



Your NCTA Monthly Quick Bites for July 2026

"The beautiful thing about learning is that no one can take it away from you." —

B.B. King



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Connect. Learn. Grow.



If you've never attended the NCTA Annual Conference, this is the year to experience it! The conference is an opportunity to connect with testing professionals from across the country, exchange ideas, discover new solutions, and learn from colleagues who understand the unique challenges of our field.

In addition to engaging educational sessions, you'll have the chance to meet with industry vendors, explore the latest testing technologies, and stay current on best practices in academic integrity, accessibility, and exam administration. You'll return to your campus with practical ideas, valuable new connections, and renewed enthusiasm for the work we do.

We look forward to welcoming you to Sacramento for an outstanding conference. We hope to see you there!

Our next goal is to reach 300 registrations! If we hit that milestone, we'll celebrate with another drawing for a \$50 Amazon gift card.

🕒 Registration: \$600 (open through August 28th)

[Register Here](#)

NCTA Mentorship Program

The graphic features the NCTA logo (The National College Testing Association) in the top right. The main title 'NCTA Mentorship Program' is in blue, followed by the tagline 'GROW. CONNECT. THRIVE.' in green and blue. Below this is the text 'Guidance. Support. Success. At every step of your testing career.' with 'your' underlined. An illustration shows a woman and a man in conversation, with a speech bubble and a potted plant. Below the illustration are five icons in circles: a compass, a bar chart, a group of people, a magnifying glass, and a forked path. Each icon has a corresponding text label: 'Navigate the testing landscape', 'Accelerate your professional growth', 'Expand your network', 'Explore new areas of testing', and 'Get guidance during transitions'. At the bottom is a dark blue banner with a white icon of two people on stairs, the text 'Ready to take the next step?', a laptop icon with the text 'Learn more & apply: ncta-testing.org/mentorship-program', and an email icon with the text 'Questions? Email us: mentorship@ncta-testing.org'.

NCTA Mentorship Program
GROW. CONNECT. THRIVE.

Guidance. Support. Success.
At every step of your testing career.

NCTA
THE NATIONAL COLLEGE
TESTING ASSOCIATION

Navigate
the testing
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Accelerate
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**Ready to take
the next step?**

Learn more & apply:
ncta-testing.org/mentorship-program

Questions? Email us: mentorship@ncta-testing.org

Whether you're a seasoned testing veteran or just embarking on your career journey, the NCTA Mentorship Program offers invaluable opportunities for mentees:

- **Navigate the Testing Landscape:** Gain insights and practical advice from experienced professionals who understand the unique challenges and opportunities within the testing field.
- **Accelerate Your Professional Development:** Receive personalized guidance on career advancement, skill development, and navigating the ever-evolving world of assessment.
- **Expand Your Network:** Connect with established leaders in the testing community, building valuable relationships that can support your long-term career goals.
- **Explore New Areas of Testing:** Whether you're interested in exploring new testing modalities, assessment technologies, or specific testing populations, a mentor can help you gain valuable insights and connections.
- **Guidance During Transitions:** If you are new to testing or experiencing a change in your program, a mentor can help you navigate the change and provide valuable support.

To learn more about the NCTA Mentorship Program and to apply to become a mentee, visit <https://www.nctatesting.org/mentorship-program>.

You can also email us at mentorship@ncta-testing.org.

Shout Outs!



NCTA Shout Outs!



THANK YOU TO OUR AMAZING VOLUNTEERS!



RECOGNIZE

Great work deserves recognition.



APPRECIATE

We appreciate your time and dedication.



CELEBRATE

Together, we accomplish great things.



INSPIRE

Your ideas help us grow.



MAKE A DIFFERENCE

You strengthen our community every day.



KNOW SOMEONE

who deserves a shout out?
Nominate today!



NOMINATE TODAY

ncta-testing.org/awards



QUESTIONS?

awards@ncta-testing.org



THANK YOU  *We appreciate you!*

Name of Nominee: Lisa Holben

Position/Institution: Chair of Website Committee/Member of the CE Committee

We would like to recognize and thank Lisa Holben for her outstanding volunteer service to NCTA. Lisa serves on both the Website Committee and the Continuing Education Committee, generously contributing her time and expertise to support our members. Each month, Lisa takes the lead in creating the PDF version of Quick Bites and ensuring it is posted to the NCTA website, helping make valuable resources accessible to our membership. More recently, she joined the Continuing Education Committee, where she has played an important role in developing a process for evaluating continuing education units (CEUs) that can be applied toward proctor certification. Lisa's dedication, attention to detail, and willingness to take on new challenges have made a meaningful impact on our organization. Even more impressive, she accomplishes all of this while pursuing a graduate degree. Thank you, Lisa, for your commitment, leadership, and service to NCTA. We truly appreciate all that you do!

