

CONFERENCE ON RESEARCH INNOVATIONS IN EARLY INTERVENTION (CRIEI) 2026 CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Theme: Innovative Research to Create and Sustain Equitable Futures: Challenging Systems and Building Communities

This theme was created and selected to highlight approaches that center children, families, and communities in our work and interrogate the role systems play in maintaining inequitable and harmful practices. Sustaining equitable futures will include dismantling systems that do not support a growth mindset to create new approaches that can fulfill the promise of equal opportunity and access. Research proposals that imagine these new possibilities and study systems change and innovation are encouraged.

CRIEI Proposal Submission Dates: June 15th, 2025 8:00 pm Pacific Daylight Time
Authors will be notified by August 1, 2025 by 5:00 pm Pacific Daylight Time

CRIEI Proposal Submission Website: <https://www.education.uw.edu/criei/submit-proposal/>

GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR CRIEI PANEL AND POSTER PROPOSALS:

- CRIEI has three types of presentation formats: (1) two-hour panel sessions; (2) poster sessions; (3) Pre-conference methodology session.
- All submissions should relate to the conference theme, and the relationship should be made clear in the proposal.
- All CRIEI panel and poster sessions must be research-oriented and clearly state the research issues to be addressed and/or explicitly describe an innovation that extends research, policy, or practice in early intervention.
- All CRIEI panel sessions and poster proposals should include a description of qualitative, quantitative, or mixed methods results (preliminary, but will be complete by the time of the conference)
- All CRIEI panels and posters must showcase an innovation, defined as either a research project with theoretical, conceptual, or methodological originality or a project that introduces a novel approach to policy or practice.
- The research or innovation presented in panels or posters should have a primary focus on children from birth through 8 years of age and the individuals who support them including individuals from marginalized racial, ethnic, linguistic identities, children experiencing poverty, and/or children with disabilities .
- All CRIEI panels and posters that present literature review findings must utilize a systematic, rigorous review approach, such as systematic literature review or meta-analysis/meta-synthesis.
- All CRIEI panels and posters must promote audience engagement and include specific strategies for encouraging inclusive and productive engagement during the panel discussion or poster session.

DESCRIPTION OF CRIEI PANEL SESSIONS:

CRIEI panel sessions are two hours in length and focus on an in-depth discussion of research issues, challenges, and systemic problems in the field, and provide novel solutions, rather than the traditional dissemination of research findings. Panel sessions unite researchers at diverse ranks from multiple (3 or fewer) institutions or studies and often consist of presentations based on a single theme or different facets of a collaborative research project. Themes may be content-related, methodological, or substantive (i.e., differing perspectives on a topic), and may reflect published research or research in progress. Multiple concurrent panel sessions will be held twice each day.

A member of the planning committee will serve as a Host for each panel session. The host ensures that the session begins and ends on time and no presentation lasts more than 20 minutes during a panel.

The panel proposal must include a Discussant (different than the host) whose role is to highlight connections across panelists, raise deeper issues, and facilitate audience engagement.

The discussant plays the critical role of fostering equal participation and open communication for all participants while also ensuring that the work of presenters is respected. We encourage Discussants to describe the framework they will use to moderate discussions to create an inclusive, nonjudgmental, and inquisitive conversation driven by curiosity and respect. Successful submissions must describe how the two hours will be allocated and how the presenters will adhere to the time requirements described below.

The CRIEI executive committee *strongly encourages* authors from different levels in their career (e.g., associate professor and doctoral students) to work together to submit interdisciplinary, multi-university, innovative, and equity-focused panel proposals for CRIEI 2026. **The lead presenter of the panel must have attended CRIEI in previous years.**

Panel Session Proposal Guidelines Summary:

- Panel proposals with the lead author having previously attended CRIEI.
- Each CRIEI participant may submit more than one panel proposal, but may only serve as lead presenter for one panel and one poster proposal.
- Panel proposals are limited to 3 presentations and 1 discussant. Each presentation should last no more than 20 minutes, leaving 15 minutes for the discussant. If two presenters on the same project wish to share the 20 minutes, they can and will be listed as presenters and authors. However, we recommend no more than 2 presenters per presentation with a maximum total of 6 presenters and 1 discussant for each panel. This will hopefully allow space for doctoral students and early career researchers to present at the CRIEI conference. This timing is mandatory and not optional. In your submission describe who will keep time for the panel and how the discussion will be moderated following the presentations.

