



## Your NCTA Monthly Quick Bites for June 2026

“Summer is the perfect time to pause, reflect, and grow—both personally and professionally.”



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## NCTA Conference Registration Now Open!



**Only 19 days left to register for the Early Bird registration!**

Join us in Sacramento from September 14-17, 2026, for the 27th annual NCTA Conference—where connection, innovation, and professional growth come together.

🕒 Early Bird Registration: \$550 (through June 19)  
After June 19, registration increases to \$600—so be sure to secure your spot early!

Don't forget - you can delay payment during registration until August if needed.

[Register Here](#)

Make plans now to join your colleagues in Sacramento—we can't wait to see you there!

## NCTA Meme Contest

2025 Meme Winner - Kelsey Jordan, Purdue University



NCTA Meme competition is back! The submission form will be open from June 1 - June 30. Learn more about the meme contest on the [website](#).

Submissions open June 1.

# Shout Outs!



**Name of Nominee:** Donna Rodriguez

**Position/Institution:** SIG Leader

**Email:** donna.rodriguez@victoriaollege.edu

Donna Rodriguez deserves recognition for her outstanding contributions as a SIG Leader volunteer for the NCTA organization. Her professionalism, experience, knowledge, and strong organizational skills have consistently helped improve and strengthen the SIG committee. Donna'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. Her 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](mailto:awards@ncta-testing.org).

## Conference Special Events - Don't Miss Out!

# 3 EXCITING OPPORTUNITIES

*Plan Ahead & Register!*

1 MONDAY  
SEPTEMBER 13, 2026

### TOUR THE TESTING CENTER

California State University,  
Sacramento



SACRAMENTO STATE TESTING CENTER



Just a 30-minute light rail ride!

2 WEDNESDAY  
SEPTEMBER 16, 2026

### SCAVENGER HUNT!



  
Teams

  
Prizes

  
Explore Sacramento

3 DINNER GROUPS

### *Let's Dine Together!*





More details coming closer to the conference!

After the Early Bird Registration closes, conference attendees will receive an email with additional information on two exciting opportunities that will require advance registration.

### Event 1: Monday, September 13, 2026

Join us for a tour of the Testing Center at California State University, Sacramento, just a 30-minute light rail ride from the hotel. Your tour guides, Alan Dixon-Hurd, Assistant Director of the Disability Access Center, and Michael Smith, Testing Coordinator, will provide an inside look at the center's operations. Serving a campus of 32,000 students, the Testing Center proctors approximately 15,000 exams each year, including accommodated

exams, make-up exams, and high-stakes testing such as Pearson, Kryterion, TEAS, and Measure Learning. Participants will also have the opportunity to see the center's unique call system in action.

Register for the tour on the Conference Registration Form.

## **Event 2: Wednesday, September 16, 2026**

You're Invited to a Scavenger Hunt!

Lace up your walking shoes and join your fellow conference attendees for a fun and interactive Adventure Quest Scavenger Hunt during the National College Testing Association (NCTA) September conference!

This cell phone-guided scavenger hunt is a great way to explore the history, landmarks, and hidden gems of Sacramento while teaming up with colleagues for friendly competition and networking.

For just \$15.00 per person, participants will work in small groups to solve clues, complete challenges, and learn more about Sacramento – from the Capital to Old Town – with prizes for the winning team!

Space is limited to 40 participants, so don't miss this opportunity to add a little adventure and exercise to your conference experience!

**Date:** Wednesday, September 16, 2026 | Time: 5:30 – 7:30 pm

**Cost:** \$15.00 per person

Total walking distance: Approximately two miles

[Register Today](#)

Learn more about the scavenger hunt meet up, locations and specifics:

<https://www.urbanadventurequest.com/tours/things-to-do/sacramento/default.aspx>

## **Event 3: Dinner Groups**

Dinner groups will continue as planned with the Membership Engagement Division. Look for additional information closer to the conference with restaurants, times, and a sign-up form.

## **From the Desk of the Chair, Finance Division**

- **Conference Registrations.**

**Register By June 19th. Pay Later! Pay by August 19, 2026**

- **NCTA payment options update.**

NCTA no longer accepts checks.

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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:grants@ncta-testing.org)

## **SIG Coffee Date**

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

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

Online Proctoring SIG June 18, 2026 3-4 pm EST

&

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.

### Initial Certifications

- Central Carolina Technical College

- Chattanooga State Community College

## Recertifications

- Miami Dade College - Kendall Campus

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Miami Dade College - Padron Campus

- Leadership and Management Institute

- University of Georgia

## NCTA Book Study

**Thank You!**  
for a great year of book discussions!

Now it's your turn to  
**Lead the Discussion!**

**CHOOSE THE BOOK** | **SET THE SCHEDULE** | **FACILITATE THE DISCUSSION**

✓ Share Ideas  
✓ Ask Questions  
✓ Learn Together

**INTERESTED?** | Email [professional.development@ncta-testing.org](mailto:professional.development@ncta-testing.org)

The graphic features a stack of three books with titles 'GREAT IDEAS', 'BETTER TOGETHER', and 'STRONGER PROFESSIONALS'. A blue mug says 'Keep the Conversation Going!'. A laptop shows a video call with four participants. A notebook lists 'Share Ideas', 'Ask Questions', and 'Learn Together'. The background is light green with decorative elements like leaves and speech bubbles.

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](mailto:professional.development@ncta-testing.org). We are eager to get started organizing and building another great experience.

## NCTA Volunteer Opportunities – Available Positions



NCTA is seeking volunteers for several open roles across our divisions—your participation is essential to keeping our programs strong and supporting fellow members.

Open positions include:

- Conference App Committee Member (Professional Development Division) – Help manage and support the MobileUp conference app.
- Test Center Certification Team Member (Professional Services Division) – Review certification applications for compliance.

- Continuing Education (CE) Committee Member (Administration Division) – Evaluate CE submissions and uphold certification standards.
- NCTA Digest Assistant (Professional Development Division) – Support writing, editing, and publishing the Digest.

Thank you to those who have already stepped up—we still need more members to get involved.

[Click here to apply today!](#)

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#### 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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