



NPSI Iowa State Conference

DMACC (Des Moines Area Community College)
September 23-24, 2019

The National Postsecondary Strategy Institute (NPSI) is pleased to invite you to apply for our Iowa State Conference. NPSI helps school districts develop their internal capacity to support every student toward attaining a successful postsecondary pathway. NPSI has a holistic approach based on the integration of three critical components:

- *A district postsecondary framework & strategy*—School district leadership has a clear plan for increasing student postsecondary outcomes that is tied to measurable data points.
- *A data strategy*—Connecting district student information with third-party datasets, analyzing data by subgroups, and using data to identify where strategies need to be developed.
- *Engagement of counselors as leaders*—District empowers counselors to lead the postsecondary access work within their schools, engaging partners in the process.

NPSI Iowa State Conference Overview

This State conference is designed to address postsecondary strategies relevant to the Iowa postsecondary landscape. District teams will engage together to investigate strategies, structures, accountability and sustainability practices to support and advance postsecondary outcomes for all students. This conference will specifically focus on problems of practice facing Iowa districts.

Each participating school district will be asked to bring a team consisting of four to seven senior administrators. The team should include at least one person who is responsible for data and analysis, one person who supports college and career readiness programming, and a secondary counseling lead. Teams may consist of the following members:

- Superintendent
- Assistant superintendent
- Director of school counselors
- Curriculum director
- Director of data and/or assessment
- Director of student supports
- Secondary school principal
- Secondary school counselor
- AEA Support Person

The cost to attend the conference is \$1,250 per team of four to seven people.



Application Timeline

- **Applications due: May 31, 2019**
- Notification of acceptance given to districts: June 7, 2019
- Acceptance from districts: June 21, 2019
- Payments due from district: July 30, 2019

Application Link

All applications must be submitted electronically through the application form at [NPSI IA- Iowa State Conference](#). Application instructions are included at the end of this document.

Convening Objectives

- **Increase understanding** of factors that contribute to a strong district wide college and career readiness framework aligned to school based accountability measures.
- **Provide examples** of how to use data, research, and community-based partnerships to increase student-level outcomes.
- **Participants will work toward a college and career readiness framework** for their district that can be utilized to:
 - Structure a collaborative college and career readiness framework across a district and within schools.
 - Develop strategies to start and sustain the work.
 - Identify accountability measures to measure results

Convening Activities

District teams will be engaged in three ways throughout NPSI:

- Information sessions on strategies, structures, accountability, and sustainability mechanisms
- Role-alike sessions where district administrators will meet with people in similar roles in other districts
- Team planning time where district teams will have time to reflect and work on their own district plan with support from NPSI consultants

At the conclusion of the training sessions, each district will have:

- Identified key student success indicators, and developed/refined district data to track student outcomes.
- Analyzed formative and outcome data to assess student progress around research.
- Prioritized the development or expansion of college and career readiness programs and identified where additional programs are needed.
- Developed an action plan to implement in their district.



Directions to Apply for NPSI Iowa State Conference

DMACC (Des Moines Area Community College) September 23-24, 2019

The National Postsecondary Strategy (NPSI) is pleased to announce **NPSI Iowa State Conference** in collaboration with AEA PREP (Postsecondary Readiness and Equity Partnership). Below is information to help you complete your application.

What is NPSI?

NPSI helps school districts develop their internal capacity to support every student toward attaining a successful postsecondary pathway. NPSI has a holistic approach based on the integration of three critical components:

- *A district postsecondary framework & strategy*—School district leadership has a clear plan for increasing student postsecondary outcomes that is tied to measurable data points.
- *A data strategy*—Connecting district student information with third-party datasets, analyzing data by subgroups, and using data to identify where strategies need to be developed.
- *Engagement of counselors as leaders*—District empowers counselors to lead the postsecondary access work within their schools, engaging partners in the process.

Who should apply for the NPSI Iowa State Conference?

NPSI Iowa is a State conference designed to address postsecondary strategies relevant to the Iowa postsecondary landscape. District teams will engage together to investigate strategies, structures, accountability and sustainability practices to support and advance postsecondary outcomes for all students.

How do I submit an application?

All applications must be submitted electronically through the application form at [NPSI IA-Iowa State Conference](#).

