

The logo for PACTE (Pennsylvania Association of Colleges and Teacher Educators) features the word "PACTE" in a bold, black, serif font. The letters are slightly shadowed, giving them a three-dimensional appearance as if they are floating above a white surface. The background of the banner is a gradient of blue and purple, with abstract white brushstrokes.

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Update



The official newsletter for the Pennsylvania Association of Colleges and Teacher Educators.  
Published 10 times per year. Contact: [joel@pac-te.org](mailto:joel@pac-te.org)

## UPCOMING ATE WEBINAR

### ATE Clinical Experience Standards Webinar Series | Part II: Standards 7-11

The Association of Teacher Educators is pleased to host Part II of a series of webinars held during 2025-2026 that focus on the third edition of ATE's Clinical Experience Standards. The standards provide comprehensive guidelines for preparing teachers in their clinical experiences, such as student teaching. These webinars will focus on different standards, covering all eleven standards by Summer 2025. Registration for each session is required to participate. The webinars are one hour in duration. The April 2025 session will be held on the following date/time:

#### April 2025 Webinar:

##### **Standard 7: Clinical Educator**

Clinical Educators describes the key role school- and university-based teacher educators play in the clinical preparation of teachers. This standard attends to the knowledge, skills, and dispositions clinical educators need to address diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging. This standard describes parity in the selection, preparation, and ongoing professional learning of clinical educators.

**When: Wednesday, April 23, 2025, 03:00 PM EST**

**Sign Me Up! | [Registration Link](#)**

*After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.*

**For more information about this webinar series and the ATE Clinical Experience Standards, click [HERE](#).**

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# Members Advocate for Stipends

PAC-TE collaborated with PEDC and Pa CASE for an Advocacy Day at the State Capitol on **Tuesday, April 8**. **New this year was an additional emphasis on local meet-ups in the home districts** on April 10 or 11.

As partners with Teach Plus in the #PA Needs Teachers Coalition, you have an **additional opportunity** to participate in a Capitol Day on **Tuesday, May 6**. A noontime press conference is featured, plus individual meetings with legislators (we can help you schedule those). Although it falls during the waning days of the spring semester, the nearness to the state's budget deadline will certainly elevate the energy level.

PAC-TE urges you to do the following:

- Discover the details of the governor's budget message [here](#)
- If at all possible, invite student teachers –those who received the stipend **and** those who were not awarded the stipend, as well as those who plan to student teach in 2025-26.

Please share this information. If you have a student willing to speak about how recent legislation impacts them, let Executive Director Joel Geary know! [joel@pac-te.org](mailto:joel@pac-te.org)

To learn more and register for May 6: click on [🌐 May 6 Capitol Day Registration](#)

**How do I locate the name of my representatives?** Click here:

<https://www.legis.state.pa.us/cfdocs/legis/home/findyourlegislator/>

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## Submitting a Proposal for a Session at the TEA?

Your Fall Conference Committee has issued a call for proposals and a theme for this year's Teacher Education Assembly, to be held on October 22-24 at the Best Western Premier Hotel and Conference Center in Harrisburg. The theme is *Bridging Innovation and Care: The Evolving Landscape of Teaching*.



You are encouraged to submit your proposal through this [link](#). You can also find the link at our website: [pac-te.org](https://www.pac-te.org).

**Description of conference theme:** In today's fast-evolving global and local landscapes, the teaching profession must keep up to stay student-focused, effective, and relevant. Educators at all levels are required to adapt swiftly to emerging technologies, changing policies, and the complexities of a diverse student population. While flexibility and adaptability have long been hallmarks of effective teachers, the rapid pace and extent of educational transformations have made these traits increasingly essential. Furthermore, teacher preparation programs are grappling with the heightened demand for more teachers. As educators and teacher trainers strive to enhance their methods and pedagogies in response to an evolving student demographic, they are developing more innovative and inclusive practices. Additionally, ongoing technological advancements continuously drive the field to integrate contemporary tools into teaching and learning, ensuring that educators at every level are adept at navigating new technologies. This year's conference will delve into these current changes and their implications for the teaching profession, individual educators, and the broader education system.

