

CALL FOR PROPOSALS SUBMISSION GUIDE

66th ANNUAL CONFERENCE



FEBRUARY 26 - 28 SAN JOSE

EARLY REGISTRATION RATES

Lead Presenter ONLY

BY DECEMBER 18, 2026

\$65

<https://www.ccss.org/conference2027>

REGULAR REGISTRATION RATES

Lead Presenter ONLY

\$120 (CCSS Member)

\$185 (Non-Member)

IMPORTANT DATES:

Proposals Due: September 30, 2026

Acceptances Sent: November 2026

Early Speaker Registration: December 18, 2026

CONFERENCE LOCATION:

Double Tree by Hilton

2050 Gateway Place

San Jose, CA, 95110

NEED SOME HELP WITH YOUR PROPOSAL?

Join a webinar to get some tips on writing and submitting a proposal.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2026 AT 6:00PM

[REGISTER HERE](#) FOR THE ZOOM LINK

California Council for the Social Studies Conference

February 26-28, 2027

San Jose, CA

SEEKING GREAT PROPOSALS

The California Council for the Social Studies is excited to open our call for proposals for the 66th annual conference. We are excited to host hundreds of presenters who will share their innovative ideas and instructional strategies that align with this year's theme: **Teaching in the Age of Information: Media Literacy, Inquiry, and Civic Learning**.

The rapid expansion of digital media, artificial intelligence, and online information has transformed how students learn about history, government, economics, geography, and current events. In this environment, social studies educators are uniquely positioned to help students develop the skills and habits necessary to be informed and active citizens.

The 2027 California Council for the Social Studies Conference theme, **Teaching in the Age of Information: Media Literacy, Inquiry, and Civic Learning**, highlights the essential role of social studies education in preparing informed, thoughtful, and engaged citizens. This theme recognizes that social studies classrooms are spaces where students learn to think critically about the world around them and engage constructively with multiple viewpoints. As students encounter an overwhelming volume of information, the need for civic reasoning, civil deliberation and discourse, and informed participation has never been greater.

Through media literacy, students learn to evaluate sources, recognize bias, and assess evidence. Through inquiry, students ask meaningful questions, investigate historical and contemporary issues, analyze multiple perspectives, and construct evidence-based conclusions. Through civic learning, students build the knowledge, skills, and dispositions needed to be civically engaged and participate responsibly and effectively in democratic society.

The conference invites educators, scholars, and community partners to share innovative practices, research, and classroom experiences that support critical thinking, democratic engagement, culturally responsive teaching, and student inquiry. Together, we will explore how social studies education can equip students to become informed consumers of information, thoughtful collaborators, and active participants in civic life.

For more information, email us at info@ccss.org or visit our [website](#).

Teaching in the Age of Information

FEBRUARY 26-28 SAN JOSE



66th ANNUAL CONFERENCE

CODE OF CONDUCT AGREEMENT

The California Council for the Social Studies (CCSS) is an inclusive organization dedicated to advancing history and social science education. Our strength lies in fostering a vibrant forum where diverse identities and perspectives come together to build community, engage in research, share practices, reflect, and collaborate. We promote civil dialogue and professional growth—values that are especially critical in today’s complex educational landscape.

We expect all conference participants to:

- **Create welcoming spaces** where all individuals feel valued and included.
- **Maintain professional discourse** that is respectful and constructive.
- **Support inclusive discussions** that unite and strengthen our educational community.

We ask that all participants actively contribute to creating a safe, welcoming, and inclusive environment. Discrimination, harassment, and sexual harassment of any kind are strictly prohibited.

All participants, including, attendees, speakers, proposal authors, sponsors, scholarship recipients, volunteers, reviewers, conference staff, and vendors, shall comply with the instructions of conference organizers, event staff, presenters and moderators. No Participants shall record, transmit, copy, or take screenshots of presentations, sessions or events without advance consent of the presenter/speaker.

This Code of Conduct applies to **all aspects of the CCSS Conference**, including:

- Conference sessions and workshops
- Planning meetings and committee gatherings
- Informal discussions and side meetings associated with the conference
- Interactions on social media platforms, email discussion lists, and other online or electronic communications
- Social events, networking functions, and other related activities

Anyone asked to stop conduct that violates this Code of Conduct is expected to comply immediately. Violations may result in enforcement actions, up to and including removal from the conference without refund.

By participating in the CCSS Conference, you agree to uphold these standards and contribute to a professional, respectful, and inclusive environment for all.

