



Innovations in Testing 2026 Submission Guidelines

The Call for Presentations opens June 16, 2025, and closes July 18, 2025.
Submissions for Innovations Fast-Pitch will remain open until October 31, 2025

[Submit your presentation now!](#)

[Submit today](#) for the 2026 Innovations in Testing Conference, March 1-4, 2026 in New Orleans, Louisiana, at the Hyatt Regency New Orleans. This year's conference theme is **Celebrating People, Progress, and Possibilities**.

At the heart of every innovation in testing is a simple truth: it's people who drive progress. Innovations in Testing 2026 celebrates the individuals and ideas transforming the assessment industry. This year, we gather in New Orleans to explore the possibilities that emerge when we connect across disciplines, challenge the status quo, and reimagine what testing can achieve. Whether you're developing new technologies, designing equitable assessments, or leading change in your organization, this conference is your space to be inspired, collaborate, and shape the future together.

We welcome presentation submissions designed to bring together thought leaders from across the testing, assessment, and EdTech industries to learn from one another and help advance the industry. The 2026 conference program committee is seeking proposals that:

- Show how organizations can leverage innovation to advance the industry.
- Discuss best practices with thought leaders from the education, credentialing, workforce skilling, and industrial/organizational markets.
- Learn how new tools and technology can renew or strengthen the value of assessment.

Submission Process

Please submit ideas that are vital to the advancement of the assessment industry. We encourage interested speakers to consider industry changes or best practices that would be of interest to your colleagues such as innovations, regulation, research findings, thought leadership, etc. When submitting you will be asked the following:

1. Select a main **Session Topic**;
2. Select the **Session Type**;



3. Denote if your session is considered a **Fundamentals of Testing Session (i.e., covers introductory content)** or a **Global Session**;
4. Denote if the session will include an **emerging or transformative technology or process**; and
5. Identify the **ATP Practice Area Division(s)/Committee** for which your session is most relevant.

Session Topic

The **Session Topic** identifies and describes the main idea or primary content focus of your submission. Optionally, you will be allowed to provide a Secondary Topic if your session applies to 2 of these. These include:

- **Accessibility and Inclusion:** Inclusive methods/practices (content development, candidate experience), stakeholder considerations, accessibility/accommodations approaches
- **Assessment for Learning:** Technologies, methods, or practices that inform and adapt instruction in real time within digital or instructor-led environments.
- **Business Strategies:** Focuses on the business of testing, branding, marketing, customer development, digital transformation, and communications
- **Legal and Policy Considerations:** Ethics, legislation, regulation, guidance, and policies
- **Security:** Fraud prevention/detection/enforcement, anomalous behavior in testing, data protection, data privacy, forensics, and data analytics
- **Test Administration and Delivery:** Test delivery modalities, proctoring, stakeholder considerations, and candidate experience
- **Test Development and Psychometrics:** Content development, psychometric models, item bank management, exam formats, advanced item types (i.e. VR, AR, etc), standard setting, SME management, and job analysis

Session Types

- Panel Discussion
 - Presentation
 - Peas & Possibilities
 - Snapshots
 - Ignite
 - Innovations Fast-Pitch
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- **Panel Discussion:** A panel discussion is a 60-minute collaborative discussion between speakers to share ways to address industry issues and hot topics. A debate format with



multiple presenters may also be submitted under the panel session type. Each panel discussion must include a minimum of three presenters from two or more organizations. A session submitted with only a single vendor and no other testing organization represented will **NOT** be accepted.

- **Presentation:** A presentation is a 45-minute session that provides a well-rounded perspective on a topic(s). These presentations can include PowerPoint slides with one to three speakers. Sessions with two or three speakers must have two different companies or organizations represented. Preference will be given to submissions with more than one speaker. A session submitted with only a single vendor and no other testing organization represented will **NOT** be accepted.
- **Peas & Possibilities Discussion:** Peas & Possibilities Discussions are informal 30-minute, 45-minute, or 60-minute conversations with fellow conference attendees who share common interests. They do not include presentations, projectors, or slides. This is about direct engagement and exploration of ideas. These discussions should not have more than two facilitators.
- **Snapshots:** Snapshot sessions are quick hit, 30-minute sessions that focus on a single topic by 1-2 speakers. This session type is intended to provide a speaking opportunity for first-time presenters and those new to the industry. Newcomers may consider partnering with an industry veteran as a co-presenter and mentor.
- **Ignite Sessions: NEW this year!** Ignite Sessions are 30-minute blocks where 4–5 dynamic presenters each deliver a 5-minute talk on a shared theme. The twist? Their slides auto-advance every 20 seconds—ready or not! This rapid-fire format is designed to spark ideas, ignite conversations, and keep the audience on the edge of their seats.
 - Please be prepared to provide all presenter information during the submission process to ensure a fully formed Ignite session. They will be listed as speakers on your submission.



