I. The Conference

The CTE Research and Professional Development Conference is the foremost peer-reviewed conference for CTE researchers and academic professionals. This conference is coordinated by the Association for Career and Technical Education Research (ACTER) with co-sponsors and The University Council for Workforce and Human Resource Education (University Council). ACTER extends sincere gratitude to our co-sponsors for making this conference possible. This year the conference will have an accompanying proceedings.

The 2023 ACTE Research and Professional Development Conference “Navigating the Sands of Change in CTE” is November 27-29 in Phoenix, Arizona. The conference will be held in conjunction with the Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE) CareerTech VISION 2023.

ACTER invites researchers to submit manuscripts and proposals to be considered for presentation at the conference. Graduate students are highly encouraged to submit proposals for consideration. Presentations are selected via blind review.

The 2023 program will feature five types of sessions:

*New* We will offer proceedings.

- Research paper presentations (full paper)
- Research paper presentations (extended abstracts)
- Research roundtable discussions
- Research posters
- Symposia

II. General Procedures and Policies

All authors/presenters must abide by these procedures.

1. **Deadline.** The online submission system will close on Thursday, June 1, at 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time. No late submissions will be accepted.

2. **Format.** Each session type has its own format. Reviewers may reject submissions without review if the proposal does not comply with the requirements outlined in this announcement.

3. **Author attendance requirement.** Submission is a commitment to attend the conference. Authors who present at the CTE Research and Professional Development Conference must register for this conference. In the case of multi-authored papers, at least one author must register for and attend the conference.
4. **Double-blind, peer review.** Papers are assigned to two or three reviewers, chosen for their familiarity with the proposal’s content and/or methodology. Proposals are reviewed without author identification. Submissions should not include explicit or implicit references that identify the authors.

5. **Notification of acceptance.** The conference committee will notify the corresponding author of acceptance or rejection by **July 15th, 2023**.

6. **Communication.** The conference committee will communicate with the corresponding author who will be responsible for informing co-authors.

7. **Equipment.** Presenters are responsible for bringing computers for their presentations. Projectors and screens for sessions will be set up for the conference.

### III. Guidelines for Authors and Presenters

Research papers (both full and extended abstracts), posters, symposia, and research roundtable proposals must be submitted through the [ACTER Conference 2023 Submission Link](#). Details can be found on the last page of this document.

**GRADUATE STUDENTS**

Graduate students are encouraged to submit proposals. ACTER offers a $50 stipend to graduate students who present and attend the closing session.

**Research Paper Sessions**

ACTER provides two types of research paper opportunities. The first is a full research paper, and the second is an extended abstract. Research paper sessions are designed for refinement and discussion of research in CTE. Each 75-minute session (20 minutes for each presentation) features three manuscripts clustered by the similarity of the topic or research methodology. Following the 20-minute presentation, a discussant offers commentary about the paper and leads audience questioning. The discussant also will provide written feedback that may help the author(s) improve the paper for submission to ACTER’s journals: CTE Research (CTER) or the Journal of CTE (JCTE).

ACTER coordinates the double-blind peer review of research papers. Conference reviewers rate research papers with these selection criteria: Purpose, conceptual or theoretical framework, methodology, findings, conclusions, and relevance to the conference theme. Direct research paper questions to the ACTER program chair, Dr. Kesha Valentine, at [ACTERConference@gmail.com](mailto:ACTERConference@gmail.com)

**Research Paper Proposal Requirements (full and extended abstracts)**

a. Limit full manuscript to 12 pages excluding references. Extended abstracts should range from 5 – 7 pages excluding references.

b. Remove all identifying information (e.g. authors’ names and institutional affiliation) from the text.

c. Do not include a title page. Instead, page one should include the title (centered and bold-faced on the first line, followed by a single-spaced abstract of no more than 120 words). Begin the body of the paper immediately after the abstract.

d. Center section headings. Suggested sections to include in the manuscript: *Introduction/Conceptual Framework;* *Theoretical Framework;* *Purpose and Research Questions or Objectives;* *Methods and Procedures;* *Results/Findings;* *Conclusions,* and *Discussion;* or *other sections appropriate for qualitative, historical, philosophical/theoretical, or mixed methods research.*

e. Use 12-point Times New Roman font. Single-space and left-justify paragraphs; double-space between paragraphs.

f. Do not use headers/footers.

g. Place tables/figures within the body of the text when they are discussed. The Table function must be used (rather than tabs and spaces) to prepare tables.

h. The reference style should conform to APA Publication Manual (7th edition).

*To be considered for the best paper award, the paper must be submitted to the proceedings.*

**Poster Session**

One poster session will feature multiple research studies illustrated in print form. Authors will explain their studies simultaneously to conference participants who circulate from poster to poster. While all research can be presented in this format, recent graduates and current graduate students are highly encouraged to submit abstracts to present posters about their studies. Research does not
need to be completed to submit to a poster session proposal.

