



PROPOSAL SUBMISSION GUIDELINES



The National ESEA Conference is an annual project of the National Association of ESEA State Program Administrators (NAESPA) and the only conference focused entirely on federal education programs for disadvantaged students.

The Conference Planning Committee invites all education experts, researchers, authors, and successful practitioners with information of interest to the ESEA audience to submit a presentation proposal.

The following Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) and related programs serve as the cornerstone for all sessions and programming of the National ESEA Conference:

- **Title I, Part A** - Education for the Disadvantaged
- **Title I, Part C** - Education of Migratory Children
- **Title I, Part D** - Neglected & Delinquent
- **Title II, Part A** - Supporting Effective Instruction
- **Title III, Part A** - English Learners & Immigrant Education
- **Title IV, Part A** - Student Support & Academic Enrichment
- **Title IV, Part B** - 21st Century Community Learning Centers
- **Title V, Part B** - Rural Education Initiative
- **Title VI, Part A** - Indian, Native Hawaiian, and Alaska Native Education
- **Title VII, Part B** - Education for Homeless Children and Youth (McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act)
- **IDEA** - Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (Special Education)

PRESENTER BENEFITS

- Complimentary full conference registration for each accepted non-promotional presenter (maximum four)
- Recognition as an education expert
- Connection with new audiences
- Access to all session videos for three months after the conference
- Downloadable copy of your session video available upon request

This Year's Theme:

FOCUS ON IMPROVEMENT

February 19-21, 2025
Austin Convention Center
500 E. Cesar Chavez St.
Austin, TX 78701

IMPORTANT DATES

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

- Proposal Submissions Open

Monday, June 17, 2024

- Proposal Submissions Close

Wednesday, August 28, 2024

- Notification of Provisional Acceptance or Decline. Presentation decisions of the Conference Committee are final and no appeals are available.
(See page 10 for details)

Monday, September 16, 2024

- Terms & Conditions Return Deadline
- Deadline for promotional presenters to purchase booth space or registration(s)

Sunday, December 1, 2024

- Deadline for presenter change requests
-

SESSION FORMATS



The 2025 National ESEA Conference is a hybrid event, and we're pleased to offer multiple session delivery formats. If your session is selected, every effort will be made to honor your session format preference. In building the conference schedule, we want to assure there are plenty of offerings for both attendee types in a variety of subjects. **If selected, workshop presenters must be willing and available to present either in-person or virtually, as assigned, for the overall benefit of the Conference.** Final determination of the session delivery format will be announced on August 28th, when Terms & Conditions are issued. Once accepted, requests to change from in-person to virtual or vice-versa cannot be accommodated. All presenters on a session must present in the same delivery format.

IN-PERSON PROMOTIONAL / SPONSORED SESSIONS

All sponsored session presenters are required to travel to Austin, TX and present in-person.

NEW THIS YEAR! All sessions are 1 hour long and set up with theater-style seating.

The Conference Offers Three Types of Sessions	<h2>HYBRID LECTURE</h2> <p>Standard sit-and-get style presentation, with presenters in-person in Austin, Texas.</p>	<h2>IN-PERSON WORKSHOP</h2> <p>Sessions involve an interactive component with audience, such as opportunities to brainstorm with a partner. The presenter(s) are in-person in Austin, Texas.</p>	<h2>VIRTUAL WORKSHOP</h2> <p>Sessions involve an interactive component with audience, such as opportunities to brainstorm with a partner (utilizing Zoom breakout rooms or polls). The presenter(s) are using Zoom.</p>
Hybrid Component	Lecture sessions will be presented live in Austin, simultaneously live-streamed to the virtual audience, and recorded for later viewing.	In-person Workshops will be presented live to ONLY in-person attendees, and will be recorded for later viewing for all audiences.	Virtual Workshops will be presented live to ONLY on-line attendees, and will be recorded for later viewing for all audiences.
Approximate Room Capacity	200 or more (subject to change)	200 or fewer (subject to change)	200 or fewer (subject to change)
Available AV for Presenters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PC computer with PowerPoint software • LCD Projector • Screens appropriate for room size • Sound capability for video • Podium or lavalier microphone • Wi-Fi 		Virtual workshop presenters will need to provide their own equipment. They may either present off-site from a remote location or travel to Austin. A virtual presentation room will be available for use at the Austin Convention Center and must be reserved in advance.
Stage Set	Raised stage Head table with chairs for each presenter Standing podium stage right		Note that one facilitator is allowed for virtual sessions without paid registration.

