



## Summer 2025 Update

[www.pac-te.org](http://www.pac-te.org)

**For the best pricing for our annual PAC-TE Teacher Education Assembly, an annual renewal is essential. We encourage you to renew at your earliest convenience. [Click here](#)**

## PAC-TE Awards Available

The Board of Directors of PAC-TE is pleased to announce a call for nominations for the Executive Director's Scholarship, the Teacher Educator of the Year Award, and for the PAC-TE Professional Achievement Awards. Applications are due by September 23<sup>rd</sup>. Criteria and application forms are available at our [website](#).

### 1. Executive Director's Scholarship

The PAC-TE Executive Directors' Scholarship is an annual scholarship honoring all past PAC-TE Executive Directors. The scholarship is to be awarded to a deserving Undergraduate or Graduate Student pursuing teacher certification at a college or university in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania who has a GPA of 3.5 or higher. The monetary amount of the scholarship is anticipated to be \$1,000.00.

### 2. Teacher Educator of the Year Award

The PAC-TE Teacher Educator of the Year Award is conferred upon an individual who has directly participated in and contributed to the preparation of candidates for teacher certification in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Candidates may be nominated by PAC-TE members or may be self-nominated with an attached letter of endorsement from a PAC-TE member. Candidates must be currently employed in a teacher education capacity in Pennsylvania and must be current members of PAC-TE. Membership may be verified via an email to the Executive Director, Joel Geary, [joel@pac-te.org](mailto:joel@pac-te.org). More information about the award, including the selection criteria, may be viewed [here](#). The winner of the award will be announced at our Teacher Education Assembly in the fall.

3. PAC-TE offers three Professional Achievement Awards to recognize the outstanding work of its members and others engaged in the work of educator preparation. Nominations are due by September 23, 2025.

(story continues on the next page)

Awards (continued from p.1)

- The Outstanding Dissertation Award recognizes excellence in doctoral dissertation research that contributes to the field of educator preparation or professional teaching practice. The research must follow accepted empirical guidelines and be relevant to PAC-TE's mission.
- The Distinguished Research Award recognizes empirical research, published in a professional journal or professional conference proceedings. The research must follow accepted empirical research guidelines and be relevant to PAC-TE's mission. You do not need to be a current member of PAC-TE to apply for this award.
- The Exemplary Service/Partnership Award recognizes the development of partnership programs that connect IHEs with basic education and community partners and recognizes activities that provide service to the field of education.

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION](#)

*PAC-TE celebrates the achievements of its members. You are making an impact!*



# Call for Nominations

The Executive Director of PAC-TE is soliciting nominations for three seats on the Board of Directors and for President-Elect of the Association. This is a wonderful opportunity to become involved in a position of leadership at the state level with colleagues from across Pennsylvania who are engaged in educator preparation. PAC-TE members may make nominations of others (with their consent), or they may self-nominate.

The following seats on the Board of Directors will be filled by election in the Fall of 2025. The terms for all three seats are three (3) years and run from June 1, 2026, through May 31, 2029.

- One representative of a Private institution of higher education in Pennsylvania engaged in educator preparation.
- One representative of a Public institution of higher education in Pennsylvania engaged in educator preparation. This year, the representative must come from a state-related institution (i.e., Penn State, Temple, Pitt).
- One At-Large representative. Candidates may come from any institution of higher education in Pennsylvania engaged in educator preparation.

## Nominations (continued from p. 2)

We will also hold an election for President-Elect. The president-elect serves for two years, then assumes the presidency of the association for two years and finishes the six-year commitment with two years as past president. Each of these three roles has duties that are (a) stipulated in the bylaws and (b) assigned by convention.

Candidates are qualified to run for President-Elect if they have held institutional and/or individual membership for three consecutive years within the past ten (10) years, have been a member of the Board of Directors or a PAC-TE committee, or work group. More information may be found in the association bylaws or by communicating with a PAC-TE member who has served in this capacity.

As you consider this opportunity, or when you speak to colleagues you want to nominate, keep the following points of information in mind or share as needed.

- PAC-TE Board members are required by the Association bylaws to be individual or institutional representative members of PAC-TE and members of ATE. If you are not currently a member of ATE, you would need to join ATE if you are elected to a Board position.
- You may self-nominate or nominate another PAC-TE member, with that person's prior knowledge and permission
- The PAC-TE Board of Directors meets five times per year. Four meetings are held via video conference in early September, November, January, and prior to the spring conference. One two-day meeting is held in June, typically rotated between State College and the home institution of the President of PAC-TE.