The research presented on the posters should highlight research with potential regional or national significance focusing on one of the broad areas within Career and Technical Education, Workforce Education, or Human Resource Education. Each poster should have a conceptual and/or theoretical framework, be related to a problem, and stem from sound research methodologies. The research may be quantitative, qualitative, or mixed methods.

Posters will use the double-blind, peer review process and the abstract and a PDF of the poster can be published in the proceedings.

**Poster Proposal Requirements**

a. Poster title

b. No more than 750 words (not including headings, tables, figures, and references)

c. Single-spaced paragraphs, double-spaced between paragraphs

d. 12-point Times New Roman font, left justified, 1” margins

e. Tables must be prepared using the Table function (not tabs and spaces).

f. Headings in the given order: (1) Introduction, (2) Conceptual or theoretical framework, (3) Methodology, (4) *Findings, (5) *Conclusions, (6) *Implications, and (7) References (*if data are collected and analyzed).

g. Do not include identifying information (e.g. authors or institution).

*To be considered for the best poster award, the poster and abstract must be submitted to the proceedings.*

**Symposia**

The symposia describe and discuss important issues emerging trends, research, or best practices, and development of CTE professionals. Each 75-minute symposium should be a discussion or a collection of opinions. The opinions can be based on philosophical thought, professional experience, challenges in the CTE field, or a collection of published research from various sources. The symposium is not intended to be a presentation of a research paper or study.

Please direct symposia questions to the ACTER program chair, Dr. Kesha Valentine, at ACTERConference@gmail.com

**Symposium Proposal Requirements**

a. Title

b. Description (< 250 words): Focus on the theme and structure of the session as a whole.

c. Justification (< 250 words): Describe why the topic is expected to be of interest to attendees and why the topic would be a good fit for a symposium session.

d. List of symposium objectives.

e. Summary: (< 250 words)

f. Outline of the presentation with a brief statement of what each participant will contribute.

g. Technical equipment needed.

h. Do not include identifying information (e.g. authors or institution).

*To be considered for the best symposium, the abstract must be submitted to the proceedings.*

**Research Roundtable Discussions**

Research roundtable discussions are designed for working papers and research in progress. Each 90-minute session features several manuscripts, clustered by the similarity of their topic or research methodology, followed by discussions on the research projects and answering questions from the audience. The research study does not need to be completed to submit a roundtable proposal.

ACTER coordinates the double-blind peer review of research roundtable sessions. Conference reviewers rate research roundtable proposals with these selection criteria: Purpose, conceptual or theoretical framework, methodology, and relevance to the conference theme. Direct research roundtable questions to the ACTER program chair, Dr. Kesha Valentine, at ACTERConference@gmail.com.

**Research Roundtable Discussion Requirements**

a. Limit the manuscript to five pages excluding references.

b. Remove all identifying information (e.g. authors’ names, location, state, institution) from the text.

c. Do not include a title page. Instead, p. 1 should include the title (centered and bold-faced on line 1, followed by a
single-spaced abstract of no more than 120 words). Begin the body of the paper immediately after the abstract.

d. Center section headings. Suggested sections to include in the manuscript: *Introduction; *Conceptual Framework/Theoretical Framework; *Purpose and Research Questions or Objectives; *Methods and Procedures; *Initial Results/Findings (if collected); or *other sections appropriate for qualitative, historical, philosophical/theoretical, or mixed methods research.

e. Use 12-point Times New Roman font. Single-space and left-justify paragraphs; double-space between paragraphs.

To be considered for the best roundtable, the abstract must be submitted to the proceedings.

IV. Proceedings
ACTER will publish proceedings from the 2023 annual research conference. The sections of the proceedings will include full papers, research extended abstracts, roundtable abstracts, symposium abstracts, and posters with abstracts. Once papers are accepted, you will receive guidelines on submitting your items to be included in the proceedings. To be included in the proceeding and to be considered for awards, items must be submitted to the proceedings by September 30th, 2023.

V. Recognition
The best paper and symposium will be recognized at the conference. A best paper award will be provided for the highest ranked full-paper that was submitted. Additionally, the best symposium award will be provided based on the ratings of reviewers. Awards will also be provided for best poster and round table. Selection will be based on judges’ ratings of the authors’ work at the respective sessions.
2023 Call for Proposals
Submission Directions

All conference proposals should be submitted and uploaded to the ACTER Conference 2023 Submission Link. If you wish to submit more than one proposal, a separate submission for each proposal is required. You will receive a confirmation of your responses at the time you submit the form. Please look it over carefully for correctness. Conference proposals will not be accepted after 11:59 p.m. Pacific Time on Thursday, June 1, 2023. Direct conference proposal submission questions to the ACTER program chair, Dr. Kesha Valentine, at ACTERConference@gmail.com (research paper presentations - full paper, research paper presentations - extended abstracts, and roundtable proposals) or Dr. Michelle Bartlett at mebartle@ncsu.edu (posters and symposia).