CONFERENCE THEME



FOCUS ON IMPROVEMENT

This conference serves as a valuable reminder to prioritize the continual progress towards improvement. It urges us to make a conscious effort to exchange effective strategies and best practices that empower us as educators to reshape the educational opportunities for children.

This year's theme implores us to be deliberate in identifying our constant areas of focus, whether refining instruction to elevate student achievement or self-improvement. Having a clear focus on our student's academic growth and an unyielding belief in the possibility of improvement, we approach this Conference as an invaluable opportunity to enhance our collective capacity to make today better than yesterday and build improved tomorrows for our students and those dedicated to their service.

"This was a fabulous conference and I was thrilled to be a part of it. Thank you for the support you provide to states, schools, and districts across the country."

- 2024 National ESEA Conference Presenter

"Thank you for including me in your lineup of speakers during the conference. We made some powerful connections with committed educators from across the country. It's such an inspiring experience, being at a conference like that!"

- 2024 National ESEA Conference Presenter (Sponsored Session)

"We had a wonderful experience, presenting virtually at the ESEA conference."

- 2024 National ESEA Conference Virtual Presenter

SESSION CATEGORIES & TOPICS

All sessions are grouped into three overarching categories: Instruction, Leadership & Policy

Within the three categories listed above, topics of interest to the Conference Committee include:

- Academic Standards and Assessment
- Asset Based Needs Assessment/Evaluation/Monitoring
- Children in Foster Care
- College Readiness
- Cultural Diversity
- Data-driven Decision-making
- Differentiated Instruction
- Digital Learning
- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
- Early Childhood Education
- Effective Leaders
- Elementary Education
- English Learners
- Equitable Services to Private Schools
- Equity and Excellence
- ESEA Success Stories
- Evidence-based Practices
- Indigenous Student /Tribal Support
- Learning Delay/Unfinished Learning
- Legislative, Regulatory, and Fiscal Issues
- Mathematics
- McKinney-Vento & Students Experiencing Homelessness
- Migrant Education
- Multi-tiered Systems of Support
- National Distinguished School (Prior Year Awardee)
- Neglected/Delinquent Youth
- Neuroscience
- Parent, Family, and Community Engagement
- Professional Learning
- Program Implementation and Evaluation
- Public School Academies (Charter Schools)
- Reading and Writing/Literacy
- School Climate and Culture
- School Improvement
- Secondary Education
- Social-Emotional Learning for Educators, Family, and Community
- Special Education
- STEM/STEAM
- Well-rounded Education

The session schedule is developed to maintain diversity and a balance of session topics throughout the Conference.

Date and time assignments are made for the benefit of the overall schedule and are not negotiable.

CONFERENCE POLICIES & PRESENTATION DETAILS



Non-Promotional Requirement for Standard Sessions

Standard presentation proposals cannot include commercial references.

Only proposals that do NOT include one or more presenters associated with organizations that offer products or services to the ESEA market will be considered as a standard, non-promotional session. Non-promotional sessions must be submitted through the standard (not promotional) proposal submission process.

Commercial Promotion Allowed Only in Sponsored Sessions

Presentation proposals that reference commercially available products or services and/or include one or more presenters with commercial affiliations must be identified in the proposal and must be submitted through the promotional (not standard) proposal submission process. All selected commercial presentations will be identified as Sponsored Sessions and will be displayed with the organization's logo. All sponsored presentations will take place in-person.

Registration

Standard Sessions

All accepted presenters (**maximum four per session**) receive a complimentary full Conference registration at the time the Terms & Conditions are accepted. Do not purchase conference registration prior to learning the acceptance status of your proposal.

Sponsored Sessions

There is no fee to submit a proposal for a Sponsored Session; however, companies whose Promotional Proposals are accepted must have a paid-in-full exhibit space or purchase a full Conference registration for each of the presenters by September 15th (maximum of four presenters per session).

Hotel Reservations

Do not reserve a hotel room prior to learning the acceptance status of your proposal.

A limited number of hotel rooms are set aside specifically for presenters and may be reserved and purchased once registrations (or exhibit space, if the session is promotional) are paid in full.

Presenter Substitutions

Complimentary Conference registrations are non-transferrable.

