



# INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON URBAN EDUCATION



**PUNTA CANA • DOMINICAN REPUBLIC**

NOVEMBER 4-7 • 2026



## **Theme: Resilience in Action Innovative Solutions in Urban Spaces**

### **Call for Proposals**

The International Conference on Urban Education (ICUE) is a biennial meeting that provides stimulating intellectual, practical, and performance-based sessions. This dynamic conference is poised to examine critical questions and social justice issues that challenge successful and productive citizens in countries around the world and specifically the host country, city, and neighborhood.

ICUE invites community activists, high school and college students, intellectual scholars, foundation leaders, NGO's, artists, technology experts, engineers, financial & business leaders, environmentalists, healthcare professionals, and PK-20 educators to submit a proposal.

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### **Program Strands**

- **Artificial Intelligence and Influences on Education**  
Artificial intelligence is reshaping educational practice through personalized learning platforms, automated feedback systems, and data-informed instruction. However, its impact depends entirely on how educators implement and critically evaluate these tools.
- **Health Advocacy in Education**  
Students face significant health disparities that directly impact their ability to learn, yet these barriers are often invisible to educators. This strand examines how inequitable access to healthcare, nutrition, mental health support, and safe environments affects student achievement—and what educators can do within their sphere of influence to reduce these gaps.
- **PK-12 Best Practices/Curriculum**  
Sessions focus on instructional practices, activities, and concepts that support innovative culturally and racially responsive teaching and learning. Curriculum innovation, abolitionist teaching, critical teaching, and other forms of developmentally appropriate practices.
- **Political and Social Justice and Advocacy**  
Sessions focus on social activism, judicial justice, racial justice, combating curriculum violence, and community engagement that support the marginalized in urban communities.
- **Business Development and Economics**  
Sessions focus on business development and partnerships in urban centers, as well as economic advancement and challenges in urban public school funding.
- **Educational Policy and Leadership**  
Sessions focus on educational and discipline policies, administration, and leadership topics in PK-12 and higher education settings.
- **Gender and LBGTQAI+**  
Sessions focus on issues, policies, perspectives, and laws that challenge or support gender and LBGTQAI+ issues in urban schools.
- **HBCU and Higher Education**  
Sessions focus on policies, research, curriculum, instruction, as well as faculty and student experiences in higher education context.



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- **Social Work in Urban Education: Whole-Child Wellness and Community Support**  
This strand explores the vital role of school social workers in urban education, featuring solution-focused practices that address the social, emotional, and systemic factors affecting student well-being. Sessions highlight culturally responsive approaches to mental health support, family engagement, trauma-informed care, and community partnerships that help students, families, and school communities navigate the complex realities of urban life and create pathways to resilience and success.
- **Keeping Students Connected: Addressing Retention and Persistence in Urban Education**  
Student retention is a defining challenge for urban schools worldwide. This strand explores the multifaceted reasons students disengage—from socioeconomic barriers and family responsibilities to cultural disconnection and systemic inequities—and examines innovative, research-based approaches that help students stay on track.
- **School Discipline and Suspension Prevention**  
Sessions focus on discipline, restorative justice, as well as suspension and violence prevention in urban schools and communities.
- **Innovative Solutions through STEM/STEAM and AI**  
These sessions focus on STEM/STEAM education and how access and innovation can build STEM identities in urban schools. Sessions will highlight the importance of A.I., culturally responsive strategies, and future-ready skills that empower underserved learners. Explore innovative approaches to integrate technology and creativity in urban classrooms to foster equity and future-ready skills. Examine how artificial intelligence can transform teaching and learning while addressing access and representation in STEM fields underserved communities.

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## Session Formats

We ask that you select a format from the following formats. Depending on the quality of the content, your proposal will be carefully evaluated and accepted for the format that best fit its overall style (this can be different from your original selection).

### Paper Sessions

Paper sessions will consist of 3-4 papers with similar focus. Papers are the most formal form of presentation and will be selected based on their relevance to the conference theme and selected strand. **Maximum of four (4) papers and a chair.**

### Roundtable Sessions

Roundtable sessions will highlight papers with similar focus to engage participants in less formal discussion for a more in-depth exchange of information. Roundtable sessions provide opportunities to impact audience on a more informal level. Roundtable session can be a solo paper or multiple papers. **Maximum of three (3) papers plus a moderator.**



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## Poster Sessions

Poster sessions provide a casual atmosphere to present projects in an informal but interactive setting. Presenters must use a poster display to display a visual overview of the project, paper, event (laptop displays and handouts are also encouraged to support poster overview). **Maximum of two presenters per poster.**

If accepted for a poster session, please adhere to the following poster guidelines.

- Width: 48 inches
- Height: 36 inches

**Conference Proceedings:** If your proposal (paper, roundtable, or poster) is accepted, and you want it included in the conference proceedings, you must submit a formally written paper by **July 19, 2026**. Your paper must be typed, single-spaced, a maximum of three pages (not including references), follow APA 6<sup>th</sup> edition guidelines, and have a description of the purpose, framework, research methodology, findings/results and the scholarly significance of the work.

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## Submission Procedures

All proposals must be submitted to:

### [2026 ICUE Call for Proposals](#)

Proposals are selected to ensure the conference offers a comprehensive and dynamic program. Proposals will be reviewed by the ICUE Conference Program Committee and Proposal Reviewers must include the following components. Failure to include these requirements in the proposal are subject to being excluded from consideration. The following criteria **must** be used as the proposal guide.

- **Program Title:** (15-word limit). The paper title should use proper capitalization in title.
- **Abstract:** (100-word limit). This abstract will appear in the conference program.
- **Proposal:** (500-word limit).
  - Research proposals should include the 1. Purpose 2. Overview 3. Methods 4. Conceptualizations 5. Theory(ies) 6. Data collection & Analysis 7. Findings and 8. Significance of your work as it relates to the conference theme and selected strand. [**\*Label each section in proposal. Ex. 1. Purpose**]
  - All other proposals should include 1. Purpose 2. Concept, Project, or Innovative Strategy (include school level elementary-primary, middle, or high-secondary if applicable) 3. Data-driven support (for concept, project, or strategy) 4. Goals or outcomes of the strategy, project, or concept and 5. Implication of concept, project, or strategy in urban context. [**\*Label each section in proposal. Ex. 1. Purpose**]



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Also include in your proposal:

- **Strand:** Choose appropriate strand for proposal content
- **Session Type:** Paper, Roundtable, or Poster
- **Keywords:** (no more than 3 keywords or phrases): Descriptors of proposal content
- **Contact Information:** Provide contact information for all authors to include: name(s), title(s), address(es), telephone number(s) and institutional affiliation(s).

**Note:** We reserve the right to make changes as it relates to session strand, type, and placement in the program. These changes will be indicated in your letter of acceptance.

## **Submission Requirements/Timeline**

- All submissions must be based on original work (not previously published or presented at another conference)
- Submissions must be received by **May 15, 2026**
- Acceptances will be sent the week of **June 20, 2026**
- Conference Proceedings Papers are due **July 19, 2026** (*optional*)
- The **Early Bird registration** deadline for *all participants* is **May 15, 2026**.
- Presenters of accepted proposals should register by **August 14, 2026** to be included in the program schedule. Each person may submit a maximum of two (2) proposals (**regardless of order of authorship and submission format**).