



## 2025 INCOSE SySTEAM mini-conference

### About the event:

**Dates:** August 14 - 15, 2025 (Day 1: 11AM to 5PM Eastern; Day 2: 9AM to 1PM Eastern)

**Location:** Online, via Zoom (register at: [tinyurl.com/4nn3h9u6](https://tinyurl.com/4nn3h9u6) by August 12)

**Who can attend:** Anyone! Registration is free, and is open up until August 12 (2 days before the event)

**Contact:** SySTEAM Program Director, Caitlyn Singam ([caitlyn.singam@incose.net](mailto:caitlyn.singam@incose.net))

The INCOSE SySTEAM Initiative ([incose.org/system](https://incose.org/system)) is hosting a free, two-day online mini-conference intended to provide individuals from around the globe with the opportunity to convene, discuss, and exchange ideas relating to the intersection between STEM/STEAM education and systems competencies through a mix of contributed paper/poster presentations and group discussion.

**Anyone who is interested is welcome to register to attend the mini-conference, and to also apply to be a potential mini-conference presenter and/or volunteer peer reviewer.**

### Call for paper/poster presentations (ends June 10th)

We are currently seeking **paper & poster presentation abstracts** for the SySTEAM mini-conference highlighting current, emerging, and future trends in interdisciplinary systems education/training. Authors of whose submissions pass peer review and are selected for inclusion in the mini-conference program will get to present their work as a **formal, conference-style talk in either a 15-minute or 30-minute mini-conference time-slot** (10- or 25-minute presentation + 5 minutes Q&A), and will afterwards get their completed paper/poster published in SySTEAM's mini-conference proceedings. *Authors can submit their abstracts along with their conference registration via the main portal (preferred method – link: [tinyurl.com/4nn3h9u6](https://tinyurl.com/4nn3h9u6)), or submitting their abstracts after registration using a separate form: (post-registration submission link: [tinyurl.com/mrbre4w9](https://tinyurl.com/mrbre4w9)).* See the Submission Guide on the next page for more details.

### Call for peer reviewers (ends June 10th)

We are currently seeking **qualified volunteers to help evaluate submissions for the SySTEAM mini-conference**. Volunteers who qualify to be peer reviewers will be assigned abstract submissions related to their areas(s) of expertise and asked for their input regarding the relevance/merit & quality of the content, which will then be collectively used to select the submissions that will be accepted for presentation at this year's mini-conference. Prior peer reviewing experience is preferred but not required, and you're not obligated to attend the mini-conference or to be a SySTEAM community member to be eligible as a peer reviewer volunteer (though you're of course welcome & encouraged to do both!).

**Individuals with expertise in the education sector/teaching, systems engineering, and/or in interdisciplinary fields are particularly encouraged to apply.** *Volunteer applications are accepted both via the mini-conference registration portal ([tinyurl.com/4nn3h9u6](https://tinyurl.com/4nn3h9u6)) for conference attendees, and via the separate SySTEAM Volunteer Reviewer Program form ([tinyurl.com/ms7juzw7](https://tinyurl.com/ms7juzw7)).*

**Mini-conference registration & submission portal:** [tinyurl.com/4nn3h9u6](https://tinyurl.com/4nn3h9u6) (or the QR code)

### Important dates:

*Abstract submissions:* due **June 10, 2025** (extended deadline)

*Acceptance notification:* by July 1, 2025

*Camera-ready presentations (slide decks):* due July 25, 2025 (accepted authors only)

*Completed paper/poster submissions:* due August 3, 2025 (accepted authors only)

*Registration for attendees:* anytime before August 12, 2025 (2 days before the mini-conference)



## Submission guide

*For individuals interested in submitting content to the mini-conference*

If you're passionate about systems competency development and interdisciplinary STEM/STEAM education and want to share and discuss your ideas and original work in this area with the international members of the SySTEAM community, please consider submitting a paper/poster presentation for this year's mini-conference! **Currently, we are seeking abstract submissions for 30-minute and 15-minute paper/poster presentations to include in this year's mini-conference.**

Submissions may take the form of case study presentations based on learned experience, original research studies, meta-analyses, critiques of policy/practice, etc., so long as they contribute to SySTEAM's overall mission of improving education worldwide through the greater integration of systems content into all levels of education/training. Participants are highly encouraged to ground their content in reference to both existing knowledge (prior studies, existing policy, etc.) and new/emerging knowledge from their own analyses.

