

March 19 - 21, 2026 | Sonesta White Plains Downtown | www.nysabe.net/2026conference

2026 NYSABE CONFERENCE CALL FOR PROPOSALS

The Deadline for Submission: October 31, 2025

Dear Prospective Presenter,

As we prepare to commemorate a historic milestone—the **50th Anniversary of the New York State Association for Bilingual Education (NYSABE)**—we warmly invite educators, researchers, policymakers, community leaders, parents, students, curriculum partners, and advocates to be part of this momentous celebration by submitting a proposal for presentations, workshops, or panels aligned with this year's theme. Our Annual Conference will take place from **March 19–21, 2026**, at the **Sonesta Hotel in White Plains, NY**.

Our theme, "**50 Years of NYSABE: Breaking Barriers through Bilingual Education**," honors the visionary educators, students, families, and community leaders who have built and sustained this movement. We recognize their resilience in the face of systemic challenges and celebrate the triumphs that have expanded bilingual education as a pillar of justice and cultural pride.

This year's conference is both a celebration and a call to action. Even as we commemorate our collective achievements, we remain deeply aware of the persistent inequities faced by bilingual students. In an era of political uncertainty and shifting demographics, bilingual education must be defended and expanded with urgency, innovation, and collective resolve.

Our mission is more urgent than ever. Through engaging keynotes, cutting-edge research, interactive workshops, and collaborative leadership and special education strands, we renew our pledge to advocate for inclusive, well-funded, and accessible bilingual education, prepare and support a diverse pipeline of bilingual teachers and leaders, share transformative classroom strategies that affirm identity and promote academic excellence, and build stronger partnerships with families and communities. NYSABE is a statewide nonprofit professional organization representing a diverse coalition of educators, families, researchers, and community leaders dedicated to advancing bilingual and multilingual education for all learners.

We welcome proposals that explore the transformative power of bilingual education in breaking barriers—linguistic, cultural, academic, and systemic—and in empowering students, families, and communities across New York State and beyond.



Conference Objectives:

- **Celebrate the Legacy and Power of Bilingualism:** Honor five decades of bilingual education as a force for equity, identity, and academic excellence, and explore how it continues to break linguistic, cultural, and systemic barriers.
- **Advance Equity Through Innovation and Advocacy:** Confront persistent inequities facing multilingual learners by sharing bold, research-based strategies and empowering participants to influence policy and drive sustainable change.
- **Transform Teaching and Learning:** Elevate classroom practices that affirm student identities, foster multilingualism, and promote high academic achievement across diverse educational settings.
- **Strengthen Partnerships and Collective Leadership:** Empower families, communities, and cross-sector collaborators to co-create inclusive, culturally responsive learning environments and build a united movement for bilingual education.

Consider submissions that address the following Conference Strands:

I. Practical Educational Strategies Strand: This strand focuses on actionable, classroom-ready strategies that educators can implement to support multilingual learners. Sessions in this strand should highlight innovative instructional practices, culturally and linguistically responsive pedagogy, and tools that promote academic achievement and language development. Presenters are encouraged to share lesson designs, scaffolding techniques, technology integration, and assessment practices that break down barriers and affirm students' identities.

II. Administrator and Leadership Strand: Designed for school and district leaders, this strand explores how visionary leadership can drive systemic change in support of bilingual education. Topics may include policy implementation, program design and evaluation, resource allocation, and strategies for cultivating inclusive school cultures. Sessions should empower leaders to advocate for equity, build sustainable bilingual programs, and support the professional growth of bilingual educators.

III. Special Education Strand: This strand addresses the intersection of bilingualism and special education, with a focus on inclusive practices that honor the linguistic and cultural assets of multilingual learners with disabilities. Presentations may explore differentiated instruction, culturally responsive IEP development, collaboration between ENL/bilingual and special education staff, and family engagement in the special education process.



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IV. Pedagogical Strand: This strand invites deep exploration of the theories, frameworks, and research that inform bilingual and multilingual pedagogy. Sessions may include critical perspectives on language acquisition, translanguaging, biliteracy development, and sociocultural approaches to teaching. Presenters are encouraged to connect theory to practice and highlight how pedagogical shifts can dismantle systemic inequities.

V. Parent and Family Engagement Strand: Recognizing families as essential partners in education, this strand centers on strategies that foster meaningful collaboration between schools and multilingual families. Topics may include family leadership development, culturally sustaining communication practices, and community-based initiatives that support student success. Sessions should uplift family voices and demonstrate how engagement efforts can transform school culture and student outcomes.

The conference sessions should provide resources, strategies, ideas, and inspiring direction for educators, researchers, parents/family members, students, and other stakeholders involved in the education of multilingual learners. **We strongly encourage you to connect your proposal to the conference theme, objectives and strands.**

SUBMITTING PROPOSALS:

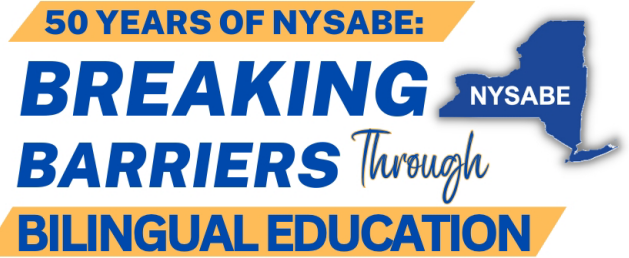
Please submit your proposal to the 2026 Conference Call for Proposals Committee by using the link below. Proposals will be accepted until midnight of **October 31, 2025**.

To submit a proposal, click [HERE](#)

CRITERIA FOR PROPOSALS

NYSABE aspires that all workshops offer high-quality professional learning opportunities for our guests, therefore, all proposal submissions will be evaluated through a double-blind review process and evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Quality of title and abstract
- Clarity of purpose and objectives included in the description
- Alignment of presentation description and abstract
- Relevance, research-based, and current topic
- Connection to the conference theme



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IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION BEFORE SUBMISSION:

- Workshops will be either 40 or 90 minutes in length. All workshop presentations should allow 10 minutes at the end of the session to answer questions and to reflect on the learning.
- You may present alone or with a partner or team.
- **All presenters must register for the conference and pay as attendees by December 19, 2025.**
- Once confirmed to present, you will receive more detailed information about your specific presentation (time, location, etc.)
- PowerPoint presentations are preferred.
- Please ensure that all submissions are proofread and edited.

NOTIFICATION:

- A conference committee consisting of NYSABE members, leadership, and directors will convene in December to review all proposals and select which ones to include in the program.
- The proposals considered will be evaluated for quality, usefulness to attendees, and their contribution to a balanced program.
- All who submit a proposal will receive a notice via email by **November 21, 2025.**

We recognize and appreciate the time and effort required in preparing a submission and thank you in advance for your proposal. Please email us at Conference@NYSABE.net if you have any questions. We are looking forward to a successful conference and to seeing you all there as we learn, empower, and celebrate each other!

In partnership,

Kristina Crehan
2026 Chairperson, Call for Proposals Committee
Region IV