



CALL FOR BREAKOUT SESSION PROPOSALS

2027 Developing Data Analytics Capabilities Conference

May 12–13, 2027 | Athens, Georgia

The Carl Vinson Institute of Government’s Georgia Data Innovation Hub (Data Hub) is hosting the 5th Annual Developing Data Analytics Capabilities Conference on May 12–13, 2027. Presenting at this year’s conference is a wonderful opportunity to exchange knowledge, innovative ideas, and best practices with a growing community of public sector data leaders, analysts, and enthusiasts. The conference aims to showcase cutting-edge analytics while providing practical training and organizational solutions to public sector data challenges.

Breakout sessions are an essential component of this year’s program, offering state and local government leaders a platform to engage attendees through presentations, panel discussions, or technical demonstrations. Whether you are a first-time or veteran presenter, the Institute of Government welcomes your submission! Please review the guidelines in this document carefully before preparing your proposal and submit your proposal by October 23, 2026.

PROPOSAL DEADLINE

October 23, 2026 at 5:00 PM ET

What is the year’s conference theme?

Each year, the Institute of Government brings together data analytics leaders from across state agencies and local governments to shape the conference agenda. This year’s theme, **“Building Your Data Neighborhood: Connecting Insights, People, and Impact,”** focuses on fostering a statewide community of practice for expanding and enhancing data analytics and data visualization. The conference will highlight collaborative efforts, offer educational sessions, and showcase best practices to empower state and local governments to build and sustain informative and innovative public sector analytics.

Who attends?

The conference draws over 300 attendees from national organizations, state and local governments, higher education institutions, K-12 systems, non-profit organizations, and industry leaders in data analytics and visualization. Attendees represent a wide variety of roles, including executive leadership, data and business analysts, data engineers, data scientists, and public sector professionals looking to expand their technical toolkits.

What topics should be considered for proposals?

Proposals must align with at least one of the conference topics below, addressing organizational and technical needs identified by state and local government partners. The selection committee strongly encourages proposals that span multiple topics. Proposals outside these areas will not be considered.

Leadership

- Best practices in data governance and strategy for data and analytics infrastructures.
- Case studies of successful cloud migrations and emerging technology adoption.
- Modern concepts in cloud-based, AI-ready, and integrated data architectures.
- Building and sustaining a data-informed organizational culture.
- Connecting data analytics and visualization to broader impact.



Technology

- Industry-standard tools for data analytics and visualization (e.g., BI platforms, R/Python, Microsoft Excel, and GIS).
- Use cases for applied data science, organizational research, artificial intelligence and machine learning.
- Innovative data collection and management practices for spatial and cloud-based datasets (e.g., APIs and shapefiles)

Data Storytelling & Communicating Impact

- Effective data communication strategies for senior leadership and public stakeholders.
- Technical demonstrations of visual strategies and interactive dashboards across diverse data sources.
- Human-centered design and design thinking principles in data visualization.
- Communicating broader impact through data storytelling.

Traditional & Generative Artificial Intelligence

- Best practices in AI adoption, governance, evaluation, and policy compliance across local, state, and federal levels.
- Technical demonstrations covering prompt engineering, agentic AI, and building AI data pipelines.
- Core concepts and emerging frameworks in traditional and generative AI.

What are the types of proposal submissions?

The selection committee invites proposals for three distinct session formats:

SESSION FORMAT	FORMAT & PURPOSE
Presentation (25 Minutes Total)	A 20-minute presentation followed by a 5-minute Q&A session. These sessions focus on providing technical training, showcasing innovative work, highlighting cross-organizational collaborations, and sharing best practices in data analytics and visualization. The selection committee may combine similar presentations into a 50-minute presentation with a 10-minute Q&A session.
Mini-Workshop (60 Minutes Total)	A 50-minute presentation followed by a 10-minute Q&A session. These sessions focus on providing technical training on specialized data analytics and visualization tools and services (e.g., Microsoft Excel, business intelligence platforms, statistical or computational programming, and GIS).
Panel Discussion (60 Minutes Total)	A 50-minute panel discussion followed by a moderated 10-minute Q&A session. These sessions are structured conversations where a small group of subject matter experts (up to four) share examples and perspectives on a specific data analytics and visualization topic.

When are proposals due?

OCT 23, 2026 • 5:00 PM ET	Proposal submission deadline
OCT 26 – NOV 16, 2026	Selection committee review period
NOV 30, 2026	Proposers notified of status
AFTER SELECTION	Successful proposers receive their assigned conference track

The selection committee may reach out during review with questions or requests for clarification. For accepted panels, the Institute will work with the primary presenter to finalize panel contributors.



What are the proposer and presenter responsibilities?

- **Registration:** Proposers of accepted breakout sessions must ensure all co-presenters register for the 2027 Developing Data Analytics Capabilities Conference. Each accepted submission receives one complimentary registration.
- **Lodging:** Presenters and panelists are responsible for arranging their own lodging.
- **Panel Management:** If proposing a panel session, the primary presenter is responsible for confirming all panel participants, managing the topic flow and discussion, and submitting panelist headshots and bios to the Institute of Government prior to the conference.
- **Session Preparation & Dry Runs:** The Institute of Government reserves the right to edit proposed session titles, descriptions, modes of presentation, panel structures, and moderators. Proposal ideas that complement each other may be combined into a single session. A presentation dry run may be required.
- **Session Materials Deadline:** Presenters will provide all session materials (e.g., PowerPoint slides, handouts, supporting technical documentation) no later than two weeks prior to the conference. Additionally, proposers and presenters will collaborate with the conference planning team leading up to the event to refine the session and ensure its success. The submitted session materials will be considered the final draft that will be distributed to attendees.

What are the proposal guidelines and instructions?

Please review the following guidelines before submitting your proposal for the 2027 Developing Data Analytics Capabilities Conference:

- Proposals are due by 5:00 PM ET on October 23, 2026.
- Please submit proposals via our online submission tool [HERE](#).
- Proposal descriptions are limited to 300 words.
- Proposers (whether individuals or organizations) are limited to two submissions.
- Proposals may not be submitted on behalf of another organization, but collaborative proposals are strongly encouraged.

Who should I contact with questions?

QUESTIONS?

Please contact [Hong Zeng](#) with any questions.

*Content was AI-assisted in correcting grammatical and spelling errors and adjusting clarity and tone.