

The **Carnegie Foundation** is committed to building a field that uses improvement science and networked improvement communities to solve long-standing inequities in educational outcomes. In just eight years, Carnegie's Summit has fostered a vibrant learning community of diverse educational professionals—school and district leaders; leaders of state and local education agencies, charter management organizations, and professional organizations; entrepreneurs; college and university faculty; teachers, students, and parents; and community leaders—who come together to address complex problems and issues of educational inequity.

The Summit community continues to grow, from 400 attendees at the inaugural conference in 2014 to more than 1,850 in 2021. It has also grown in scope and practice. For those new to improvement, the Summit provides opportunities to learn about the productive use of improvement principles, networks, and supportive methods and tools. For those already engaged in or studying improvement, the Summit affords opportunities to present their progress in sessions and at poster receptions. For all attendees, the Summit is a space for networking and learning about practices that result in measurable improvements and achieve ambitious goals for students.

The 2022 Summit: In Person March 27–29 at the Hilton San Diego Bayfront

In the past 18 months, improvers have helped students thrive despite the challenging circumstances of teaching and learning during the pandemic. We have collaborated as educators, community groups, and researchers to build online curricula that kept students engaged and put new ideas to the test, fixing what didn't work and learning from the experience. In short, we spent the pandemic in steady cycles of continuous improvement. The Summit is the place to share our improvement stories of what worked, what didn't, and what we learned in the process.

Building on the learning we gained from the 2020 and 2021 virtually held Summits, **our 2022 in-person conference will also offer a remote option.** We will livestream all keynotes and a selected set of sessions that are carefully designed to engage both in-person and remote attendees. These sessions will also be recorded and made available in the 2022 Summit Digital Library. Whether participating in person or in the virtual space, attendees will have the opportunity to learn, network, and interact with each other.

Educational Equity Is Our Priority

Improvement science is a rigorous, structured approach to planning and implementing change. In order to disrupt the systems and power structures that underlie inequitable outcomes, efforts must intentionally address equity. **We encourage presentations showcasing improvement approaches that explicitly focus on the pursuit of educational equity, fairness, and justice in student learning.** We will also prioritize proposals that elevate underrepresented voices and feature improvement work that has attacked long-standing disparities in students' progress in school and educational attainment.

How to Apply

Review the important dates and logistics information and submit your proposal for a session or poster presentation online via the Summit website at www.carnegiefoundation.org/SummitRFP. Proposals will be peer reviewed and selections made in order to provide the most compelling program for our diverse Summit community. For questions, please contact Summit@CarnegieFoundation.org.

IMPORTANT DATES

Thursday, August 19, 2021	Proposal Submission Deadline
Friday, October 22, 2021	Proposal Submission Notifications
Sunday–Tuesday, March 27–29, 2022	Carnegie Foundation Summit on Improvement in Education

PROPOSALS FOR SESSION PRESENTATIONS

The Carnegie Foundation seeks proposals for presentations that illustrate the best efforts in the field and provide support to those on improvement journeys. The 2022 Summit program will showcase the work of a diverse set of leaders, organizations, and networks that develop and use continuous improvement methods to advance equitable educational outcomes and system transformation.

Selected presentation sessions will be shared in a hybrid format (synchronously presented to in-person attendees and remote attendees). Presenters interested in conducting a hybrid session should design a session that would engage both in-person and remote audiences. Please note that Carnegie staff will be responsible for supporting all the technical Zoom aspects of hybrid sessions.

We invite proposals to present at the 2022 Summit that relate to one of the three Summit strands:

- ▶ Improvement Science in Practice
- ▶ Improvement Networks in Practice
- ▶ Leadership for Improvement

Improvement Science in Practice

Improvement science is an applied discipline that emphasizes innovation, rapid cycle testing in the field, and spread in order to generate learning about which changes work for whom and under what conditions. This strand illustrates improvement work that has resulted in better and more equitable outcomes for students and communities. Sessions feature the methods that led to success along with concrete takeaways to inform the improvement work of others. We encourage sessions in this strand to include the voices and experiences of those at the front lines of improvement activity who are enacting changes in their practice to advance an ambitious aim.

For the **Improvement Science in Practice** strand, we seek proposals that address one or more of the following:

- ▶ Tell a story about the work to realize a significant improvement (such as increased graduation rates) that positively impacted the lives of students through the use of improvement science. These proposals must include data and measurable results.
- ▶ Demonstrate the use of data and measurement to track progress against a well-specified aim or a specific, measurable, attainable, relevant, time-bound (SMART) goal.
- ▶ Detail the application of a particular improvement method or tool and the results generated from its use.
- ▶ Describe strategies or tools used to make variation visible and accelerate learning about which changes work, for whom, and under what conditions.
- ▶ Surface the complexities of initiating or sustaining improvement efforts, including any learning from failures or instances when things did not go as planned.
- ▶ Share how continuous improvement practices are being applied to advance equity in education.
- ▶ Describe how one or more of the six core improvement principles has shaped continuous improvement activity and advanced progress toward an aim.
- ▶ Describe how to incorporate improvement science successfully into the day-to-day practice of schools, districts, charter school organizations, or higher education institutions.

Improvement Networks in Practice

A networked approach can be a powerful strategy for accelerating the collective ability to learn and improve educational outcomes for all students. Networks in practice are communities of common accomplishment that rely on principles of improvement and use continuous improvement methods to make progress on well-specified problems. A typical feature of improvement networks is that they are strategically led by a hub—i.e., leadership team—that creates the necessary conditions for a network to develop the practical know-how needed to change systems and the resulting outcomes for students. This strand illustrates what is necessary to bring a network to life and support it in reaching its improvement goals.

