

# AACTE AND EAD PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVE

The American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education (AACTE), in its efforts to [Revolutionize Education](#), is partnering with [Educating for American Democracy \(EAD\)](#) to support their efforts to **address the crisis of civics facing our nation** currently by recommitting the field of education to ensuring our young people are informed, authentic, and engaged citizens. This partnership builds on the association's legislative priorities to maintain the democratization of education.

**EAD** is an unprecedented effort that convened a diverse and cross-ideological group of scholars and educators to create a Roadmap to Educating for American Democracy — guidance and an inquiry framework that states, local school districts, and educators can use to transform teaching of history and civics to meet the needs of a diverse 21st century K–12 student body. Their goal is to put these resources in the hands of 1 million teachers.

## **Simply Elevating This Information to Educator Candidates at our Member Institutions Isn't Enough.**

Historical tensions and the bipartisan polarization of many topics deemed essential to a well-rounded, inclusive civic education has made teachers, especially those just entering the classroom, hesitant to engage students in civics in their classrooms. Additionally, civic inquiry should be introduced early and often, by incorporating these frameworks across subject areas.

**To achieve the scale** we at AACTE know we can have on EAD's mission, we will be **Convening a Pilot of AACTE Member Institutions**, strategically chosen based on their capacity, interest, and influence, to learn how to use EAD resources strategically and intentionally, leading to civic engagement and inquiry across Institutions of Higher Education.

AACTE has worked closely with EAD Champions who are using these incredible materials to create curriculum resources for a variety of learning audiences, such as faith-based organizations, English-language learners, and elementary school educators, to create sessions contextualized for Teacher Educators. In addition to these sessions, **this pilot will begin with a Presidential Panel to learn how leadership can work to ensure their institutions continue to be grounded in democratic principles, as well as a Dean's Panel to address how Colleges of Education should be taking up that torch through their endorsement and support of faculty.**

## **AACTE'S LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES: EDUCATING FOR AMERICAN DEMOCRACY**

- ➔ Issued statements with coalition partners about the right of students to learn about historical and ongoing racial oppression in the United States.
- ➔ Joined several efforts to ensure that DACA recipients are protected from deportation and encouraged Congress to pass the DREAM Act.
- ➔ Called on the Biden Administration to issue regulations that ensure an educational environment free from discrimination based on sexual orientation, gender identity, transgender status, sex stereotypes, or sex characteristics.
- ➔ Signed onto letter with the Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights in call for the full inclusion of transgender students in educational opportunities, including extracurricular activities such as athletics.
- ➔ Signed onto letter with coalition partners to Congress urging them to co-sponsor the Safe Schools Improvement Act which will establish federal standards to protect every student from bullying and harassment in K-12 schools.