If a presenter change is necessary, a written request must be submitted before December 1st, 2024 (form available beginning August 28) and reviewed by the Conference Planning Committee.

If approved, new Terms & Conditions agreement(s) will be issued to the new presenter(s). Effective December 1st, 2024, complimentary presenter registrations are no longer available. If the substitute presenter is not approved, the presentation may be cancelled.

Cancellations and Refunds

Presenters are subject to the same cancellation and refund policies as those that apply to all attendees. Additional information is available on the presenter policies webpage.

CONFERENCE POLICIES & PRESENTATION DETAILS (CONTINUED)

Book Sales and Author Signings

Presenters who have authored books may have the opportunity to participate in a book signing during the Conference. Details about author signings and book sales will be provided after sessions have been finalized.

Session Videos

All sessions at the National ESEA Conference, without exception, are recorded for after-conference viewing by attendees. Each presenter will receive complimentary access to their session recording and all Conference session videos for a three-month period.

Presenter Acceptance

Each presenter in a proposal selected for the Conference must agree to the official Presenter Terms & Conditions (see page 11) which contains all formal aspects of their presentation.

Presenters Limited to One Session

Presenters may submit multiple proposals if desired, however, each presenter who is selected to present is limited to speaking on only one session.

Scheduling

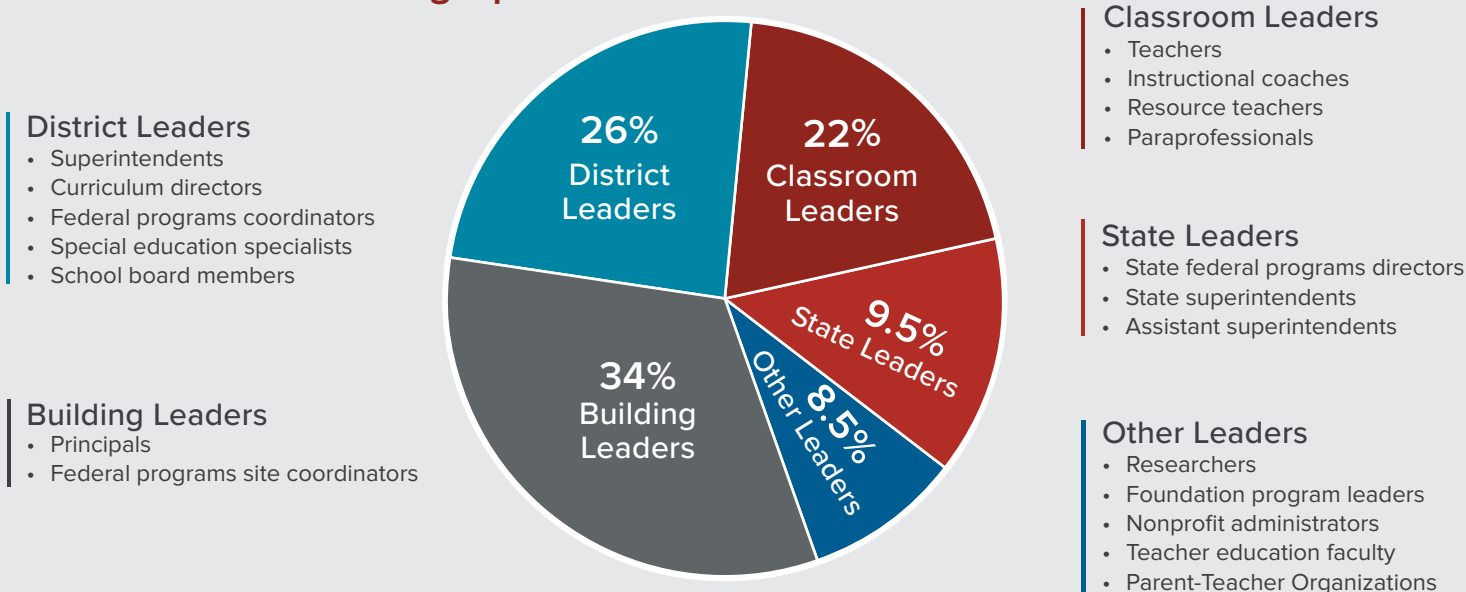
Presentations will be scheduled for the overall benefit of the Conference. If selected, presenters must be willing and available to present at the date and time assigned to them.

