



Enhancing Assessment Systems: Tools to Sustain Success

Fall 2025 TC Cohort Convening

Dates: September 23-25

Chicago, IL

BranchED's Transformation Center EPPs and district partners unite at the 2025 Cohort Convening to share, learn and inspire.

The goal of this Convening is to create time and space to reconnect and make new connections with our core community as we build a shared understanding about how to leverage assessment for program improvement.

September 23 Day 1	
Time	Activity
12:00 -1:00	Lunch
1:00 – 1:15	Welcome
1:15 – 1:45	Story Arcs: Cohort Progress on the Transformation Journey Celebrate milestones and momentum for cohorts achievements towards transformation goals
1:45 – 2:15	Connector: Once Upon an Assessment Frame your program level assessments as a book genre
2:15 – 2:45	Visual Glossary Develop and discuss a common language around program level assessment
2:45 – 3:00	What's the Setting? Uncover the purpose, structure, and goals of the convening and set expectations for collaborative work
3:00 – 3:15	Break
3:15 – 4:15	Uncovering the Story Explore program assessment with a real-world case study
4:15 – 4:50	Team Time: Plot Twist Project Consider your own setting and begin applying insights to enhance your program level assessment
4:50 – 5:00	Closing
6:00-7:00	Reception
7:00-9:00	Dinner

September 28 Day 2	
Time	Activity
7:30 – 8:30	Breakfast
9:00 – 9:30	Welcome and Pulse Check Results
	Connector: Assessment Mad Libs: BranchED Edition
9:30 – 10:20	Creating an Outline: Identifying Key Assessments and Assessment Mapping Discover strategies for identifying key assessments and assessment mapping
10:20 – 11:00	Mini-Mapping



	Stretch the process of curriculum and assessment mapping to understand best practices
11:00 – 11:15	Break
11:15 – 12:00	When the Author Gets It Right: Using Validity and Reliability to Clarify the Data Story Gain insight into ensuring key assessments are valid and reliable
12:00 – 1:00	Lunch
1:00 – 1:45	Revising the Script: Reading Between the Lines Examine the case study rubric through the attributes for high-quality rubrics lens
1:45 – 2:35	Staying on the Same Page: 4 Corners Calibration Leverage a student sample and rubric to engage in authentic calibration discussion
2:35 – 2:50	Break
2:50 – 3:35	TRIZ: Program Assessment Imagine, reflect, and plan possible enhancements to your program level assessment
3:35 – 4:00	Writer's Workshop: Tools to Sustain Success for Assessment Authors Survey an array of tools and resources designed to support the development of effective program level assessment systems
4:00 – 4:55	Team Time: Plot Twist Project Continue developing the assessment plot twist for your program
4:55 – 5:00	Closing-Dinner on Your Own

September 29 Day 3	
Time	Activity
7:00 - 8:15	Breakfast
8:15 - 8:30	Group Pictures -Spirit Day!
8:30 - 9:00	Connector and Pulse Check Results
9:00 - 9:45	Wise Crowds Listen and share challenges and successes on the improvement of your program level assessments
9:45 - 10:05	Break Hotel Check-Out
10:05 – 11:15	Team Time: Plot Twist Project - Finalize your assessment plot twist and complete commitment cards - APE (Assessment Plot Extraordinaire) Awards voting!
11:15 – 11:30	Share Out, Awards, and Closing Convening Survey
11:30 – 12:00	Closing Circle Safe Travels!