

# Curriculum and Instruction

## Workshop Proposal Instructions

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In this project you will put together a 90-minute workshop session proposal (which could potentially be submitted to administration) to share your knowledge, experience and lessons learned in the C&I program with colleagues who - like you - are passionate about the power of professional development to improve their teaching skills and strategies, curriculum planning and assessment techniques, or leadership and advocacy skills within their own classroom, the school, the school district, regionally, state wide or on the national stage.

The focus of your proposal should be on a topic related to at least two of the INTASC Teaching Standards

The theme of the day-long workshop is:

***“Innovation That Works”***

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**The main objectives a proposal needs to meet:**

- To achieve the goals and objectives of the workshop.
- To highlight exemplary models of INTASC Standards at work that serve as vehicles for innovation or change.
- To ensure that sessions combine a strong depth of content and an emphasis on interactive and creative approaches to teaching and learning that stimulate discussion.
- To ensure that sessions go beyond describing a particular Standard, partnership, project or issue to also:
  - analyze what worked, didn't work and why and,
  - facilitate the ability of participants to apply the information shared

**Through active involvement in the workshop, it is expected participants will:**

- Deepen their understanding of how INTASC Standards can transform at all levels
- Reflect on how they have been transformed through their understanding and application of INTASC Standards
- Achieve their most important objective in coming to the workshop
- Commit to concrete and specific actions they will take upon returning home
- Establish a peer group for continued learning
- Leave the workshop energized and motivated

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**You can choose from one of these three formats to build your session proposal.**

1. Hands-On Workshop; 2. Research/Project Report; 3. Facilitated Discussion.

Please select the format that will advance participants' understanding and potential use of your work. One way to effectively engage participants across the different formats is to have them explore ways to apply your information and resources to their own institutional and professional settings.

### **1. Hands-On Workshops**

Workshops allow facilitators to engage participants in active learning about the session topic. I recommend opening with a brief framing of the topic and an overview of planned activities and goals for the session. I expect facilitators will lead participants through relevant exercises or activities (either individual or small group) that will foster constructive dialogue and help them to employ strategies or techniques in their work in their own classrooms.

### **2. Project/Research Reports**

I recommend splitting this session into three periods of 25-30 minutes each. During the first period, facilitators will highlight their research findings, promising project, model, or other innovation. The second period should be used to work through practical applications of this work, and the final period for active discussion. All data, findings, and applications should be presented in ways that are accessible to participants and allow them to engage in a discussion about applications and implications.

- Project/model/innovation-focused proposals should briefly describe the project, the parties involved, the impetus for the project, components, challenges encountered, strategies for implementation and plans for assessing its effectiveness.
- Research-focused proposals should clearly state the research hypothesis, methodology, and major findings, and offer concrete examples/steps for using the findings to effect change.

### **3. Facilitated Discussions**

Facilitated discussions allow colleagues to share expertise and experiences on a topic of mutual interest. They provide a valuable opportunity to network and reflect upon ideas, challenges, and

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possible solutions in an informal setting. Facilitated discussions may take either one of the following approaches:

- Topical discussion: The facilitator briefly presents information on a relevant topic or challenge and assists the group in exploring issues of concern and developing possible solutions.
- Practice/strategy discussion: The facilitator prefaces the discussion with a brief overview of a particular practice or strategy and provides a handout that includes a longer description, as well as a bibliography or other resources. The facilitator then poses questions to stimulate and focus the conversation so that others can share their own experiences using the particular practice or strategy.