Name of Nominee: Eddy Presley

Position/Institution: Special Interest Group Leader

Eddy Presley deserves recognition for his outstanding contributions as a SIG (Special Interest Group) Leader for the NCTA organization. His enthusiasm, professionalism, experience, knowledge, and contributions have consistently helped improve and strengthen the SIG committee. Eddy's thoughtful comments, valuable feedback, and constructive suggestions continue to move the committee forward, helping create meaningful resources and lasting value for NCTA's members. His dedication and leadership are greatly appreciated and make a positive impact on the success of the committee.

Did you know NCTA has a great way to recognize hard work?

There is still time to get all your nominations in for Conference Awards and monthly Shout Outs. Having worked in higher education for over 20 years, I know there are lots and lots of great people, especially in testing, making a huge difference every day.

- Do you know someone who goes the extra mile?
- Do you know someone who always has great ideas at meetings and is always the first one to get the wheels rolling on a project?
- Do you know someone awesome in your respective committees who is at the ready and delivers every time?

Please nominate all our awesome members who do a great job day in and day out.

Visit us at <https://www.ncta-testing.org/awards> to nominate TODAY! If you need help or have questions, we are here to help. Please email us at awards@ncta-testing.org.

Conference Special Events - Don't Miss Out!

NCTA CONFERENCE *EVENTS*

NCTA
THE NATIONAL COLLEGE
TESTING ASSOCIATION

1 **TESTING CENTER TOUR & PLANETARIUM SHOW**



- Tour Sac State's Testing Center
- Learn how 32,000+ students take 15,000 exams each year
- See the unique call system
- Planetarium show:
Aurora: Lights of Wonder

REGISTER ON THE CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM.

2 **SACRAMENTO SCAVENGER HUNT**



- Explore. Solve clues. Win prizes.
- Cost: \$15 per person
- Distance: ~2 miles
- Capacity: Limited to 40

REGISTER ON THE CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM.

3 **DINNER GROUPS**



- Connect over dinner at local restaurants.

Details and sign-up form coming soon!



LEARN. CONNECT. EXPLORE. *See you in Sacramento!*



Event 1: Testing Center Tour/Planetarium Show

Monday, September 14, 2026

Take a behind-the-scenes tour of Sacramento State's Testing Center, located just 30 minutes from the conference hotel via light rail. Led by Alan Dixon-Hurd and Michael Smith, you'll learn how the center serves over 32,000 students and administers 15,000 exams annually, including accommodated, make-up, and high-stakes testing. The tour also features a demonstration of the center's unique call system. As part of the experience, participants will view *Aurora: Lights of Wonder* at the Sac State Planetarium.

Register on the Conference Registration Form.

Event 2: Sacramento Scavenger Hunt

Wednesday, September 16, 2026 | 5:30–7:30 p.m.

Explore Sacramento while networking with fellow attendees during a fun, cell phone-guided scavenger hunt. Teams will solve clues, complete challenges, and compete for prizes as they discover the city's landmarks.

- Cost: \$15 per person
- Distance: Approximately 2 miles
- Capacity: Limited to 40 participants

Register [Here](#).

Event 3: Dinner Groups

Connect with fellow attendees over dinner at local restaurants. Details, restaurant options, and the sign-up form will be available closer to the conference.

From the Desk of the Chair, Finance Division

- **FY2027 fiscal year is here! New \$funds\$ are now available!**
- **NCTA payment options update.**
 - NCTA no longer accepts payment by checks. Processing time results in delays.
 - Purchase Orders are no longer accepted or processed.
- **What are the current payment options?** You can pay by credit card or debit card, ACH or EFT bank drafts.
- **Where can you find NCTA ACH and EFT enrollment information?** Contact NCTA Finance by emailing treasurer@ncta-testing.org
- **What if someone else is responsible for payment, or the person responsible for coordinating the payment is no longer a member of NCTA?** If your institution's Accounts Payable Office is responsible for submitting the membership dues payment to NCTA, contact NCTA Finance by emailing treasurer@ncta-testing.org for assistance.
- **Save Time getting answers to finance and funding related questions.** Here are a few reasons to contact Finance or the Treasurer directly.
 - **Questions regarding fee changes AND payment options**
 - **Change of payment methods**
 - **Completion of Vendor Payment Forms to conduct financial services with NCTA**
 - **Renewal of Vendor Payment Forms to continue financial services with NCTA**
- **Reminder:** If you have questions or concerns involving fees and payments, contact NCTA Finance by emailing treasurer@ncta-testing.org for assistance.