For the **Improvement Networks in Practice** strand, we seek proposals that address one or more of the following:

- ▶ Share the story of how a networked approach accelerated learning and led to progress in improvement aims or measures.
- ▶ Offer measures, tools, indicators, strategies, or practices that have been used to monitor and manage network health.
- ▶ Describe network structures, processes, or tools that foster effective collaboration, a shared narrative, or a culture of collective learning within a network.
- ▶ Share strategies, tools, and technologies that allow for the spread of promising practices, including, but not limited to, a network's analytic capabilities.
- ▶ Describe practices developed or used by hubs, or leadership teams, to support the development of continuous improvement capabilities among members, including fostering mindsets needed to engage productively in networked communities.
- ▶ Describe the development of hub practices to build, manage, and sustain a network.
- ▶ Describe a network's approach to consolidating learning and managing knowledge.
- ▶ Describe a network's use of external supports to bolster its efforts (e.g., technical assistance, evaluations, etc.).
- ▶ Share how a network is advancing equity through its improvement efforts or its community.

Leadership for Improvement

Leadership plays a critical role in driving and supporting improvement. Leading improvement in a system requires the ability to shift norms, mindsets, and practices that are deeply ingrained in the culture of educational enterprises. Transforming a system requires individual leaders or leadership teams to break through the status quo and achieve new levels of performance. Such results are achieved by dismantling the system structures and processes that perpetuate inequitable student opportunities and outcomes and building new ones that support and sustain equity. Leaders must also navigate the policy environment and advocate for an improvement science approach to education reform.

For the **Leadership for Improvement** strand, we seek proposals that address one or more of the following:

- ▶ Tell the story of leadership efforts to bring about or sustain systematic improvement across a school, district, region, or other enterprise, toward a specific aspirational goal(s), to include how improvement principles shaped the pursuit of this transformation, the lessons that were learned through the process, and the results that were achieved.
- ▶ Describe how to intentionally create the cultural conditions that cultivate the dispositions, mindsets, and skills of the improvement community to effectively pursue continuous improvement toward equity in educational systems.
- ▶ Detail strategies for building improvement capability within systems, such as shifting to an improvement science approach to change, building will and skill in this approach, and deepening and sustaining engagement in the work of improvement.
- ▶ Demonstrate how the use of measurement and data drives improvement and shifts systemic culture from measurement for accountability to measurement for improvement.
- ▶ Explore the lessons learned as leaders for improvement from both successes and failures.
- ▶ Showcase federal, state, and/or local policy that advances improvement science in education.
- ▶ Advocate for an approach(es) to creating a policy environment that is hospitable to the ideas of improvement science and networks.

CHECKLIST FOR SESSION PRESENTATION PROPOSALS

Summit Program Strand

Select the strand below that best reflects your session topic:

- Improvement Science in Practice
- Improvement Networks in Practice
- Leadership for Improvement

Session Title (≤95 characters)

Session Description (≤100 words)

If accepted, this content will inform the text to describe the session in the Summit program. Please be sure that the title and session description accurately reflect the content of the presentation.

Session Format

Please indicate if you are interested in presenting a hybrid session that will be given in person at the Summit while also livestreamed to remote attendees.

Learning Objectives

List at least two learning objectives or two key facts, points, or ideas that attendees will take away from your session—i.e., “After this session, attendees will be able to ...”

Elaborated Session Description (≤500 words)

Refer to the strand description and detail how your proposal addresses element(s) in that strand. Be sure to indicate which specific elements your proposal addresses.

Session Design (≤200 words)

Please outline your session design. Examples of Summit session designs include, but are not limited to, didactic sessions or panel discussions followed by Q&A, interactive workshops, with multiple hands-on activities, case studies, and simulations.

Areas of Focus

Please select up to three areas of focus for your session:

- Data and Measurement
- Educator Development
- Equity, Diversity, and Belonging
- Higher Education
- Improvement Capability
- Instruction and Assessment
- Spread and Scale
- Student Attainment
- System Transformation

Presenter Information

Name, job title, organization, email address, and phone number must be provided for each presenter. Please be sure to indicate who the main presenter contact is by listing that presenter's information first.

NOTE: There is no maximum number of presenters in a session, but only **two** presenters for in-person sessions or **three** presenters for hybrid sessions will receive the reduced Summit speaker registration rate of **\$695**.

All session presenters are responsible for their own travel and accommodation arrangements and expenses.

CHECKLIST FOR POSTER PRESENTATION PROPOSALS

Posters are an integral part of the Summit experience and represent a wide array of improvement efforts. Poster sessions will be scheduled during the Summit, beginning with a Welcome and Poster Reception on the first evening of the Summit.

Poster Title (≤15 words)

Poster Description (≤100 words)

Aim/Goal of the Improvement Work (≤100 words)

Data Assessing Progress Toward the Aim (≤100 words)

Area of Focus

Please select one area of focus for your poster:

- Data and Measurement
- Educator Development
- Equity, Diversity, and Belonging
- Higher Education
- Improvement Capability
- Instruction and Assessment
- Spread and Scale
- Student Attainment
- System Transformation

Poster Presenter Information

Name, job title, organization, email address, and phone number must be provided for each presenter. Please be sure to indicate who the main poster presenter is by listing that presenter's contact information first.

Poster presenters will be responsible for the standard Summit registration rate of **\$985** as well as their own travel and accommodation arrangements and expenses.