Panel proposals must include:

- A title with no more than 12 words.

- A 150-word (or fewer) abstract that provides an overview of the panel;
- One or two keywords or phrases that best describes the proposal: For example: Anti-racism, Assessment, Autism Spectrum Disorder, Developmental Delays or Disabilities, Social Emotional Development, Dual Language Learners, Diversity and Equity, Early Elementary, Early Numeracy, Families, Implementation Science, Inclusion, Infant and Toddlers, Kindergarten, Language and/or Early Literacy, Methodological Advances, Multilingual Learners, Multi-tiered Systems of Support, Preschoolers, Professional Development, Program Evaluation, Policy
- A 300-word (or fewer) description of each panel presentation to be discussed (i.e., 900 total words across 3 presentations), including the following headings and content:
 - ***Rationale and purpose;***
 - ***Description of methods, results, or modes of inquiry;***
 - ***Innovation*** (How does the topic or study demonstrate methodological, conceptual/theoretical, policy, or practical innovation);
 - ***Implications for policy or practice*** (Can the results of the study inform relevant and timely policy decisions and/or apply to current practice?);
 - ***Relationship to principles of diversity, equity, and inclusion*** (Does the research advance knowledge that respects and honors historically marginalized communities to elevate their strengths while providing actionable information to improve services and outcomes?); and
 - ***Methods used to encourage audience engagement*** (How the panel will encourage dialogue during the 45 min discussion and include specific strategies for encouraging audience engagement and for facilitating fair and equitable participation that respects presenters' work?)
 - ***Description of the discussant's role and approach*** (How will the discussant facilitate conversation equitable and inclusive conversation?)

DESCRIPTION OF CRIEI POSTER SESSIONS:

CRIEI posters combine the graphic display of ongoing or completed research or innovations with the opportunity for discussion in an informal setting. There are three types of CRIEI poster sessions:

1. Opening night theme poster session on “Innovative Research to Create and Sustain Equitable Futures: Challenging Systems and Building Communities”
2. Student methodology poster session, and
3. General poster session.

Note: Students are encouraged to submit to the student methodology poster session if their poster focuses on methodology. If their poster does not focus on methodology, students may submit a proposal to the other types of poster sessions.

Poster Session Proposal Guidelines:

- Each CRIEI participant may submit more than one poster proposal, but your participation as lead presenter is limited to one panel presentation and one poster.
- The poster must include three discussion questions to engage the audience.
- In your poster submission, please distinguish between presenting and non-presenting authors. Both presenting and non-presenting authors will be listed in the conference

program, but due to space limitations, only presenting authors may register for the conference.

Poster proposals must include:

- A title with no more than 12 words.
- A 100-word (or fewer) abstract that will appear in the conference program booklet;
- One or two keywords or phrases that best describes the proposal: e.g. Anti-racism, Assessment, Autism Spectrum Disorder, Developmental Delays or Disabilities, Social Emotional Development, Multilingual Learners, Diversity and Equity, Early Elementary, Early Numeracy, Families, Implementation Science, Inclusion, Infant and Toddlers, Kindergarten, Language and/or Early Literacy, Methodological Advances, Multi-tiered Systems of Support, Preschoolers, Professional Development, Program Evaluation, Policy
- A clear indication of who is a presenting author and plans to attend the conference.
- A 500-word (or fewer) description of the research or innovation to be discussed, including the following headings and content:
 - ***Rationale and purpose;***
 - ***Description of methods, results, or modes of inquiry;***
 - ***Innovation*** (*How does the topic or study demonstrate methodological, conceptual/theoretical, policy, or practical innovation;*
 - ***Implications for policy or practice*** (*Can the results of the study inform relevant and timely policy decisions and/or apply to current practice?*);
 - ***Relationship to principles of diversity, equity, and inclusion*** (*Does the research advance knowledge that respects and honors historically marginalized communities to elevate their strengths while providing actionable information to improve services and outcomes?*); and
 - ***Methods used to encourage audience engagement*** (*Includes three discussion questions to encourage audience dialogue when engaged with the poster*):