Summer Is a Great Time for New Ideas



While summer may be a quieter season on some campuses, it's often when new ideas begin to take shape. Between planning for fall, reviewing processes, and reflecting on the past academic year, many testing professionals find themselves saying:

- "There has to be a better way to do this."
- "This could really help our students."
- "I wish we had the resources to try this."

That's often where great grant ideas begin.

Whether your idea is focused on professional development, research, technology, student support, accessibility, or operational improvement, summer is a great time to start collecting notes, identifying challenges, and thinking through possibilities for the future.

Learn more about the Grants Program and explore grant opportunities: Visit [NCTA Grants Program webpage](#). Questions? Contact grants@ncta-testing.org

SIG Coffee Date

Thank you so much to those who were able to join us for the most recent SIG Coffee Date.

Mark your calendars for the upcoming SIG (Special Interest Group) Coffee Date:

Management SIG in August 6, 2026 3-4 pm EST

Grab your coffee and come join us for relaxed conversation and collaboration. We look forward to seeing you then!



Conference Volunteers & Moderators Needed - Be Part of the Experience!

A great conference doesn't just happen - it's powered by our members. That's where you come in!

When you register, you'll have the opportunity to sign up as a Conference Volunteer, Session Moderator, or both. These roles are a fantastic way to get involved, meet colleagues, and make the most of your conference experience.

What's the difference?

◇ Conference Volunteers

Help bring the event to life by supporting key moments throughout the conference—assisting with general session setup, lending a hand at the NCTA booth, and helping with conference setup and wrap-up.

◇ Session Moderators

Play an important role in our educational sessions by introducing speakers, keeping sessions on track, and ensuring everything runs smoothly. Moderators will receive guidance, attend a brief virtual orientation, and be supported with materials onsite.

Whether you're new to NCTA or looking to deepen your involvement, these roles are a great way to connect, contribute, and enhance your conference experience.

[Ready to jump in? Be sure to select "yes" when registering—you're welcome to sign up for both opportunities! If you have already registered and forgot to volunteer, you can email Eddy Pressley, Moderator Coordinator: \[epresley@bpcc.edu\]\(mailto:epresley@bpcc.edu\)](#)

Proctor Certification Window Now Open



Register for the October 2026 Proctor Certification Window

- Registration Open: June 29, 2026
- Registration Deadline: September 3, 2026
- Accommodation Request Deadline: August 19, 2026

Please see this website for more details and to register: <https://www.ncta-testing.org/proctor-certification>

Newly Certified and Recertified Test Centers

Congratulations to our newly certified and recertified test centers. Your commitment and hard work are truly commendable.

Recertifications

- Florida Atlantic University
- University of Pittsburgh
- Central Michigan University
- Renton Technical College
- Miami Dade College - Homestead Campus
- Miami Dade College – MEEC



NCTA Book Study



Thank you to everyone who participated in the 2025-2026 NCTA book discussions of *Start with Why* and *The Opposite of Cheating*. Your insight, questions, and engagement helped make the conversations thoughtful and meaningful, and highlighted the value of coming together to reflect critically and learn from one another.

We'd love to give you the opportunity to lead a future book discussion! Serving as a discussion moderator is a great way to engage with fellow professionals while helping foster meaningful dialogue.

The role of Moderator is simple but impactful:

- Choose the book
- Set the weekly reading schedule (typically over 5 weeks)
- Facilitate the discussions (usually held in the afternoon)

The Professional Development Chairs will take care of the logistics, including setting up the virtual meeting link, handling registration, and sending out reminders—so you can focus on the conversation. If you're interested in leading a fall or spring book discussion, or if there is a book you would like to suggest, please email professional.development@ncta-testing.org. We are eager to get started organizing and building another great experience.

Interested in Volunteering?

Looking for a meaningful way to get more involved with NCTA?

Volunteers help shape the future of our association while building leadership skills, expanding their professional network, and giving back to the testing community. Explore current volunteer opportunities and find a role that's right for you!

View the NCTA Volunteer Jobs Board:

<https://ncta.memberclicks.net/ncta-volunteer-jobs-board>



Connect With Us:

Let's stay connected! Follow us on Instagram and Facebook to see what we're up to. Every post tells a story of change. Follow to see the difference you are making in NCTA.



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