FERA Call for Proposals for Teacher Inquiry Strand

2026 Annual Meeting - Orlando, FL

November 18-20 , 2026

Co-chairs: Blake Beckett and Blake Tenore

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 Hilton Orlando Lake Buena Vista**. **Proposals will be accepted starting July 1 through August 28, 2026**. This conference typically hosts approximately 200 attendees from different educational institutions and school districts from the state of Florida. This provides a great opportunity to share work, network, and connect with colleagues.

The Teacher Inquiry Strand is a series of sessions focused on practitioner research, which we define as ***systematic and intentional inquiry into educator practice situated within a particular educational context***. For details about teacher inquiry, we recommend using the following book: Dana, N. F., & Yendol-Hoppey, D. (2019). *The reflective educator's guide to classroom research: Learning to teach and teaching to learn through practitioner inquiry* (4th Edition). Corwin Press.

All teacher inquiry proposals must include teacher inquiry/action research/practitioner research which features at least one preK-12 educator conducted in a preK-12 school setting. Presentations in this strand will be scheduled for the Thursday of the Annual Meeting (November 19, 2026), grouped by topic into sessions. Each individual presentation should be prepared for an average 15-minute time span.

Teachers whose proposals are accepted will be asked to register in advance for the 2026 FERA Annual Meeting in order to ensure that the paper presentation is included in the program and appears in the program bulletin. Registration includes membership in FERA.

The FERA conference program will include all teacher inquiry presentations, research presentations and papers, graduate student posters, and symposia on topics and issues of current interest to education professionals, especially those in Florida. Typical FERA audience members include university and college researchers, district and school leaders, and teacher researchers. FERA is the state affiliate of the American Educational Research Association (AERA).

If you are interested in learning more about preparing your proposal and presenting at FERA, please fill out this interest form and we will follow up with support.

SUGGESTED STEPS FOR PREPARING A PROPOSAL:

1. Gather materials from completed teacher inquiry cycle which includes an inquiry question focused on a timely and relevant topic, data collection and analysis, findings and implications.
2. Prepare **Proposal Summary File** which is an *anonymous* description of the teacher inquiry with no identifying details for peer reviewers (*no names of educators or schools*). This is a 2-3 page double-spaced document written in narrative format which includes:
    a. Title of the paper
    b. Description of the educational context (grade level, type of school etc.)
    c. Purpose of the study / background / rationale
    d. Teacher inquiry question
    e. Inquiry design/methods (procedures, data sources & collection, data analysis)
    f. Inquiry findings
    g. Implications/actions from inquiry

    See example linked here.
3. Prepare **Abstract** which is a brief 100-word summary of the inquiry.

    See example linked here.
4. Collect the following information which will need to be entered into the online proposal portal:
    a. Title of the presentation.
    b. Desired session format (Teacher Inquiry Presentation, Symposium, Panel).
        i. **Teacher Inquiry Presentation:** Traditional 15 minute presentation during which the teacher researcher highlights the items in 2a-g above.
        ii. **Teacher Inquiry Symposium:** An in-depth exploration of a particular aspect of teacher inquiry, e.g. data collection in classrooms, that may be supported by expert speaker(s), examples from the field, audience Q & A, etc.
        iii. **Teacher Inquiry Panel:** Several teacher inquirers reporting on projects with a similar theme, focus, or context.
    c. First author's name and institutional affiliation/school.
    d. First author's e-mail address, USPS address, and telephone number.
    e. 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/schools.
    f. Abstract of the proposal. It should not exceed 100 words.
    g. Proposal Summary submitted as a file upload. Remember this is de-identified (no researcher or school names) for the review process.

PROPOSAL SUBMISSION PROCEDURES:

Timely submission of proposals is essential for program preparation. **Deadline for receipt of all teacher inquiry paper proposals is 11:59 pm EST Friday, August 28, 2026.** In fairness to proposal reviewers, this is a firm deadline. Please forward questions about proposals to either of the co-chairs:

Blake Tenore (btenore@fsu.edu)
Blake Beckett (bbeckett@coe.ufl.edu)

PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS:

Teacher Inquiry proposals must be submitted electronically through the new online FERA Proposal Submission platform: ***Sched***.

PROPOSAL EVALUATION AND SELECTION PROCESS:

Proposals will be reviewed to ensure they include these important components:

- Proposal features a preK-12 educator.
- Inquiry question is clearly stated.
- Inquiry topic is timely and relevant.
- Educational context is clearly described.
- Methods of inquiry align with the inquiry questions.
- Findings are communicated clearly.
- Implications/actions from inquiry are described.

We will communicate with the main author about proposal selection by the end of September.