



**Carnegie Foundation**  
for the Advancement of Teaching

## **2023 Carnegie Foundation Summit on Improvement in Education 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference Request for Session and Poster Presentation Proposals**

Deadline to Submit Proposals: August 31, 2022, 11:59 p.m.  
2023 Summit Dates: April 23–25, 2023 in San Diego, CA and online

The **Carnegie Foundation** works to catalyze transformational change in education so that every student has the opportunity to live a healthy, dignified, and fulfilling life. In service of this mission, we are committed to building a field that uses improvement science and networked improvement communities to solve long-standing inequities in educational outcomes. Marking its tenth anniversary this year, the Summit on Improvement in Education aims to propel and support a future in which equity-focused continuous improvement occurs every day in thousands of educational settings.

Carnegie's Summit has fostered a vibrant learning community of diverse education professionals – leaders of schools, districts, state and local education agencies, charter management organizations and professional organizations; entrepreneurs; college and university faculty; elementary and secondary school teachers – as well as students, families 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 1,800 attendees in 2022. 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 demonstrate impact for students.

### **Educational Equity Is Our Priority**

Improvement science is a rigorous, structured approach to planning and implementing change. To address inequities in our educational system, the systems and power structures that perpetuate inequitable outcomes must be disrupted. **We encourage presentations showcasing improvement approaches that explicitly focus on the pursuit of educational equity, fairness, and justice in student learning. In this 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary conference program, we seek to share and celebrate robust examples of improvement science and networks that have made significant impact on students and educational systems over time.** Learning from those examples and how they are organized is critical as we confront the urgency of addressing the stark inequities highlighted by the disruptions of the last two years. We will also prioritize proposals that elevate underrepresented voices.

## The 2023 Summit: In-person at the Hilton San Diego Bayfront with remote attendance option

Building on learning from two fully virtual Summits and the 2022 event that welcomed both in-person and remote attendees, **our 2023 conference will offer both in-person and remote attendance options.** We will livestream all keynotes and a select set of sessions that are carefully designed to engage both in-person and remote attendees. In addition, all attendees will be able to access a set of pre-recorded sessions that will be available to participants in a digital library. Whether participating in person or in the virtual space, attendees will have the opportunity to learn, network, and interact with each other.

### How to Apply

Review the important dates and logistics information below and submit your proposal for a session or poster presentation online via the Summit website at [www.carnegiefoundation.org/SummitRFP](http://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.

IMPORTANT DATES	
August 31, 2022, 11:59 p.m.	Proposal Submission Deadline
October 15, 2022	Proposal Submission Notifications
April 23–25, 2023	Carnegie Foundation Summit on Improvement in Education, San Diego, CA Poster presenter set-up is Sunday, April 23, 2023.

### Session Presentation Proposals

The Carnegie Foundation seeks proposals for presentations that illustrate the best efforts in the field and provide support to those on improvement journeys. The 2023 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.

All presenters should plan to be in attendance in San Diego. A selection of these sessions will be presented to a hybrid audience (synchronously presented to in-person attendees and streamed live to a remote audience), with options for remote attendees to engage virtually through interactive chat functions (icebreakers, discussions, Q&A) and simultaneous, self-directed actions (i.e., responding to reflective questions, completing activities, etc.). Presenters interested in conducting a hybrid session should design a session that would engage both in-person and remote audiences. Please note that a member of your presenting team will be expected to interact with your remote attendees, while our Carnegie staff will be responsible for supporting all the technical aspects of hybrid sessions. Sessions that will be presented for an in-person audience only will be invited to record their presentations in advance of the Summit so that they may be made available for on-demand viewing by all attendees as part of a digital library.

We invite proposals to present at the 2023 Summit that relate to one of three Summit strands, described in more detail below:

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

We anticipate that each strand will highlight improvement activity that is realizing impact across a robust set of problems and contexts. We particularly encourage sessions that share continuous improvement applied in the areas of:

- pK-12 student attainment outcomes. For example, continuous improvement efforts that:
  - Support middle-grades readiness for high school success.
  - Support students staying "on-track" to high school graduation.
  - Support post-secondary planning and productive pathways.
- Postsecondary innovation. For example, higher education innovations that utilize improvement methods in their efforts to:
  - Increase rates of entry, persistence, completion, and success for underrepresented students.
  - Provide accessible, affordable, and career-aligned learning opportunities.
  - Increase demand for new, community- and experiential-based models of secondary learning.
- Transformational secondary school learning. For example, approaches that:
  - Leverage place-based, cross-sector civic partnerships (encompassing city government, schools, school systems, community and cultural institutions, employers, and governmental agencies).
  - Support high-quality, community-based experiential learning at scale.
  - Provide high school students with validated "credentials" for knowledge and skills developed across a wide range of contexts.