CCSS 2027 Conference Schedule-at-a-Glance

FRIDAY 2/26/27 - EXHIBIT HALL OPEN 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

7:30am - 9:00am	Partners in Education Confab
8:00am - 9:00am	First Timers' Meet-Up
9:00am - 10:00am	Dedicated Exhibit Hall Time
10:10am - 11:10am	Concurrent Sessions
10:10am - 12:10pm	Leadership Colloquium
11:20am - 12:20pm	Concurrent Sessions
12:20pm - 1:30pm	Lunch (on your own)
1:30pm - 3:40pm	Ethnic Studies Forum
1:30pm - 2:30pm	Concurrent Sessions
2:40pm - 3:40pm	Concurrent Sessions
3:50pm - 4:50pm	Concurrent Sessions
5:00pm - 6:10pm	Keynote
6:20pm - 7:30pm	CCSS Annual Meeting and Member Meet-Up
7:30pm - 9:00pm	Social Event: Music Bingo

SATURDAY 2/27/27 - EXHIBIT HALL OPEN 10:00AM - 4:00PM

9:00am - 10:15am	Keynote
10:15am - 11:00am	Dedicated Exhibit Hall Time
11:10am - 12:10pm	Concurrent Sessions
11:10am - 12:10pm	Pre-Service/New Teacher Seminar
12:10pm - 1:30pm	Lunch (on your own) - Exhibit Hall Time
1:30pm - 2:30pm	Concurrent Sessions
1:30pm - 3:40pm	Elementary Forum
1:30pm - 3:40pm	Personal Finance Forum
2:40pm - 3:40pm	Concurrent Sessions
3:50pm - 4:50pm	Concurrent Sessions
5:30pm - 6:30pm	CCSS Awards Ceremony

SUNDAY 2/28/27

8:00am - 9:30am	Workshops
8:30am - 9:30am	Concurrent Sessions
9:40am - 10:40am	Concurrent Sessions
10:50am - 11:50am	Concurrent Sessions

STEP 1: KNOW YOUR AUDIENCE

WHAT IS YOUR BIG IDEA?

Consider submitting a proposal based on a lesson, project, or research about teaching and learning in social studies classrooms. There is also a list of potential topics you might use as inspiration.

POTENTIAL TOPICS

- Social Justice
- Educational Technology
- Informed Civic Action
- Inquiry-Based Learning
- Literacy Through Social Studies
- Specific Historical Events/People
- Mapping Communities
- Global Issues
- UN Sustainable Development Goals
- Indigenous History
- Youth Voice
- Ethnic Studies

MOST COMMON ATTENDEE JOB ROLES

- Classroom Teacher
- Department Leader
- Instructional Coach
- School/District Supervisor
- Principal/Assistant Principal
- Preservice/Graduate Student
- Teacher Preparation Faculty

STEP 2: CHOOSE A PRIMARY FOCUS AREA

SELECT A PRIMARY FOCUS AREA

- | | |
|---|---|
| ☐ Civics/Government | ☐ Global Studies |
| ☐ Economics/Financial Literacy | ☐ Multiliteracies* |
| ☐ Emerging Bilingual Support | ☐ Pedagogical Theory/Science of Learning |
| ☐ Environmental Literacy | ☐ Psychology |
| ☐ Ethnic Studies | ☐ Sociology |
| ☐ Geography | ☐ US History |
| | ☐ World History |

**Multiliteracies is a term that addresses the many theories and contexts in which we engage in literacy practices and analysis and how we are both receivers and creators of content. These practices may include traditional print literacies or the rapidly changing field of digital and social media.

SELECT TARGET AUDIENCE

- | | |
|---|--|
| ☐ Early Childhood / Elementary | ☐ TK-12 |
| ☐ Middle Level / Junior High | ☐ 6 - 12 |
| ☐ Secondary / High School | ☐ Administrator |

TIP: You may select ONE primary focus area and target audience. Be sure to select the area and target audience that most closely matches with your proposed session.

SELECT TYPE OF PRESENTATION

- 60 Minute Session
- 90 Minute Workshop (Sunday only)

STEP 3: SESSION STRAND (IF APPLICABLE)

Selecting a strand is an **OPT-IN OPTION** and **NOT REQUIRED**. You may select ONE strand and provide a narrative explaining how the session aligns with the designated strand. The reviewers will decide whether or not your session fits within the strand. Attendees will be able to search for sessions aligned with the strands. Sessions will not be sequenced or structured for attendees. Attendees will experience a more in-depth experience if they attend several sessions within a specific strand. Selecting to align with a session strand does not impact how your proposal is scored.

STRAND	NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION
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Anti-Racism
Education

Anti-racism proposals focus on decolonizing the curriculum and pedagogical practices while demonstrating that “to be antiracist is to deracialize behavior, to remove the tattooed stereotype from every racialized body.” (Kendi, 2019). Moreover, anti-racist education “is an exercise of hope, the practice of undoing and dismantling systems of oppression, the practice of freedom and of truth-telling” (Pitts, 2020). When selecting anti-racism education sessions, reviewers will look for specific ways in which the content and pedagogy reflect an anti-racist philosophy, examples of how teachers do the work of healing with students, and how teachers create spaces for these complex discussions about undoing and dismantling systems of power.

