Submit a Proposal

NICE seeks proposals from thought leaders in education, government, industry and nonprofits who are addressing how K12 education is uniquely positioned to accelerate learning, increase skills development, identify methods to best nurture a diverse learning community, and provide approaches to guide cybersecurity career development and workforce readiness planning for today's youth.

Cybersecurity continues to be a leading creator of jobs and opportunity across both the public and private sectors. With a talent pool of cybersecurity workers that is not yet able to keep up with the demand, there is **great opportunity** to encourage and prepare students with the knowledge, skills, and abilities to pursue a cybersecurity career.

The 2017 NICE K12 Cybersecurity Education Conference is seeking timely and thought-provoking K-12 cybersecurity focused presentations that will challenge and inform cybersecurity workforce, training and educational leaders from academia, business, and government. Proposals are encouraged to highlight effective collaborations, bold experiments and innovations, metrics of success, and other potentially game-changing methods in K-12 cybersecurity education that support the NICE strategic goals.

The conference will feature five tracks which include:

1. Increase Cybersecurity Career Awareness

2. Infusing Cybersecurity Across the Education Portfolio

3. Innovative Educational Approaches

4. Academic and Career Pathways

5. Digital Literacy

Mark your calendar

Call for proposal submissions opens **April 11, 2017**

Call for new ideas closes **May 31, 2017**

Submission Guide

We seek content that

- Provides a model for achieving the NICE Strategic Goals and Objectives and offers examples of that success.
- Increases technical knowledge and skills preparing K-12 students for the workforce, emphasizing hands-on activities.
- Explores systems, models, practices and strategies for achieving digital age learning in formal and informal learning environments, both virtual and face-to-face.
- Incorporates technical content appropriate for all levels of expertise, from beginner to advanced.
- Addresses how to effectively assess the competency or performance of the NICE Workforce Framework knowledge, skills, and assessments (KSA's) and how students demonstrate their KSA's.
- Encourages audience participation and engagement to add to the conversation around providing solutions to help increase workforce readiness.

Proposal review criteria

NICE strives to offer a balanced, informative and thought provoking conference that best fits within the NICE Strategic Plan. The conference proposal selection committee will include experienced, diverse academic STEM and cybersecurity educators/professionals. In evaluating conference proposals, reviewers will be asked to consider both the technical aspects of the proposal and the way in which the presentation/session will contribute to transforming K-12 Cybersecurity education. The following elements will be considered in the review of conference proposals:

- the potential for the proposed session/presentation to contribute to and advance the knowledge base and understanding of K-12 cybersecurity education reform.
- the extent to which the session/presentation offers creative, novel and transformative mechanisms for enhancing K-12 cybersecurity learning, particularly for historically underrepresented students.
- the overall contribution of the session/presentation to inclusive excellence; and the ease by which conference session/presentation materials and outcomes can be adapted to a wide range of institution types.
- the potential for high impact and ease of adaptability among communities of practice.

Session Formats

2017 NICE K12 Cybersecurity Education Conference features sessions in several formats to accommodate a variety of learning styles.

Session formats include:

- Interactive lecture. Interact with the presenter and participate in hands-on activities.
- Panel. Two or more experts discuss a specific topic.

- Workshop. Dive deep during a 90-minute workshop. Explore experiential environments and "play" with interactive technologies that enhance creativity and learning.
- Poster Session. Posterboard displays.

What Makes a Good Proposal?

Key Presentation outcomes

- **Enhance educators' knowledge.** Our goal is to increase both the technical and pedagogical knowledge of K-12 educators as they support students preparing for the workforce.
- **Help develop workforce readiness skills.** Explore ways to encourage and empower educators and students to increase workforce readiness.
- **Advance digital age learning.** Delve into systems, models, practices and strategies for creating meaningful digital age learning experiences, both virtual and face-to-face.
- **Address the NICE strategic goals.** Which objectives in the NICE Strategic Goals does your proposal address?
- **Incorporate technical content.** Our conference covers technical content appropriate for all levels of expertise, elementary, middle and high school level, from beginner to advanced.
- **Encourage audience participation.** Think beyond the lecture and devise new ways to engage your audience. Our session formats include interactive concurrent sessions, workshops, panels, poster presentations and more.
- **Inspire integrative cross-disciplinary STEM approaches**. Describe innovative approaches for enhancing interdisciplinary STEM learning in encouraging students to pursue cybersecurity careers.

