



The Arc's 2017 National Convention Proposal Submission Guidelines

Your proposed session should address one of the seven issues listed below. If you are interested in assembling a panel, it should not consist of more than three speakers, including the moderator. The Arc may invite you to join a panel in lieu of delivering a presentation on your own.

Suggested topic areas include:

1. **Public Policy** - Building a movement to educate the President and Congress to preserve our civil rights laws and programs that support people to live in the community and speak to issues, including but not limited to:
 - Current legislative attacks
 - Mobilizing the grass roots and general public
 - Advocacy messages and strategies for self-advocates, family members, professionals and board members
2. **Supporting Grassroots Efforts** - Intensifying your online movement to support your grassroots supporters to:
 - Tell our stories, amplify our message, and empower our volunteers
3. **Strengthening The Arc's Presence** - As the leading civil rights organization by earning media coverage through strategic initiatives such as legislative education days, community service day, awards ceremonies and other prominent civic activities
4. **Supporting Families** - Recommending creative ideas and successful solutions in your efforts to address the most pressing challenges faced by people with I/DD and their families including:
 - Education, employment, future planning, health, housing, criminal justice, and transportation
5. **Technology** - Providing information about tools that increase an organization's efficiency and effectiveness, such as:
 - Accreditation standards
 - Learning Management Systems, electronic documentation and record keeping
6. **Building Strong Organizations** - Implementing strategies to recruit and maintain a dynamic workforce, for example:
 - Sustaining a stable, competent, and adequately compensated Direct Support Professional workforce
 - Board member recruitment
 - Succession planning
 - Cultural competence
 - Professional development and creating a learning organization
7. **Development and Fundraising** - Obtaining new and expanding financial support to grow your organization, for instance:
 - Obtaining corporate sponsorships
 - Selling your training, technical assistance and products
 - Recruiting local organizations in your state to affiliate as a new chapter
 - Developing additional purchasers of service (e.g. providing technical assistance to the business community to hire people with intellectual/developmental disabilities)