If needed, the direct link to the application form is <https://npsi.wufoo.com/forms/sczq9v16t0z20/>

What is the deadline for completing the application?

Applications are due by 7:00 p.m. Friday, May 31, 2019 and decision notifications will be sent to districts by June 7th, 2019.

If space is available, additional applications from districts may be accepted on a rolling basis through August 5, 2019.



What evaluation criteria are being used to select districts to participate?

Districts will be selected to participate in NPSI through a competitive application process. The purpose of this application is to understand where potential NPSI participants are in the process of developing a postsecondary strategy and to tailor content to the needs of attendees.

Applicants will be evaluated on:

- The level of demonstrated commitment to improving postsecondary outcomes by senior leadership.
- Evidence of the development of college and career readiness and success strategies.
- Evidence of the integration of data use into college and career strategies, including preliminary work on postsecondary outcomes, such as National Student Clearinghouse data or your state's student longitudinal data system.

If my district is accepted, what is the cost to attend the conference? When do we have to pay the conference fee?

The cost to attend the conference is \$1,250 per team (4-7 people per team). Districts will be invoiced for the total cost of their team when they receive their acceptance to the conference.

Districts will be notified of their acceptance before June 7th, 2019. Districts will have until June 21st, 2019 to accept their space at the conference. Payments for conference fees will be due by July 30th, 2019. Districts wanting to pay by purchase order should begin the vendor application process in advance of June 21, 2019.

What information do we need to have ready prior to completing the online application form?

The online application form is comprised of four parts. The form must be completed in one session, so plan to prepare your information for submission prior completing the form. You should have the following information ready when completing the application form.

PART 1: DISTRICT BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- School district name
- School district mailing address
- Superintendent's contact information (name, title, phone number, email)
- Proposal contact person (name, title, phone number, email)
- Number of secondary schools in district
- Number of secondary school students enrolled in district
- Percent of secondary school students receiving free or reduced-price lunch
- Percent of secondary school students by race/ethnicity
- High school graduation rate
- College enrollment or postsecondary participation rate
- Number of secondary school counselors in the district



PART 2: DISTRICT QUESTIONS

Please provide your district's mission statement. *(Word limit: 100)*

How does your district define "college and career ready"? *(Word limit: 100)*

What do you hope to learn at NPSI to inform your district's efforts to improve the postsecondary outcomes of its high school students? How does NPSI fit into the larger vision and strategic plan for the district? *(Word limit 400)*

If you have access to your District Career Guidance Plan (HF2392), please submit it here.

If you do not have a plan, what efforts are currently occurring in your district to support students with college and career readiness and success? Please describe any efforts to support students with college and career readiness and success happening at the school level.

Please describe the types of data your district currently uses for high school students and how it is used. What are your district's current strengths and weaknesses with respect to data collection, analysis, and use? Please note if you use AEA PREP Dashboard? *(Word limit: 400)*

PART 3: ATTENDEE INFORMATION

Please identify the people who will make up your team that attends NPSI (name, title, email). Districts must bring teams between 4-7 people. Due to space constraints, teams are capped at seven members.

Please note:

- The superintendent is highly encouraged to attend the Institute, but his/her attendance is not a requirement.
- The team should include at least one person who is responsible for data and analysis, one person who supports college and career readiness programming, and a secondary counseling lead. Teams may consist of the following members:
 - Superintendent
 - Assistant superintendent
 - Director of school counselors
 - Curriculum director
 - Director of data and/or assessment
 - Director of student supports
 - Secondary school principal
 - Secondary school counselor
 - AEA Support Person

What role will the Superintendent/CEO will play on the team? *(Word limit: 100)*



PART 4: LETTER OF SUPPORT FROM SUPERINTENDENT

If someone other than superintendent completes the application, please include either of the following:

- Upload a PDF letter of support
- Submit an electronic signature

What role will the Superintendent/CEO will play on the team? *(Word limit: 100)*

If you have any questions, please contact:

- Amanda Mitchell, NPSI Operations Manager
- amandam@npsi.org
- (224) 288-9934

- David Ford, Director, AEA PREP (Postsecondary Readiness & Equity Partnership)
- dford@mbaea.org
- (563) 344-6571