- **Innovation Fast-Pitch:** Selected finalists will give a two-minute pitch of their innovations to the conference audience, followed by a brief Q&A with the onstage judges, vying live for awards on the main stage of Innovations in Testing during our Tuesday General Session. The Innovation Fast-Pitch Committee will select a maximum of four innovators/entrepreneurs from those who submit to participate in the Innovation Fast-Pitch event.

Details Required for All Submissions:

Fundamentals of Testing

As ATP seeks to educate more newcomers within the assessment industry, it is just as important to focus on the fundamentals of testing as it is to look at innovations to improve assessment. During the submission process, you will be asked to identify whether your session is appropriate for people who are new to the assessment industry. Keep in mind that even if you are presenting fundamental information, doing so innovatively or creatively can increase the likelihood of acceptance!

Practice Area Divisions

ATP has four Practice Area Divisions: **Certification and Licensure, Education, Industrial/Organizational, and Workforce Skills Credentialing**. During the submission process, please identify the practice area division(s) and or committee to which your Session Topic is applicable. More information on each Division can be found [here](#).

Session Abstract Descriptions

During the submission process, you will be asked to submit two presentation descriptions. The first is a full description of up to 2,400 characters that will be read by three or more individuals during the review process to determine whether to accept the submission. The second description is a shorter session description of up to 1,000 characters that will be used for marketing purposes, including on ATP's website, and any program-related listings.

The full session description is evaluated based on the following criteria:

- **Clarity:** Does the session submission clearly describe the objectives, outcomes, and intended audience(s)?



- **Relevance and Engagement:** Does the session provide key content for the testing industry and have a significant bearing on the work done by the intended audience? Does it have broad audience appeal?
- **Innovation:** Does the session provide information or learning experiences that are innovative? Innovation is not only technology-based, consider process innovation, etc.
- **Breadth:** Does the session have relevance to two or more divisions?
- **Presenters:** Do presenters represent two or more organizations?

Tips for Proposal Submission Success!

Here are some **tips** to remember as you develop your proposal and submission:

- All abstracts submitted for Panel Discussions **must** have more than one company represented as panelists, and all panelists must be named in the list of submitted presenters. Any changes to panelists must be approved by the Program Committee.
- For Presentations, sessions submitted with two or three speakers must have two different companies or organizations. Presentations submitted with more than one speaker are preferred. All presenters must be named in the list of submitted presenters. Any changes to presenters must be approved by the Program Committee. Submissions that do not follow these guidelines will automatically be withdrawn from the submission system and will not be reviewed or accepted. This rule applies only to Panel Discussions and Presentations and not to other session types.
- **Please note our speaker limitations.** A maximum of **seven sessions per organization** are permitted at the conference, and a maximum of **two sessions per presenter** are permitted. These speaker limitations **apply to Panel Discussions and Presentations**. This restriction **does NOT** include Invited/Featured Sessions, Sponsor Sessions, Snapshots, Ignite, or Peas & Possibilities Discussions. You are encouraged to submit as many sessions as you wish, but this maximum will be enforced during the acceptance process.
- To save your submission, you must complete all of the fields. You will be able to return to edit your submission via the ATP Conference Online Session Submission until **midnight Eastern Daylight Time on July 18, 2025**.
- Presenters are expected to register for and attend the conference, book and pay for their hotel room, and provide their laptops for the presentation. You are also responsible for arranging travel and transportation to and from the conference.
- Submissions judged by ATP reviewers as advertisements for products and services or overly promotional will likely not be accepted.
- Submissions that include a case study, data, or otherwise demonstrate how the process or technology presented can be practically applied by assessment programs are preferred.



- ATP reserves the right to combine session proposals and/or change session types to balance the number of Panel Discussions, Presentations, Snapshots, Ignite Sessions and/or Peas & Possibilities Discussions accepted.
- ATP may edit session titles and abstracts for marketing purposes.
- It **will not** be possible to guarantee a particular day and time for any presentation. All presenters must attend the Conference on the assigned day of their presentation.

Additional Opportunities

ATP Innovation Fast-Pitch: ATP is excited to announce we will host the 10th Annual ATP Innovation Fast-Pitch General Session – a forum designed to bring to light inventors and entrepreneurs whose technology, products, or services could be “game-changers” for the industry. Do you have a revolutionary offering for the assessment community? If so, submit your technology, product, or service during the call for papers process. Selected finalists will participate in the event where you will provide a 2-minute pitch of your innovation to the conference audience followed by a brief Q&A with the judges, vying live for awards on the main stage of Innovations in Testing. When submitting, click Innovation Fast-Pitch as your session type and answer the questions that follow. If you have any questions during the submission process, please email atp@canvasmeetings.com. We look forward to your submissions for the 2026 Innovations in Testing Conference!

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