

#NPSCTE26



March 22–25
Crystal Gateway Marriott
Arlington, Virginia
With time to meet with legislators on Capitol Hill

2026 National Policy Seminar Draft Agenda

Celebrating 100 Years of CTE Advocacy!

Pre-Event Orientation Webinar

Tuesday, February 24, 3:00 Eastern Time

Join us for an overview of this year's National Policy Seminar (NPS), including everything you need to know about the event website, scheduling Hill visits and navigating the agenda. We will walk through all the materials and resources that are available to help make your conference experience a success.

ACTE's Public Policy staff will also be on hand to answer any questions you have about NPS!

Register at <https://acte.zoom.us/meeting/register/I-VHqaJ9Q-Kwg8rOkQgjaw>

Sunday, March 22

8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

State Association Leadership Training (SALT)

Separate Registration Required

Join ACTE for a full-day leadership training designed for current and emerging state association leaders. This interactive session focuses on essential leadership and association management skills aligned with ACTE's Quality Association Standards. Topics include governance, membership, finances, communications, and public policy. Participants will gain practical strategies to strengthen their state associations. Ideal for executive directors, board members, and committee leaders.

3:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Onsite Registration

5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

First Timer's Q and A

If this is your first time at NPS, or you have questions about the conference or Hill visits, stop by this informal question and answer session with ACTE's policy staff. We'll provide you with all the information you need to navigate the environment on Capitol Hill and make the most of your interactions with policymakers. *Please note: This is a discussion session only, there will be no formal presentation during this time.*

Monday, March 23

7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.

Continental Breakfast

8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

Storytelling as CTE Advocacy: Capturing a Century on Film

We will kick off this year's National Policy Seminar with opening remarks from ACTE President Robert Torres and ACTE Executive Director LeAnn Curry, then have a special preview of ACTE's centennial microdocumentary on the history and future of CTE. David Baker, the director of the microdocumentary and an independent writer and filmmaker and creative director at Oregon State University, will then share more about the piece and how storytelling can serve as a powerful tool for CTE advocacy

*Robert Torres; President; ACTE
LeAnn Curry; Executive Director; ACTE
David Baker; Filmmaker*

9:15 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

Looking Back, Looking Ahead: 100 Years of CTE Advocacy in Action

This panel will feature a lineup of veteran CTE advocates who have significant experience working at the national level in support of CTE. They will discuss historical trends in CTE advocacy, how perceptions of CTE have changed over the years, and how the evolving landscape should shape our advocacy efforts now and in the future.

11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Overview of Key Federal Legislative Issues

ACTE policy staff will provide an in-depth overview of the federal policy environment and a legislative update. They will cover the congressional agenda for the year, the status of current legislation, and key advocacy messages for Capitol Hill visits.

*Alisha Hyslop; ACTE; Chief Policy, Research and Content Officer
Jimmy Koch; ACTE; Government Relations Manager*

12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Lunch (on your own)

1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Perkins Reauthorization Priorities

This session will provide a deep dive into the latest federal conversations on the potential reauthorization of the Perkins Act, including a full review of ACTE and Advance CTE's joint priorities for any congressional action to prepare you for conversations with policymakers on Capitol Hill.

*Alisha Hyslop; Chief Policy, Research & Content Officer; ACTE
Catherine Imperatore; Research & Content Director; ACTE
Steve Voytek; Senior Policy Advisor; Foresight Law + Policy*

2:45 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.

Messaging CTE in a Divisive Political Environment Panel

CTE has long enjoyed strong bipartisan support from policymakers, but in this environment, that can be difficult to maintain. This panel of education policy experts will discuss how to best position CTE and our legislative priorities in ways that appeal to Members of Congress from different political backgrounds, and how to ensure we can maintain support across the political aisle.

4:00 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.

Advocacy Breakouts

These breakout sessions will provide you with an opportunity to learn more about specific advocacy strategies, resources and activities that can help support CTE at the local, state and federal levels.

5:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

State Planning Time

Work with others from your state to finalize Hill visit logistics and details. Leave-behind folders will be distributed during this time, and ACTE Public Policy staff will be available to answer any remaining questions. Larger state delegations will be dismissed to meet in separate room.

Tuesday, March 24

9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Capitol Hill Panel

106 Senate Dirksen Office Building

Staff working on CTE issues for key committees, Caucuses and Members of Congress will share the latest news from Capitol Hill and their outlook for the rest of this congressional session.

10:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Capitol Hill Visits

5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Capitol Hill Reception (Pending Space Request)

The evening reception will feature CTE students as they share the leadership and skill-building opportunities they gain through high-quality CTE and participation in their respective student organizations.

Wednesday, March 25

7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.

Continental Breakfast

8:30 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.

Executive Branch Updates: The Latest on Regulatory and Administration Activity

Hear from representatives of federal agencies about the Administration activities that have the potential to impact CTE programs around the country.

10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Implementing Federal Policy

This panel will provide insights include key policy issues that have moved into the implementation phase, particularly items included in 2025's One Big Beautiful Bill Act. Information will be provided on the latest on Workforce Pell and other federal financial aid changes, school voucher programs and more!