Supporting LGBTQ+
Students and Rights

LGBTQ+ proposals focus on issues pertaining to lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender students, their families, and their teachers. When selecting LGBTQ+ strand sessions, reviewers look for proposals that address representations of sexual and affectional difference, a broad understanding of diversity, free inquiry and expression, critical pedagogy, democratic teaching practices, and for proposals that encourage the creation of safer, more inclusive schools, classrooms, and communities. Additionally, proposals may focus on implementing the FAIR Act or LGBTQ+ history. (adapted from NCTE, 2019).

STEP 3: SESSION STRAND (IF APPLICABLE)

STRAND

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

Civics & Democracy

Civics and Democracy proposals focus on issues related to civic engagement at the national, state, and local levels, practices to sustain democratic principles, and ways to encourage youth to fully participate in civic practices. When selecting Civics and Democracy strand sessions, reviewers look for proposals that include specific content about civic engagement and democratic principles. Additionally, sessions can include projects and tasks that encourage youth to actively participate in democratic processes at the national, state, and local levels. This strand emphasizes the importance of youth participation in discussions about current and future policy to strengthen and build an inclusive democracy.

Social & Emotional Learning (SEL)

Social and Emotional Learning strand proposals focus on strategies, frameworks, and curricula where “all young people and adults acquire and apply the knowledge, skills, and attitudes to develop healthy identities, manage emotions and achieve personal and collective goals, feel and show empathy for others, establish and maintain supportive relationships, and make responsible and caring decisions” (CASEL). When selecting Social and Emotional Learning strand sessions, reviewers look for proposals that explicitly embed SEL practices as part of classroom culture, curricula, and processes.

Culturally Responsive & Sustaining Pedagogies

Culturally Responsive & Sustaining Pedagogies (CRP/CSP) proposals focus on issues related to building and sustaining the cultural capital youth and families bring to the school community. CRP/CSP “seeks to perpetuate and foster—to sustain—linguistic, literate, and cultural pluralism as part of the democratic project of schooling” (Paris, 2012). Reviewers look for proposals that include strategies and curricula that are humanizing and inclusive, where systems of power are named and critiqued, and where the histories and knowledge of our students, families, and communities are integrated into the classroom.

Multiliteracies & Language

Multiliteracies and Language proposals focus on the way students develop multiliteracies within the social sciences. Reviewers look for proposals that push understandings of critical literacy, inquiry, and collaborative learning, and those that integrate literacy with other sign systems and knowledge systems situated in social, historical, political, and cultural contexts. These sessions can be cross-curricular, highlighting the interdisciplinary nature of literacy and how different subjects complement each other in helping students engage with social studies. (adapted from NCTE, 2019).

STEP 3: APPLICATION ELEMENTS

These are the elements you will need to complete your conference proposal submission. Please note that ALL sessions will be 60 minutes.

SESSION DESCRIPTION

The description should be directed toward attendees and what they will learn by attending this session. Please start with an active verb such as explore, discover, receive - and avoid beginning with "This presentation will..."

TIP: It is important that the session description speaks for itself. This is what attendees will see and is the only information they will have about your session.

PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

Clearly state your goals for this session. What do you hope to accomplish?

TIP: Create reasonable objectives and be sure to start objectives with verbs.

OUTLINE AND STRATEGIES

What do you plan to do in your presentation and why? Provide a detailed summary of your presentation including:

1. Content & activities: How will you structure the session? What topics/ strategies will you use?
2. Time: How much time will be spent on each component?
3. Process: Include information about the strategies you will use to engage the participants.

TIP: Be specific. If you are going to talk about historical events or people, mention them.

Include details about texts and resources that will be shared. Identify engagement strategies by describing how and why they will be used.

CONNECTION TO CONFERENCE THEME

How does your session connect to the conference title of "**Local Roots, Global Reach.**" Also, if you are selecting a session strand (see prior page for narrative descriptions), describe how your session content and skills address the strand.

STRAND ALIGNMENT (OPTIONAL)

How does your session connect to the strand you identified? What elements of your session will add to the discussion and provide attendees with valuable content, resources, strategies, etc.?

STEP 4: APPLICATION RUBRIC

Review your application to ensure all elements are included. This rubric will be used to evaluate submissions that will be accepted.

RUBRIC CRITERIA

(4 point scale)

1. The proposal clearly addresses a topic related to the conference theme.
2. The purpose and objectives are well written and clearly describe the focus, objectives, and intended audience.
3. The presentation (content, skills, strategies) is relevant to the intended audience.
4. The proposed method for engaging the audience is thoughtful, intentional, and appropriate for the intended audience.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. How do I submit my proposal?