To nominate yourself or another PAC-TE member for any of these positions, please submit a digital photo and the following information in a statement of no more than 200 words, organized according to the following categories

1. Name, title
2. Present position and institution
3. Educational background
4. Professional experience
5. Professional memberships
6. Professional activities
7. Prior involvement in PAC-TE

Please send this information via email to Dr. John Ward ([john.ward@live.kutztown.edu](mailto:john.ward@live.kutztown.edu)), PAC-TE Past President and Chair of the Nominations Committee, by September 23, 2025. Email Dr. Ward with any questions about the positions on the ballot.

# Fall Conference News

This year's Teacher Education Assembly (TEA) looks amazing and we can't wait to see you there! Here is a glimpse at some of the details and information about registration.

Dates: October 22-24, 2025.

Location: Best Western Premier, The Central Hotel & Conference Center, 800 East Park Drive, Harrisburg, PA

Cost: Members (now through September 30) \$175  
After 9/30 the cost goes up, so register early.

Non-members (now through October 15): \$275  
After 10/15 the price goes up, so register early.

Student Members: \$25

Student Non-members: \$50

Session presenters must register and pay conference fees.

Hotel reservations are made separately by  
(1) calling the Hotel DIRECTLY at 717-561-2800, or  
(2) by using the link  
[https://www.bestwestern.com/en\\_US/book/hotel-rooms.39125.html?groupId=I55PN9Q6](https://www.bestwestern.com/en_US/book/hotel-rooms.39125.html?groupId=I55PN9Q6)

Guests are not able to secure the group block/group rate through Best Western International or third-party travel sites. If guests make reservations through other methods, such as BWI and third party, the rooms cannot be transferred to our block, and the rate cannot be altered.

The group rate of \$112.95 will be honored until the release date of September 23 or until all contracted group rooms are booked, whichever comes first. After the release or booking of all rooms, additional rooms will be provided upon availability and "best available" rate will be quoted.

## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- **2 Keynote Speakers: Leon Smith, PA's 2025 Teacher of the Year, and Laura Tobias, 2025 Principal of the Year**
- **Team pricing with discounts**
- **No pre-conference sessions on Wednesday**
- **Conference begins at noon on October 22**
- **Registration begins at 11:00 a.m. on October 22**
- **Conference ends at 1:00 p.m. on October 24**
- **70+ sessions to choose from**
- **Opportunities for individual and/or institutional sponsors**
- **More details will be shared in the August edition of the Update**

OCTOBER 22-24, 2025  
TEACHER EDUCATION ASSEMBLY



BRIDGING INNOVATION  
AND CARE:  
THE EVOLVING LANDSCAPE OF TEACHING

BEST WESTERN PREMIER, THE CENTRAL  
HOTEL AND CONFERENCE CENTER  
HARRISBURG, PA



PENNSYLVANIA ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES AND  
TEACHER EDUCATORS



# AACTE Hosts PUBLIC Town Hall

We are sharing the information below on behalf of AACTE, one of our national partners.

The association is hosting a PUBLIC Town Hall to unpack the passing of the Big Beautiful Bill.

If you plan to attend, please be sure to register using the link below.



## Virtual Town Hall: The "Big Bill's" Impact on EPPs

- Tuesday, Aug 5, from 2-3 pm ET
- This webinar will not be recorded, nor will AI tools/personal recordings be allowed.
- Now that all the legislative maneuvering is over and the bill has been signed, it is time to take a step back and analyze what the final legislation means for educator preparation programs. AACTE reviewed provisions and dug into data and reports, and the result is that there are some good and bad surprises. Provisions that created great concerns in earlier versions of the bill were dropped, and others that had been quietly added are likely to have a greater impact than initially understood. Join us for a deep dive into the elements of this massive legislation that are likely to have the biggest effect on your programs and students. Our goal is to help you understand — and plan for — the implications of this important piece of legislation.
- Speakers: Jaci King, AACTE & Michael Yudin, Raben

### Legislative Alert!

PA House Bill 1407 was unanimously approved and sent to the Senate, which referred it to its Education Committee. The bill returns certification grade levels to Primary (PK- grade 6), Secondary (gr. 7-12) and Specialized Areas (PK-12). The Senate must pass the bill for it to take effect. Stay tuned for Senate voting once they return from recess.