Give your presentation submission an edge by following these simple steps

Step 1: Know your audience

Most common attendee job roles include:

- K-12 Educator
- Principal/Vice Principal
- Instructional technology coach/ director
- School Counselor
- School District Administrator
- Higher Education Faculty

Step 2: Pick your format

INTERACTIVE LECTURE. 50 minutes. Hands-on activities for audience participation.

PANEL. 50 minutes. Moderator and 2-3 panelists.

WORKSHOP. 90-minutes. In-depth exploration.

POSTER SESSION: Posterboard displays.

Step 3: Choose a Focus

The conference tracks include:

Increase Cybersecurity Career Awareness

This theme will focus on *increasing and sustaining youth and public engagement in cybersecurity activities.* Proposals that emphasize activities to include a national cybersecurity career awareness campaign targeting educators, students, parents, administrators, and counselors are particularly encouraged. Proposals that describe the impact of co-curricular experiences (e.g., competitions, camps, clubs, boy/girl scouts, etc.) for youth that excite them about careers in cybersecurity and introduce them to the corresponding academic pathways will be given priority. Proposals showing promising practices to increase the appeal of the cybersecurity profession to a diverse audience are highly encouraged.

Infusing Cybersecurity Across the Education Portfolio

This theme will include presentations and sessions that describe stellar Cybersecurity Education interventions for the future STEM and Cybersecurity Workforce. A focus on infusion of cybersecurity concepts into classroom instruction that align to the NICE Cybersecurity Workforce Framework is appropriate for this theme. Proposals sharing strategies for developing and replicating programs that support youth obtaining knowledge, skills, and abilities required for success in the future STEM and Cybersecurity Workforce are highly encouraged.

Innovative Educational Approaches

This theme will focus on specific proven methods to improve K-12 cybersecurity education instruction. Sessions should highlight strategies that increase coordination among teacher preparation, professional development, support, and recognition efforts within existing and proposed cybersecurity educator programs.

This theme will also explore successful proven methods to stimulate innovative educational approaches to accelerate learning and skills development.

Academic and Career Pathways

This theme will include presentations and sessions that describe successful models to increase the number of youth pursuing a cybersecurity or cybersecurity related degree, certificate or job**.** Examples of state or local recognized cybersecurity *career* pathways for high school students that improve upon state Career Technical Education (CTE) and Programs of Study (POS) are highly encouraged to share.

Special emphasis is placed on initiatives that are readily transferable and easily adaptable supporting a nationally recognized cybersecurity *academic* pathway for elementary, middle

and secondary school students. Program proposals that show how to increase the number of schools who are providing dual enrollment, early college programs, and other creative efforts that challenge students academically and provide opportunities to reduce the time and cost of obtaining a college degree will be given priority.

Digital Literacy

This theme will focus on the knowledge, skills, and behaviors needed to understand, use and safely interact with technology, media and digital resources. Proposals that highlight effective resources, practices, and achievements of programs to help students be responsible, ethical and resilient digital citizens will be given priority.

Step 4: Complete your Proposal

Submit Your Proposal

Submission deadline is May 31, 2017.

BE SURE TO:

• Indicate what participants will learn.

• Be detailed in the purpose and objectives of the session.

• Outline the content covered and the process for engaging participants fully.

• Provide research supporting your session.

• Know and understand your format structure.

Step 5: Check your email

Submitters will be notified if their session was selected by mid-June.

Please be advised that sales-oriented proposals will not be selected. Those wishing a forum to demonstrate proprietary tools or solicit business are welcome to participate as an exhibitor during the conference. Vendors are welcome and should visit www.k12cybersecurityconference.org/exhibitors.