Proposals selected by the Conference Committee must be presented as described in the proposal process with the same title and description.

Audience

Attendees at the National ESEA Conference represent many different federal programs perspectives, and the Conference Planning Committee selects sessions to appeal to each group in rough correlation to the average percentage of attendees in each demographic shown below:

2024 Attendee Demographics





SUBMITTING A PROPOSAL STEP-BY-STEP

All proposals to be considered by the Committee must be submitted **NO LATER** than 5:00 PM Eastern Daylight Time on Friday, June 17, 2024

1. Read this Proposal Submission Guidelines document thoroughly to ensure you clearly understand all requirements and benefits of presenting at the National ESEA Conference.

Only submit a proposal if you can agree to all included Terms & Conditions.

2. Identify Your Proposal Type:

Standard Proposal - The proposal is free of commercial content and does not include one or more presenters associated with organizations that offer products or services to the ESEA market.

Promotional/Sponsored Proposals - The proposal includes commercial content and/or one or more presenters associated with organizations that offer products or services to the ESEA market.

3. **Standard Proposal**
- Log in to your individual user account at www.ESEAnetwork.org, or create a new account, if you don't already have one.

Promotional/Sponsored Proposal
- Log in to your company account at www.ESEAnetwork.org, or create a new company account, if you don't already have one.

The system will populate the first presenter information with the name of the account holder who is submitting this proposal. If you are submitting the proposal on behalf of someone else, be sure to change this information to reflect the accurate presenter names and contact details.

If you want your assistant to receive notices about the proposal, include their contact information as your Account Manager (located under the "If someone else will manage your account" area) within your account Dashboard Contact Details section.

4. From either your user or company account Dashboard, select "2025 National ESEA Conference," and scroll down to "Presentations."

CONTINUED ON FOLLOWING PAGES →

5. Between now and Friday, June 17, use the Manage Proposals button to “begin a new proposal”.
(or select "continue" next to the title of your unfinished proposal).

Please provide the following information for each proposal:

Proposed Presentation Characteristics

- Describe the concept for your presentation, including the relevance for this Conference. (max 1,000 characters, including spaces)
- ✦ • Select session format: Lecture or Workshop. (See page 2 for descriptions)
- Describe why your proposal is best suited for lecture or workshop delivery.
- ✦ • Select which Conference category (Instruction, Leadership, or Policy) your proposed session addresses.
- ✦ • Select the topic (from the list on page 4) that best describes the focus of your proposed session. You may choose one additional focus topic if appropriate, though doing so does not increase your chances of acceptance.
- Select all federal education title programs that apply. (See page 1 for title descriptions)
- Explain the research base and data used. (max 1,000 characters, including spaces)
- ✦ • Identify the specific successful federally funded school(s) and/or district(s) highlighted in your session, if applicable.

TIP: Use the buttons throughout the proposal submission process to review, revise, and save your information.

Session Details

Details needed if your proposal is accepted:

- ✦ **Presentation title** (max 90 characters, including spaces)
- *do not include* "Focus on Improvement" in your title.
- ✦ **Presentation description** (max 1,000 characters, including spaces)
- should motivate people to attend.

Presenter introductions (max 800 characters, including spaces)
- brief description of each presenter (used onsite by the Session Host to introduce your presentation team to the audience)

Contact information

- provide the website or email address attendees may use to obtain more information after the Conference
- include your social media handle: Twitter, Instagram, and/or Facebook

Carefully review audio-visual inclusions (listed on page 2)



If your proposal is selected, the starred items (✦) will make up the Session Details attendees will use to learn more about you and your session at the conference.

TIP: You may return at a later time to complete the information if you wish.

Access the unfinished proposal through the Conference section of your Dashboard when logged in to your account on ESEAnetwork.org.

Proposed Presenters

Each session may have up to four presenters. Reminder: Each presenter is limited to speaking on only one session. Each presenter included on a proposal must have a fully completed free user account on the ESEA Network website. Proposals including presenters without a user account will not be accepted. All of the fields below must be completed for each presenter.

- ✦ • Name, Title, Organization
- Mailing Address, Phone, Email, Social Media Handles
- Presenter Expertise on this Topic (max 300 characters) - included in the online presenter listings if your session is selected
- Recent Presentation Experience – list conference, year, session title
- Speaking Reference – name, phone, and email of someone with direct knowledge of your presentation skills
- ✦ • Photo – high resolution (jpg format at least 500px w&h) for use online – close-up, head shots are most effective
- Honorarium Requested – most presenters are not paid, but requests will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis

6. Agree to the Terms & Conditions and select the blue "Submit Final Proposal" button when your proposal is 100% finished.

