement field, what attendees will be able to accomplish after completion of the training, and expertise of the presenter(s). If the session has been presented before, please indicate the changes and improvement(s) in the proposed session. If the session is related to software applications, please make sure the emphasis is on how the tool can be applied in practice, not as much on syntax or mathematical formulas.
- A schedule of no more than 500 words. It should indicate the preferred time format (half-day/4-hour or mini/2-hour) and list activities and topics to be covered during the proposed session timeline. The proposed activities and topics should focus on what presenter(s) and attendees
will be doing during the training. The session should be a balanced combination of instruction, activities, and opportunity for Q&A.

The Program Committee will reject proposals whose titles, abstracts, summaries, or schedules exceed the word limits.

Presenters are responsible for communicating with attendees prior to the session and preparing all materials (e.g., slide decks, user guides, example software code, or special equipment for demonstration) needed for the session or providing attendees with information about how to obtain any suggested reference material or required software.

2.6.2 Review Criteria for Training Sessions

For training sessions, review ratings will be based on:

- relevance to NCME membership;
- quality of planned activities;
- quality of learning objectives;
- evidence of presenter’s expertise on topic; and
- likelihood of completion by Annual Meeting.

3 Call for Reviewers, Chairs, and Discussants

Please consider volunteering as proposal reviewers, paper session chairs, and/or paper session discussants. The success of the NCME Annual Meeting depends on this great service from the NCME community. Serving in these capacities resonates with both the 2025 Annual Meeting theme (“Educational Measurement: In Service of Society”) and one of this year’s Presidential themes, service. You can volunteer through the proposal system, so please consider signing up to be a reviewer, chair, or discussant during the submission process or by emailing NCMEEProgramChairs@ncme.org.

4 General Conference Rules

The following rules have been established to encourage a wide range of participation by NCME members and minimize schedule conflicts that arise when sessions are arranged in the final program.

1) Both members and nonmembers may submit proposals.

2) Submission of a proposal represents an agreement that presenting authors will register for and attend the Annual Meeting if their proposal is accepted. All presenting authors must register for the conference. Presenters who do not register will not be allowed to present.

3) The first author of every paper should be the primary presenter for that paper. This aligns with the expectations of conference attendees and should hold for both individual paper presentations and coordinated paper sessions.
Participants may have a maximum of three presenting roles. Roles that count toward this limit include presenting authors of individual papers, papers in coordinated paper sessions, and innovation demonstrations, and speaking members of organized discussions. Roles that do not count toward this limit include discussants, session chairs, debate moderators, training session instructors, and invited speakers. Participants who submit proposals in excess of these rules will be subject to having one or more of their proposals disqualified from consideration.

Furthermore, the following rules have been established to ensure a high quality of presentations that are maximally beneficial for audiences in different sessions:

1) Should you be unable to attend the Annual Meeting due to unforeseen circumstances, it is your responsibility to inform the Program Committee as early as possible. You must either arrange for someone else to assume your role in a session or withdraw your presentation.

2) The paper, presentation, demonstration, or discussion should not have been published nor presented at a previous NCME meeting or any other academic conference.

3) Authors presenting in individual paper sessions are required to submit papers to discussants a minimum of two weeks in advance of the 2025 Annual Meeting. Discussants have discretion to provide comments for late papers but are not obligated to do so.

5 Closing

On behalf of NCME, we are looking forward to the 2025 Annual Meeting as an opportunity to hear and present new research, to share different perspectives on important topics, to engage with colleagues, to take advantage of learning opportunities, and discuss practical approaches to reconceptualizing best practices in measurement to reduce inequities. Please submit your research, volunteer to be a discussant, chair, and/or a reviewer, mark the dates on your calendar, and get ready for an impactful conference next April in Denver. If we can help in any way, or if you have comments or suggestions you would like to share, please do not hesitate to contact us at NCMEProgramChairs@ncme.org.

Sincerely,

Katherine Castellano and Scott Monroe
Co-Chairs, Annual Meeting Program Committee

Qiwei (Britt) He and Matthew Madison
Co-Chairs, Training and Professional Development

Nicolas Mirelene and Catherina Villafuerte
Co-Chairs, Graduate Student Issues Committee

Andrew Ho
President