

The Illinois State Board of Education is inviting CTE educators throughout the state to share their expertise and insights at the ISBE Career Connections Conference. This conference gives educators within the Illinois CTE community the opportunity to collaborate with peers, providing space for meaningful engagement and networking. We welcome innovative ideas, best practices, and valuable experiences for submission using <u>this online form</u> through January 30th, 2024. Proposals for consideration will be reviewed by our conference planning committee using the <u>Call for Proposal Rubric</u>.

The 2024 ISBE Career Connections Conference will be focusing on the following areas of focus: Curriculum, Instruction, DEI, Educator Growth, and Policy into Practice. Below are short descriptions of each that provide educators with information when planning for their proposal.

CURRICULUM	Proposals should focus on strategies or best practices that reference innovative teaching methods, experiential learning opportunities, project- based learning, or any approach that goes beyond traditional classroom instruction. Presentations may include discussions about developing tailored materials, lessons, or online resources catering to diverse learning styles and abilities.
INSTRUCTION	Proposals should explore effective instructional practices and pedagogical approaches that enhance student outcomes and reference topics such as classroom management, differentiation, and the use of technology. Presentations may include strategies, techniques, and methods that educators use to deliver content and facilitate student learning.
DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION	Proposals should address strategies to eliminate achievement gaps, promote inclusivity, and ensure all students have the resources to succeed. Presentations may include discussions and activities that illustrate how teachers can ensure that students have equal access to high-quality educational opportunities, regardless of their background, abilities, or socioeconomic status.
EDUCATOR GROWTH	Proposals should explore innovative approaches to teacher training, mentoring, and ongoing professional development. Educator growth focuses on how schools and communities can support the development and retention of teachers and other educational professionals. Presentations may specifically address strategies to support newer teachers in enhancing their knowledge, skills, and effectiveness in the classroom.
POLICY INTO PRACTICE	Proposals should explore the intersection of educational policy and classroom practices by sharing strategies and resources that educators can use to navigate policy changes and improve educational outcomes. Presentations should aim to provide examples of how educators have worked to understand educational policies and regulations to support their practice within schools and classrooms.