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## Highlights from the Spring Conference

“Creating Synergy in Teacher Education by Leveraging Relationships”, our virtual conference on March 26, was a big success, based on the feedback we received. 108 attendees enjoyed sessions such as the Keynote Panel’s “Stakeholder Synergy: Understanding the Macro View of the Commonwealth from 20,000 Feet”, the PDE Update, and several breakout sessions like “Fueling Pennsylvania’s Future: Strategies to Help Address the Educator Shortage, Diversify the Pipeline, & Create New Pathways Forward.”

Comments included the following:

- Connecting with people from across the state has been incredibly helpful. The discussions are informative, and it’s great to interact with such wonderful individuals.
- We need to leverage partnerships now more than ever and lean into consortium opportunities. Advocacy is a must both for teacher prep and for our students.
- I received information that will help my department as we move forward with updates to our program.
- I am relatively new to higher education, so learning about all of the different organizations and the partnerships that have been developed was invaluable information.
- There were many great takeaways, including the information shared by the student PSEA representatives. I also always find the PDE updates invaluable.

- It was so timely given the state of our nation.
- There is a desperate need to support our teaching community, which in turn, will help to elevate the education our children are receiving. We talked about the K-12 and IHE populations and how to support and advocate for those populations; however, I would challenge that thought and say that the support should begin with the ECE workforce. This is where our children's education begins and the ECE teaching staff is in need of educational opportunities and support.
- Have the results of new teacher surveys asking "why they are leaving" been incorporated into solutions? Do they feel they have been prepared well in terms of actionable Knowledge & Skills they need for their school practices?
- I learned so much about how to support high school students pursuing a career in teaching. I am taking this idea to my school to see if it can be implemented in some way.
- I enjoyed the conversation around each topic and my greatest takeaway: every voice matters!

HEY!

If you are interested in helping develop next year's spring conference, or if you have ideas for speakers and topics, please email our Executive Director, Joel Geary, at [joel@pac-te.org](mailto:joel@pac-te.org).

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## Member Opportunities

**Consider one of our Professional Achievement Awards:**

PAC-TE offers three Professional Achievement Awards to its members:

**Distinguished Research Award**

**Exemplary Service/Partnership Award**

**Innovative Program Award**

To be considered, the nominee must be a member of PAC-TE or work at a PAC-TE institution and the application materials must be received by **September 30**.

Award recipients will be honored at the Fall TEA Awards Dinner.

Please make a note to nominate yourself or one of your colleagues. Further information to come next month.

### **Consider nominating a student/candidate for our Scholarship:**

The PAC-TE Executive Director's Scholarship is an annual award that pays tribute to all former PAC-TE Executive Directors. This scholarship is designated for a deserving undergraduate or graduate student seeking teacher certification at a college or university within the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, with a minimum GPA of 3.5. The expected monetary amount for this scholarship is \$1,500.00.

Award recipients will be honored at the Fall TEA Awards Dinner.

Please make a note to nominate one of your teacher education candidates. Further information to come next month.

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## **Do you follow us on LinkedIn?**

Our social media efforts are being concentrated on LinkedIn, a platform designed specifically for professionals to share industry and professional insights and events. We still have a Facebook page, but recognize that that platform has its drawbacks. Would you please consider looking at our LinkedIn page and clicking the link to Follow. Each person who shares one of our posts is helping spread the news about our work and the opportunities we provide for our members to connect with fellow teacher educators and related fields in professional education. Check out our LinkedIn page [here](#).



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### **IMPORTANT DATES TO KNOW:**

- #PA Needs Teachers Coalition Capitol Day – May 6.
  - Fall Conference October 22-24, Harrisburg, PA
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