FERA Call for Proposals for the General Session of the 2026 Annual Meeting

Orlando, FL
November 18-20, 2026
Angela Kohnen, Program Committee Chair
Yuxi Qiu, Proposal Review Committee Co-Chair
Huan Kuang, Proposal Review Committee Co-Chair
Heena Lakhani, Proposal Review Committee Co-Chair
Submission Deadline: August 28, 2026

We invite you to submit a proposal for the 70th Annual Meeting of the Florida Educational Research Association, to be held on November 18-20, 2026, at the Hilton Orlando Lake Buena Vista. Proposals will be accepted through August 28, 2026. This conference typically hosts approximately 200 attendees from different educational institutions and school districts in Florida. This provides an excellent opportunity to share empirical work, network, and connect with colleagues. The 2026 Florida Educational Research Association's annual conference is dedicated to the meaningful exposition of ideas and discussions intended to spur purposeful research and facilitate the development of intentional, collaborative relationships between educational researchers and practitioners. As a community of scholars and practitioners, we will move forward together to contribute to the notion of public education to support our students and to reimagine public education for future generations.

PROPOSAL SUBMISSION PROCEDURES

Below are guidelines for submitting papers and symposium proposals for the meeting. The deadline for receipt of all paper and symposium proposals is **11:59 p.m. EDT**

Friday, August 28, 2026. Please forward proposal questions to Angela Kohnen, Meeting Program Committee Chair, at president-elect@feraonline.org.

The program will include papers, roundtable discussions, graduate student posters, and symposia on topics and issues of current interest to education professionals, especially those in Florida. Topics may include but are not limited to, research on: Adult Education and Communities; Artificial Intelligence in Education and Educational Research; Assessment on Special Populations; Classroom and Large-Scale Assessments; Test Construction and Psychometrics; Teaching, Teacher Education, and School Curricula; Higher Education Context and Policy; Educational Leadership; Educational Technology; Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analysis; Qualitative Research, Quantitative Research, and Mixed Methods.

The program will also feature invited speakers and papers, as well as symposia presented by educational researchers, measurement and evaluation theorists, policymakers, higher education and teacher inquiry practitioners, and graduate students. To mark the anniversary of FERA, this year our keynote speakers are invited to speak on **"Past Insights, Future Possibilities: 70 Years of Educational Research and Impact."** Proposals aligned with this theme are welcome, but not necessary.

PRESENTATION FORMAT

Paper

Paper presentations should be prepared for an average of 15 minutes. Individual papers will be grouped by topic into paper sessions. Each paper session will include an introduction by a session facilitator, a presentation of the papers, and audience questions and reactions. All proposals for papers are eligible to be considered for the Distinguished Paper Award. Additional information on this award is included below.

Symposia

A symposium provides an opportunity to examine specific problems, topics, or projects from various perspectives. Papers presented in a symposium should be on the same theme and complement each other. A symposium should also provide an opportunity for presentations, dialogue, critique, and audience comments. Presentations should be organized within a 60–90-minute time period. The symposium organizer is responsible for suggesting the topic, securing speakers, and arranging for a facilitator. If the symposium is accepted by the Program Committee, the organizer is responsible for assuring that everyone named as a participant (whether a presenter or facilitator) will be

present at the meeting. If the organizer so desires, the Program Committee will secure a facilitator for the session. Should circumstances prevent a participant from attending the meeting, it is the organizer's responsibility to secure a suitable replacement and notify the FERA Program Committee of the substitution as soon as possible. The organizer is responsible for notifying all other symposium participants. The Program Committee will notify only the organizer.

Round Table Discussion

This format is best suited for small group discussions. The Round Table format provides an excellent opportunity for researchers to share ideas that may still be in a formative or developmental phase and receive feedback through the dialog that ensues as participants engage in conversations about related issues and research proposals. Participants will be grouped by topic, and a chairperson will facilitate interaction. The session tables will be arranged to maximize discussion and interactions with 10 individuals at most per table. This session will be scheduled for 75 minutes with 4-5 presenters at a time. There will be no audiovisual equipment or audio at the session. If you wish to use a laptop, please make sure it is fully charged since there might be no power source available.

PROPOSAL SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Anyone may submit a proposal; however, presenters must be members of FERA and registered for the 2026 FERA Conference to be listed on the program. Proposals must be submitted through the Online Proposal Submission Portal.

Detailed instructions for using the online system are provided below.

During the submission process, you will provide information on the following items:

1. Title of the paper or symposium.
2. Desired session format (paper, symposium, roundtable).
3. First author's name and institutional affiliation.
4. First author's e-mail address, USPS address, and telephone number.
5. Names of co-authors or co-presenters (if co-presenters will address different topics, such as in a symposium, list the topic for each co-presenter) and their institutional affiliations.
6. If the proposal is for a symposium, list the names and institutional affiliations of the organizer(s) and symposium facilitator.
7. Abstract of the proposal. It should not exceed 200 words.

8. Proposal Summary submitted as a file upload. The main body of the proposal text should not exceed five pages and should be double-spaced. DO NOT IDENTIFY THE AUTHOR(S) OR THEIR INSTITUTIONAL AFFILIATIONS ANYWHERE IN THE SUMMARY. This will provide for a blind review of the proposal. This file should include:

    A. Title of the paper or symposium
    B. Purpose
    C. Rationale and background
    D. Data source (population, sample, setting)
    E. Methods
    F. Results and conclusions*
    G. Limitations
    H. Implications

    *The result section for “in progress” proposals will not be required for the roundtable format. All proposals must be submitted through the online FERA Proposal Submission System by 11:59 p.m. on August 28, 2026.

All submitters will be notified of the status of their proposals by Monday, October 5, 2026. If accepted, presenters should submit their registration form, membership, and payment for the 2026 FERA Annual Meeting no later than Thursday, October 15, 2026. The program will not include papers if the author has not registered for the conference.

Distinguished Paper Award

If you would like your paper to be considered for the Distinguished Paper award, please send a copy of your completed paper to Angela Kohnen (president-elect@feraonline.org) by Tuesday, October 20, 2026 (four weeks before the conference), who will forward your nomination to the Chair of the Awards Committee. Please be aware that the Distinguished Paper recipient must have their work adhere to the AERA Submission guidelines to present the paper at AERA.

Educational Researcher of the Year

If you would like to be considered for the Educational Researcher of the Year award, please send a nomination letter (can be self-nominated) and a curriculum vitae to Scott Hebert at president@feraonline.org by Tuesday, October 20, 2026 (four weeks before the conference), who will forward your nomination to the Chair of the Awards Committee.

Submit your proposal via the online system, linked here:
https://feraonline.org/conference/call-for-proposals/