Once a proposal is submitted, changes are not permitted without Committee approval.

YOU DID IT!

The following page describes the proposal grading process and acceptance notification timeline.

PROPOSAL DO'S & DON'TS



Do

- Do submit original content.
- Do craft your responses to the proposal questions offline and edit until you are happy with the results.
- Do pay close attention to the character limits identified, continuing to edit until within the requirement.
- Do convert any offline work to a simple text editor format before pasting into the proposal fields.
- Do carefully review the audiences and topics of interest and select appropriately.
- Do begin your proposal early and submit it before the deadline.
- Do include all co-presenters (up to four) with your proposal.

Don't

- **Don't** submit outdated content or the same proposal you submitted previously.
- **Don't** submit "off the top of your head" language in this highly competitive process.
- **Don't** paste from Microsoft Word without clearing formatting, as it can add "hidden" characters that may translate incorrectly once submitted.
- **Don't** use abbreviations or acronyms, as graders may not understand your intent.
- **Don't** target the broadest audience or the most topic areas, as this will not increase your chances of acceptance.
- **Don't** wait until the last minute.
No extensions are granted, even for very good reasons.

LATE PROPOSALS ARE NOT ACCEPTED – NO EXCEPTIONS

SELECTION PROCESS

- All proposals submitted will be reviewed by a committee of federal education programs professionals from across the country in a highly competitive two-part process during July and August.
- Decisions are based on an averaged proposal score from multiple committee graders, as well as a balance of critical topic areas.
- Selection as a presenter in a prior year does not help or hinder your chances of selection.
- Proposals are graded by the Conference Planning Committee based solely on the information provided through this submission process.

Grading Criteria - Multiple committee members will grade each proposal using this scoring method:

- Proposal focuses on a key area of interest for Conference attendees, aligns with the Conference theme, Focus on Improvement, by including timely and meaningful content. (0-10 points)
- Proposal highlights current, specific successful federally funded schools or districts OR an original research project, theory, or trend in education that aligns with the scope of the Conference topics. (0-10 points)
- Research base listed is appropriate for the topic, and uses appropriate citations. (0-10 points)
- Content is appropriate for the identified audience. (0-5 points)
- Presenter(s) has relevant expertise and speaking experience for this topic. (0-10 points)
- Proposal has a descriptive title, clearly stated purpose, provides correct information and thorough content, and incorporates findings (where applicable) and implications for the field. (0-10 points)
- Bonus points are available at the discretion of the grader based on exceptional ideas, including applicability across ESEA programs and/or to the Conference theme: Focus on Improvement, or the overall quality of the application submission. (0-5 points)

Notifications on August 28, 2024

On Wednesday, August 28, Show Management will send email notifications in two categories:

- To applicants and individual presenters whose sessions have been provisionally accepted, with instructions for converting the presentation from "provisional" to "accepted."
- To applicants whose sessions have been declined.

The Committee's selection decision is final. No contact with Committee members outside of this submission process is permitted.

Changing Your Presentation's Status From Provisional to Accepted

Presenters with a "provisional" session will be asked to review and agree to the official Terms & Conditions. Each presenter listed on a proposal must agree to the Terms & Conditions by Monday, September 16th for the proposal to be "accepted." If the required documentation is not received by the due date, the proposal will be declined and another qualified proposal will be selected in its place.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR QUESTIONS, CONTACT THE NATIONAL ESEA CONFERENCE STAFF
MONDAY - FRIDAY | 10:00AM-7:00PM EASTERN | 800-256-6452 | CONFERENCE@ESEANETWORK.ORG**

SAMPLE IN-PERSON STANDARD PRESENTER TERMS & CONDITIONS (SPONSORED SESSIONS HAVE A SIMILAR T&C)

Joe Sample, Speaker, has been tentatively selected to present at the 2025 National ESEA Conference, under the following Terms and Conditions.

EVENT DETAILS

EVENT: 2025 National ESEA Conference

February 19-21, 2025

HOST: National Association of ESEA State Program Administrators (NAESPA)

BACKGROUND: The National ESEA Conference is an annual project of the National Association of ESEA State Program Administrators (NAESPA) and the largest conference focused on federal education programs for disadvantaged students.