DESCRIPTION OF PRECONFERENCE METHODOLOGY SESSION:

New this year at CRIEI, we will be hosting two pre-conference methodology sessions. Submissions are encouraged that both highlight an innovative methodology and relate to the theme of the conference. Methodology sessions should focus on teaching participants how to incorporate the new methodology into their research. The pre-conference sessions will be held on February 19th from 1:00-4:00 PST.

Methodology Session Proposal Guidelines

- The methodology is clearly explained as well as the innovation and the rigor of the new approach.
- The submission describes how the content of the pre-conference workshop relates to the conference theme
- Participant engagement strategies grounded in adult learning principles are described

- Some examples might include the application of implementation science to autism intervention research, or mixed methods approaches to the study of the development of interventions in collaboration with traditionally marginalized communities

Methodology pre-conference session proposals must include:

- A title with no more than 12 words.
- A 100-word (or fewer) abstract that will appear in the conference program booklet;
- One or two keywords or phrases that best describes the proposal: Anti-racism, Assessment, Autism Spectrum Disorder, Developmental Delays or Disabilities, Social Emotional Development, Dual Language Learners, Diversity and Equity, Early Elementary, Early Numeracy, Families, Implementation Science, Inclusion, Infant and Toddlers, Kindergarten, Language and/or Early Literacy, Methodological Advances, Multilingual Learners, Multi-tiered Systems of Support, Preschoolers, Professional Development, Program Evaluation, Policy
- A clear indication of who is a presenting author and plans to attend the conference.
- A 500-word (or fewer) description of the research methodology to be discussed, including the following headings and content:
 - ***Rationale and purpose;***
 - ***Description of methodology and it's rigor and utility***
 - ***Target audience and level of the content*** (*Who would benefit from the content and is it at an introductory, intermediate or advanced level?*)
 - ***Innovation*** (*How does the methodology represent conceptual / theoretical, or practical innovation?*);
 - ***Relationship to principles of diversity, equity, and inclusion*** (*Does the research advance knowledge that respects and honors historically marginalized communities to elevate their strengths while providing actionable information to improve services and outcomes?*); and
 - ***Methods used to facilitate participant engagement and learning with a focus on adult learning strategies***

Bonus Points for Panel, Poster, and Methodology Sessions – +1 for each of the following:

- Presenters are from at least two different universities,
- Presenters are from different ranks,
- Presenters are from different disciplines,
- At least one presenter has never presented at CRIEI,
- The presentation involves community partners or collaborators as authors

CRIEI PANEL, POSTER, AND METHODOLOGY SESSION SCORING GUIDELINES

Panel, poster, and methodology session proposals will be scored on the following guidelines:

Rationale and Purpose – The rationale and purpose of the research or innovation are described clearly

Rigor – The research or innovation is rigorous in its conceptualization, methodological approach, or review procedures; data may be preliminary, but methods or techniques of inquiry are methodologically sound and represent current standards in the field

Innovativeness – The research or innovation demonstrates a high degree of methodological, conceptual, theoretical, policy, or practical novelty and ingenuity

Implications – The research or innovation is likely to have a significant impact on the field of early intervention, impacting practice, policy, or future research directions

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion – The authors have clearly explained how their research or innovation advances principles of diversity, equity, and inclusion

Audience/Participant Engagement – The authors have clearly described audience engagement strategies (panel), discussion questions (poster), adult learning strategies (methodology session) that are likely to result in the, fair and equitable participation amongst participants from different ranks, viewpoints, research traditions, and backgrounds by employing strategies that are inclusive and foster equity and open conversation and respect the work of the presenters and promote learning.