## **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. Work that involves students, with student presenters is especially encouraged.

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.
- Describe how having an improvement stance impacted the response to school closures and/or reopening due to the COVID pandemic or is shaping learning acceleration efforts.

## **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 and their leadership teams to break through the status quo and achieve new levels of performance with agility. 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 are also instrumental in advocating for an improvement science approach to education reform as they navigate the policy environment.

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 and sustain systematic improvement across a school, district, region, or other enterprise, toward a specific aspirational goal(s), to include: how improvement principles informed the pursuit of this transformation, the lessons that were learned through the process, and evidence of the impact that resulted
- Describe how to intentionally create the cultural conditions that cultivate a shift in the dispositions, mindsets, and skills of the improvement community to embed a continuous improvement approach toward equity in educational systems.
- Detail strategies for building improvement capability system-wide, including both technical skills in improvement science, as well as adaptive capacity around the human side of change (e.g., building will and skill in this approach and deepening and sustaining engagement in the work of improvement).
- Promote meaningful ways of collecting the voices of users and ensuring that all stakeholders, particularly of students and families, are engaged in the improvement process.
- Demonstrate how the use of measurement and data drive improvement and shift systemic culture from measurement for accountability to measurement for improvement.
- Explore the lessons learned from both successes and failures in leading system-level improvement.
- 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.

## Session Proposal Checklist

### 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 (≤90 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 the delivery format(s) for which the session should be considered. Sessions accepted into the Summit program will be delivered in one of two ways:

- At the conference for an in-person audience only. *Presenters will be asked to submit a recording of their session in advance that will be made available to the remote audience during the conference and as part of a digital library for all participants after the conference.*
- At the conference for a hybrid audience of in-person and remote attendees. *This select subset of sessions will be streamed for remote attendees and recorded live, but not prerecorded.*

### 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 (≤700 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. Please also briefly summarize any results your improvement effort has realized, whether progress towards a defined aim or on an intermediate measure.

### 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.

### Area of Focus

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

- COVID Response and Acceleration of Student Learning
- Data and Measurement
- Educator Development
- Equity, Diversity, and Belonging
- Higher Education
- Improvement Capability
- Instruction and Assessment
- Postsecondary Innovation
- Spread and Scale
- Student and Staff Social Emotional Wellbeing
- Student Attainment
- System Transformation Toward Continuous Improvement
- Transformational Secondary School Learning

### 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.*

## Poster Presentation Proposals

Poster sessions will be scheduled during the Summit, beginning with a Welcome and Poster Reception on the first evening. Poster presentations that are accepted for the program are also strongly encouraged to record a short introduction to their poster that will be made accessible to remote participants and through the Summit Digital Library. The Summit poster application requires the following information: poster title, poster description, area of focus, aim/goal of the improvement work, data assessing progress toward the aim, and presenter information.

The submission deadline for poster presentation proposals is **August 31, 2022, 11:59 p.m.** Please submit your proposal online via the Summit website at [www.carnegiefoundation.org/SummitRFP](http://www.carnegiefoundation.org/SummitRFP).

**Poster presenters should plan to be available for set-up on Sunday, April 23, 2023.**

## Poster Presentation Proposal Checklist

**Poster Title (≤90 characters)**

**Poster Description (≤100 words)**

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

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

**Data Assessing Progress Toward the Aim (≤100 words)**

**Area of Focus**

Please select an area of focus for your poster:

- COVID Response and Acceleration of Student Learning
- Data and Measurement
- Educator Development
- Equity, Diversity, and Belonging
- Higher Education
- Improvement Capability
- Instruction and Assessment
- Postsecondary Innovation
- Spread and Scale
- Student and Staff Social Emotional Wellbeing
- Student Attainment
- System Transformation Toward Continuous Improvement
- Transformational Secondary School Learning

**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. *NOTE: There is no maximum number of presenters for a poster, but only one presenter will receive the reduced Summit poster registration rate of \$838.*

## Summit Logistics Information

### Summit Registration

For sessions presented to in-person attendees only, **up to two** presenters will receive the Summit speaker registration rate of **\$695**. For livestreamed hybrid sessions, **up to three** presenters will receive the Summit speaker registration rate of **\$695**. For posters, **one presenter** will receive the Summit poster registration rate of **\$838**.

### Travel and Lodging

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

### Questions?

Please contact the Summit team at [Summit@carnegiefoundation.org](mailto:Summit@carnegiefoundation.org).