Suggested topics include, but are by no means limited to:

- Best practices in teaching interdisciplinary competencies
- Trends in employer recognition of systems engineering skills
- New methods for integrating systems content into STEAM curricula
- Case studies in improving outreach/awareness of systems engineering competencies

### Submission & selection process

Interested authors should submit **200-400 word formal abstracts for evaluation**, which summarize either a paper/manuscript (generally around 1500+ words, though longer is acceptable), or poster (academic-style, large-format sheets containing detailed graphics and explanatory text) that they'd like to present at the mini-conference in either a 30-minute or 15-minute timeslot.

- **30 minute timeslots** will get about 25 minutes of presentation time and 5 minutes of Q&A. These are well-suited to presentations that present critiques, analyses, research data, etc. that warrants in-depth discussion and explanation.
- **15 minute timeslots** will get about 10 minutes of presentation time and 5 minutes of Q&A. These shorter timeslots are ideal for submissions interested in showcasing a tool or resource (where it might be desirable to have a more even balance between presentation time & Q&A) or shorter-form case study presentations, etc.

*Authors are not expected to necessarily have to have their posters or papers completed at the time they submit their abstract.* As part of your abstract submission, authors will be asked to provide **an informal presentation outline of ~3-5 bullet points to help supplement the content in your abstract**, that gives a loose idea of the structure/flow of the proposed presentation and how the technical details referenced in the abstract will be populated to fill a 15-minute or 30-minute mini-conference presentation slot. The informal outline is not expected to perfectly align with the final product, and will only be seen by the peer reviewers who are providing technical feedback on each submission.

As with our 2023 mini-conference, each abstract submission (abstract + outline) will be subject to double-blind peer-review and evaluated based on scope/relevance to the mini-conference. **Submissions that pass the peer review/evaluation process will be selected for inclusion in the mini-conference program as either a 15-minute or 30-minute timeslot presentations** (author preferences will be honored to the greatest extent possible), at which point accepted authors have until July 25<sup>th</sup> to complete their presentation materials (slide decks or poster graphics), and until August 3<sup>rd</sup> to complete their standalone posters or paper/manuscripts for the mini-conference event on August 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup>.

## **Content checklist**

*Is the content you want to submit...*

### **☐... in-scope for the conference?**

This means that it should focus on a topic relating to the intersection between systems competencies and STEAM education/training/certification/outreach. This can encompass any segment of the educational pathway (early childhood education through post-graduate/professional development training), different types of education(classroom education, project-based learning, on-the-job learning, etc.), and various different aspects of systems competency development (curricula, professional development, industry alignment with academia, teaching pedagogy, etc.), but *there has to be a clear focus on the intersection & integration of interdisciplinary systems competencies into STEM/STEAM education.*

### **☐... of interest to an international audience of educators and STEAM professionals?**

A wide variety of attendees should find your content interesting and/or useful; there should be clearly identifiable takeaways or conclusions that can be appreciated by an interdisciplinary audience.

### **☐... sharing new or unique ideas/examples/perspectives/approaches with the audience?**

We're looking for new ideas about systems education, and/or new ways of looking at existing ideas. This could involve identifying new problem-areas or trends from existing knowledge and documentation, or presenting novel solutions and perspective applicable to currently unaddressed or unrecognized application areas.

### **☐... able to justify its conclusions based on the data, examples, cited sources, and discussion/analysis you'll be showing the audience?**

You can use new results (e.g., research data you've collected, a case study example based on your professional work, etc.) or present your own analysis of existing info (e.g., a critique of existing curricula or policy, or a new framework for framing existing published knowledge) – just ensure you justify the point(s) you make with evidence, logic, and citations as appropriate.

### **☐... presented in a readable format, with minimal jargon?**

We'd like to ensure that content is accessible to an interdisciplinary audience.

### **☐... correctly crediting all contributors via citation, authorship, or acknowledgments?**

We want to ensure that we credit everyone appropriately! That includes citing references in your final paper/poster & presentation (any standardized/formal citation style works).

### **☐... ready for presentation in a public forum?**

Prior to submitting, please verify that your content can be presented at a public event and to an international audience, and that you'll be able to meet all the mini-conference submission deadlines. If you are required to get approval/permission prior to publicly releasing any of the content in your submission, please ensure you secure the necessary approval before submitting.

**If you're able to check off all of the boxes above, you should be ready to proceed with your submission!**