

Pennsylvania Association of Colleges and Teacher Educators

#### March 2024 Update

It's Time to Spring into Action!

Don't miss these seasonal ways to grow:

- 1. Register for Teacher Education Day at the Capitol
- 2. Call for Proposals for Fall Conference --checklist for Proposals
- 3. Teach Plus Fellowship Opportunity
- 4. EPLC is recruiting interested participants

#### **VISIT OUR WEBSITE**

# Teacher Education Day details and free registration at this site



## Please register by March 29!

The 2024 Teacher Education Day (TED) in Harrisburg is on **Tuesday, April 9**, from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. This year our collaboration with PEDC and PA CASE gives members and our students an even greater opportunity to communicate with state legislators about the importance of supporting high-quality teacher education, especially funding for the new Student Teacher grant.

#### Featured Events & Activities

- \* Press conference featuring Senator Vincent Hughes and other speakers
- \* Group meeting with House Education Chairs Peter Schweyer & Jesse Topper
- \* Individual meetings with local State Senators & State



Representatives
\* Lunch provided at Temple
University Harrisburg

Registration RSVP by **Friday**, **March 29th here** or using the button below.

Your participation and advocacy are vital as we strive to shape the future of education in Pennsylvania. Together, we can make a meaningful impact on the lives of educators and students across the state.

# Call for Proposals for Fall 2024 Conference

Due by March 31, 2024

Please consider being a speaker or part of a team of speakers/panelists

Conference Theme: Glow Up or be Canceled: Responding to Gen Z?

This year, The TEA conference committee welcomes proposals that illustrate how educators can design and implement learning spaces and experiences that honor the needs and preferences of Generation Z, or Gen Z for short, a cohort of individuals born between 1997 and 2012, who are currently reshaping the world with their digital savvy, social activism, and diverse identities. Proposals may offer conference attendees a glimpse into how Gen Z students are leading positive changes in areas such as leadership, entrepreneurship, and advocacy, where they coexist.

Proposals may showcase how to use technology to enhance learning outcomes, how to balance collaboration and autonomy in the classroom, how to appeal to the sense of community and inclusivity of Generation Z,



"Glow up", an informal term used by Gen Z and others for a positive, personal transformation, has more than one connotation. It typically may involve significant changes in appearance and style; but our connotation focuses on growth in aspects of personal or professional life. As you consider a good proposal, we invite you to consider a personal growth journey or a journey undertaken by your

and how to address the challenges and opportunities posed by the changing world.

As you submit your proposal, please think about sharing your stories of transformation in any level of education from PreK-12 to higher education through these themes:

1. **Teacher Education and Professional Development**: This strand examines how teacher education and professional development can prepare and support teachers to meet the digital literacy, social justice, and personalized learning needs and expectations of Gen Z learners. It explores the best practices, innovations, and challenges of designing and delivering effective and relevant programs in the 21st century.

2. Teacher Leadership and Advocacy:

This strand explores how teachers can become leaders and advocates for themselves, their students, and their profession in the face of changing policies, standards, and expectations. It discusses the skills, strategies, and opportunities for teachers to influence and shape the educational landscape and to promote positive change and improvement in their schools and communities.

3 . Teacher Well-being and Resilience: This strand investigates how teachers can balance their personal and professional aspirations in the digital age, while adapting to a diverse and collaborative teaching context. It evaluates the origins and effects of teacher stress, burnout, and attrition, and how teachers can boost their well-being and resilience through self-care, mindfulness, and social support. It also considers the demands and preferences of Gen Z learners, who seek flexibility, relevance, genuineness, and social justice.

DEADLINE for proposal submissions is midnight, March 31, 2024. Review of proposals will take place between April 15 - June 1 with notice of acceptance/rejection going out by May 31, 2024. **Click here** or go to <a href="https://forms.gle/mxR4mEeKmT9e">https://forms.gle/mxR4mEeKmT9e</a>

students or your colleagues, leading to professional growth that includes a significant change in how you recruit, prepare or empower future educators.

"Be canceled" is a
Gen Z phrase that
refers to rejection or
the end of support for
a person, program, or
institution. None of us
wants our educator
preparation program
to lose its esteem or
its support. Can you
develop a proposal
about efforts to stay
current, relevant, and
impactful?

The smile emoji is included due to its commonplace use among Gen Z and its simple message. This emoji expresses happiness, gratitude, or appreciation towards customers and supporters. PAC-TE is grateful for all its members and invites you to consider using your voice to impact others--both in our association and those we prepare for future careers in education.

Link to Proposal
Checklist --Help your
proposal receive

**K48K9** for the proposal submission portal.

We also seek your ideas for **great keynote speakers** who can speak authentically to this **exciting theme.** Contact Dipali Puri, puri@juniata.edu, with your suggestions. You can cc joel@pac-te.org.

\$1,500 stipend

Apply by May 6th 2024

consideration by checking these tips we offered in previous years.



#### Here's a Way to Encourage a K-12 Teacher Partner

In summer 2024, Teach Plus will launch its next full cohort of Teaching Policy Fellows in Pennsylvania. This highly selective leadership opportunity is for 30 outstanding teachers (early childhood to 12<sup>th</sup> grade) looking to deepen their knowledge of education policy and amplify the voices of teacher leaders in Pennsylvania. Policy fellows, who will receive a \$1,500 stipend for their commitment, will expand their influence without leaving the classroom and elevate teacher voice on important student equity issues.

Learn more and apply:

https://teachplus.org/regional\_programs/pennsylvania-policy-fellowship/

Nominate a teacher: https://teachplus.tfaforms.net/328155

Applications are due by **May** 6<sup>th</sup>, **2024 at 11:59 PM**. Teach Plus Pennsylvania will host three virtual information sessions prior to the application deadline:

- · Tuesday, March 5th, 7-8pm: **Register**
- · Wednesday, March 27th, 6-7pm: **Register** 
  - · Tuesday, April 16th, 7-8pm: **Register**

Questions? Contact Teach Plus Pennsylvania Policy Manager Zakiya Stewart at zstewart@teachplus.org.

### The Education Policy Fellowship Program (EPFP) Seeks Members for its 2024/2025 Class

As you plan your professional learning for the coming year, consider the impact of serving as an Education Policy Fellow. You will engage in a nine-month program with people from across the education spectrum - advocates, policymakers, leaders from higher education, K-12, and service and membership organizations. You will meet, learn, and work with colleagues from other states, PA legislators, Washington D.C. policy leaders, and many more. Working on a small team of Fellows with similar policy interests, you will research and craft a new policy proposal that you will share with members of the General Assembly. Look for the online application and 2024–2025 schedule on this site beginning March 31. Tuition will be \$2350 for the year with an additional option for 90 hours of Act 45 credit via a three-credit course through Shippensburg University.

Information about the 2024/2025 EPLC class can be found at their website: eplc.org. Applications for the 2024–2025 Fellowship Program Will Be Available March 31!

#### **Important Dates to Remember**

April 15- June 30 Renew your PAC-TE membership before June 30 April 9 Teacher Education Day at the State Capitol (in person)
October 23 - 25 Teacher Education Assembly (fall conference), Best Western Premier The Central Hotel & Conference Center, Harrisburg

PAC-TE is a state unit of AACTE and ATE



AACTE and PAC-TE collaborate to strengthen their advocacy efforts, share experience and expertise, and expand their members' professional development opportunities. To this end, our Chapter's relationship with AACTE is a voluntary affiliation that allows us to advance our members' interests.



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If you have suggestions for a future *Update*, please contact us using the methods shown above.



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