Society for Research on Educational Effectiveness

Focus on AI: Research Methods Webinar Series

Webinar 2

Title: Deciding Whether, When, and How to Use AI in Education Research to Protect Participant Communities and Research Integrity

Date/Time: July 1, 2026 | 11:00am – 12:30pm Eastern Time

Presenters: Monica McGill and Julie M. Smith

Abstract:

As AI tools rapidly become part of the research landscape, computer science education researchers are faced with choices about if, when, and how to use AI in their education research.

In this webinar, we will share practical guidance for deciding if and when to use AI–touching on many of the ethical and responsible dilemmas that are embedded in the tools and presented in and intertwined with their usage. We will also provide recent community-driven Guidelines for responsible AI usage.

This event is directed at anyone who is using or considering using AI tools in their education research studies. Participants will learn about the Guidelines. We will discuss the application of the guidelines to current and proposed projects and focus on pragmatic implementation of the guidelines in real-world research scenarios using AI tools. Topics will include accuracy and bias, environmental impact, data privacy of participant data, data re-identification, and more.

Participants will gain new ways to think about the choices we face when we consider engaging with AI and learn recommended practices for determining whether and how AI tools should be used at each stage of the research process for quantitative, qualitative, and mixed-methods research studies.