PRESENTATION DETAILS

Title: Example Session Title

Description: The session description is the same as was entered in the field for inclusion in the online session schedule. Listing it in the Terms & Conditions ensures that the session proposed is the session to be presented.

Authorized Speakers: Joe Sample-Speaker, Jane Presenter – [This will include anyone who has a completed presenter profile associated with the original proposal.]

This presentation is only confirmed after all authorized speakers have individually accepted the Terms & Conditions.

PRESENTATION LOGISTICS

Date: Thursday, February 20, 2025

Presentation Time: 2:00pm – 3:00pm

Speaker Set Up Time: 1:30pm – 2:00pm

Location:

Austin Convention Center
500 E. Cesar Chavez St.
Austin, TX 78701

Room Name: Room 205/207

Session Type: In-Person Workshop

Maximum Audience Capacity: 200

Stage Set: Standing Podium

Equipment Provided: PC computer with PowerPoint software, LCD Projector, screens appropriate for room size, sound capability for video, microphone.

Speaker Ready Room: At least two hours prior to your scheduled session time, one of the presenters of your session will bring the presentation and associated materials on a thumb drive or external storage device with them to the Speaker Ready Room. Cloud storage may also be accessed from the Speaker Ready Room. Staff will ensure all presentation slides and materials are uploaded properly.

There is free Wi-Fi available in the conference center, however, this will not support video streaming or other high bandwidth requirements during your session.

SPEAKER BENEFITS

Joe Sample will receive the following benefits as a conference presenter. All other expenses incurred in conjunction with this presentation not specifically identified below, including travel and hotel accommodations, are the responsibility of the speaker.

- Complimentary conference registration
- Downloadable copy of session recording available when requested and access to all session recordings for three months.

AUTHOR CONNECTION

If you and/or members of your presentation team are authors, there may be opportunities to promote your book(s) during the Conference. If so, books or other materials may only be sold in designated areas. Authors will be contacted by Show Management closer to the event.

USE OF VIDEO RECORDING AND PHOTOGRAPHY

By participating in the 2025 National ESEA Conference, Joe Sample acknowledges and agrees to grant Show Management the right to record, film, live stream, photograph, or capture the session and Speaker likeness in any media now available or hereafter developed and to distribute, broadcast, use, or otherwise globally to disseminate, in perpetuity, such media without any further approval from Speaker or any payment to Speaker. This grant to Show Management includes, but is not limited to, the right to edit such media, the right to use the media alone or together with other information, for example:

- In promotional materials for this or future ESEA Network professional development programs.
- As part of the professional development offerings at www.ESEAnetwork.org, viewable via a password-protected, closed, streaming video environment.

CONTENT CONSISTENCY

The speaker agrees that the content presented at the conference will be the same as that approved in their proposal and listed in the Session Description.

HANDOUT MATERIALS

Speaker agrees to provide all presentation supplementary materials for attendee access, by uploading electronic documents as directed. Any physical materials shipped to the conference venue will not be accepted.

CONFERENCE CONDUCT

The National ESEA Conference is dedicated to providing an inclusive experience for all participants, regardless of race, religion, gender, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, ability, physical appearance, age or other marginalized affiliation. During the conference, all participants are expected to behave with common courtesy and civility; conduct themselves in a businesslike, ethical, and appropriate manner; and avoid engaging in or facilitating any discriminatory or harassing behavior.

PUBLIC HEALTH IMPACTS

The health and safety of all Conference participants is our highest priority. Presenters whose proposals are selected for inclusion in-person at the Conference must be willing and available to adhere to any and all health and safety requirements in place at the time of the Conference as specified by Show Management. However, in-person presenters whose proposals are selected for inclusion in the Conference must be willing to adjust their delivery format in the event that Show Management determines circumstances require a shift to an entirely virtual event.

NATIONAL ESEA CONFERENCE CONTENT

Speaker acknowledges and agrees that Show Management, at its sole discretion, reserves the right to change any and all aspects of the 2025 National ESEA Conference, including but not limited to, the event name, themes, content, program, speakers, performers, hosts, moderators, venue, format, and time.

ACCEPTANCE

By typing my name and today's date below, I agree to be bound by these Presentation Terms & Conditions.

TYPE FULL NAME

DATE ACCEPTED