All proposals will be submitted via our online submission form at <https://sl.goeshow.com/ccss/annual/2027/proposal.cfm>

2. Do I have to be a CCSS member to present?

No, you do not. However, all presenters must register to attend the conference.

3. Is there a fee to submit a proposal?

No. However, there is a fee to attend the conference (discounted for lead presenters).

4. Can I submit more than one proposal?

Yes. However, it is unlikely that multiple proposals will be accepted.

5. How many presenters can I include in my proposal?

You may include as many co-presenters as you would like. However, only the lead presenter will be able to register for the conference at a discounted rate. All co-presenters pay the appropriate registration fee based on date of registration and whether or not the co-presenter is a member of CCSS.

6. Will there be audio/visual technology available?

All rooms will be equipped with an LCD projector, HDMI/VGA cable. Presenters need to bring their own speakers if necessary. Also, please bring appropriate adapters and power cords. We recommend downloading materials as a backup.

7. When do I need to complete my submission?

The deadline for submitting proposals is September 30, 2026.

8. I will be co-presenting with at least one other person. Will they get the presenter registration rate?

Only ONE presenter will be able to pay the presenter rate. All other co-presenters will need to pay the regular registration rate. When submitting your proposal, all co-presenter information must be added (name, email, bio, headshot, & job title) on the "Review Information" screen after your initial submission. Only one person needs to submit the proposal.

9. What if I will need board approval to attend and will not be able to pay by December 18th?

You can register for the conference so that we can confirm your attendance and presentation. You can select PO and explain that you are waiting on approval. Payment can be submitted at a later date.

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BY DECEMBER 18, 2026

Lead Presenter ONLY - \$65

REGULAR REGISTRATION RATES

Lead Presenter ONLY

\$120 (CCSS Member)

\$185 (Non-Member)

IMPORTANT DATES:

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PROPOSAL PREPARATION ORGANIZER

This is a session proposal organizer that is for preparation purposes only. All proposals must be submitted online for consideration. Mailed copies of this organizer will not be considered.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Acknowledgements

___ I acknowledge and understand presenters and co-presenters are required to register for the conference by December 18, 2026. Please share this information with any co-presenters.

Note: CCSS does not reimburse conference presenters for travel or hotel expenses. Presenters are responsible for providing any materials they plan to use or distribute in their presentation. Each room will have a projector and wifi available. Please bring your own speakers and additional adapters. Presenters will be billed for additional A/V needs not covered by CCSS.

___ I consent to the collection and use of my personal information, including receiving emails, for activities related to the participation in the 2027 CCSS Conference. I have also obtained the consent of all other individuals whose information I provide.

Session Title (max 12 words): _____

Target Audience for Session (Select 1):

___ Early Childhood/Elementary

___ Secondary/High School

___ TK-12

___ Administrator

___ Middle Level/Junior High

___ Other

___ 6-12

Presenter & Co-presenter Information

Name: _____

Pronouns: ___he/him ___she/her ___they/them ___other ___prefer not to say

Email: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Address: _____

Twitter: _____

Professional Job/Information:

___ Classroom Teacher

___ Education Consultant

___ Instructional Coach/TOSA

___ Postsecondary Faculty

___ School/District Administrator

___ State Education Department

___ Other

Vendor/Organization Information:

Organization: _____

Organization Address: _____

PROPOSAL PREPARATION ORGANIZER

Additional Information:

- ☐ First-time CCSS Conference Attendee
- ☐ I am interested in being more involved with CCSS (board and/or committees).
- ☐ New Career Teacher (1-5 years teaching experience)
- ☐ First-time CCSS Conference Proposal Submitter

SESSION TOPIC AREAS:

Primary Focus Area (Select 1)

- | | |
|---|---|
| ☐ Civics/Government | ☐ Global Studies |
| ☐ Economics/Financial Literacy | ☐ Multiliteracies |
| ☐ Emerging Bilingual Support | ☐ Pedagogical Theory/Science of Learning |
| ☐ Environmental Literacy | ☐ Psychology |
| ☐ Ethnic Studies | ☐ Sociology |
| ☐ Geography | ☐ US History |
| | ☐ World History |

Session Type

- ☐ 60 Minute Session
- ☐ 90 Minute Workshop (Sunday only)

Session Description (60 words max.)

Purpose and Objectives Identify no more than three objectives (1000 characters)

Outline and Strategies (1000 characters)

Connection to Conference Title (600 characters)

Connection to Session Strand (optional) (600 characters)

Teaching in the Age of Information

FEBRUARY 26-28 SAN JOSE

66th ANNUAL CONFERENCE

