

2027 AAMC Biomedical Research Conference

Call for Session Proposals Guidelines

Submission Deadline: October 19, 2026

Conference Dates: July 15-17

Location: Washington, D.C.

About the Conference

The 2027 AAMC Biomedical Research Conference brings together the leaders, administrators, faculty, and professionals who support and advance the research enterprise across academic health centers, research-intensive universities, medical schools, and affiliated institutions.

The program will feature a combination of plenary sessions addressing topics of broad relevance to the biomedical research community alongside concurrent, role-specific sessions designed to support targeted learning and discussion. Dedicated time will also be incorporated to facilitate networking among peers within similar roles.

Our audience includes:

- Institutional Research Leaders including Vice Presidents of Research, Research Deans, Vice Chancellors of Research
- Conflict of Interest Professionals
- Research Compliance Professionals
- Graduate PhD Program Deans
- Graduate PhD Program Directors and Administrators
- MD-PhD Program Directors and Administrators
- Postdoctoral Program Directors and Administrators
- Faculty and staff involved in biomedical research programs

Topic Areas

The topic areas and examples below are intended to illustrate the breadth of content of interest to the Program Committee and are not exhaustive. Submitters are encouraged to propose sessions on

emerging issues, innovative practices, and other topics relevant to the biomedical research community, particularly those that cut across multiple communities of practice.

Cross-Functional	• AI in research and education • Research workforce development • Recruitment, retention, and career transitions for research professionals • Institutional resilience in changing funding environment • Entrepreneurship and innovation • Physician-industry relationships • Inappropriate foreign influence / Research security • Supporting foreign talent (trainee and faculty)
COI and Research Compliance	• Best practices in COI policies and procedures • Institutional COI • COI in clinical care • Conflict of commitment • COI and intellectual property/licensing • Risk tolerance • Ethical considerations of COI • Research COI reviews under varying federal policies
Research Training and Education	• Recruitment, retention, and advancement in training • Curriculum & Competencies • Training Methods and Educational Innovation • Diversity & Inclusion • Career Development & Exploration • Resiliency & Wellness • Teaching & Mentoring • Training Outcomes Assessment • Administration & Funding of Research Training

Leadership and Research Enterprise Management	• Institutional leadership and change management • Strategic planning and organizational effectiveness • Research enterprise governance • Resource allocation and sustainability • Building institutional research capacity • Grant mechanisms • Varying federal policies
Professional Development for Meeting Attendees	• Career advancement • Communications skills • Resilience and well-being • Mentorship and coaching • Leadership and management

If your session does not fit one of the suggested categories, you may select “other” and provide a topic heading that is appropriate in the submission form. **All ideas are welcome for consideration.**

Audience Level of Expertise

“Introductory” is defined as a broad-based overview of a topic. Attendees are assumed to have minimal knowledge of the subject.

“Intermediate” is defined as topics beyond the beginner level but does not focus on deeply advanced content or concepts. Attendees are assumed to have knowledge of foundation concepts.

“Advanced” is defined as a level of content that is beyond the intermediate level. Attendees are assumed to have knowledge of foundation and intermediate concepts.

Communities of Practice

A Community of Practice is made up of a group of people with shared interests who engage in a process of collective learning. The Biomedical Research Advancement, Training, and Oversight Group is composed of three communities of practice:

- Institutional Research Leaders – composed of senior research leaders, vice presidents of research, and similar roles.
- Research Education and Training – composed of graduate deans, directors and administrators of graduate research training, MD-PhD training, and postdoctoral training programs.
- COI and Research Compliance – composed of COI and research compliance professionals.

The Program Committee welcomes proposals that encourage collaboration within the communities of practice, as well as single community focused.

Session Formats

Proposals may be submitted in any of the formats listed below. Proposals may be reclassified to a more appropriate format at the Program Committee’s discretion. The Program Committee also reserves the right to suggest proposal consolidation across individual submissions where appropriate.

Sessions may be introductory, intermediate, advanced, or applicable to all experience levels. Sessions may have an audience of institutional leadership, research training (Graduate, MD-PhD, and/or Postdoctoral), and/or COI and research compliance.

Concurrent Sessions

Concurrent sessions are 60 or 75-minute offerings that allow attendees to explore specific topics, challenges, innovations, and best practices in greater depth. Attendees are in these sessions to learn best practices, discuss examples and case studies, network with and learn from their colleagues, and leave with practical strategies. Active learning sessions are encouraged to get the audience involved in the discussion. Some formats include panel discussions, workshops, case studies, and roundtable discussions.

Rapid-Fire Talks

Rapid-Fire Talks highlight innovative practices, emerging ideas, pilot programs, research findings and more in a concise presentation format. This session features a 7-minute oral presentation from each speaker with a moderated Q&A session following each set of grouped presentations. Talks should focus on insights, motivation and approach, outcomes, and key takeaways.

What Would You Do? Talks

"What Would You Do?" Talks are brief, case-based presentations that explore a real-world challenge, dilemma, or difficult decision. During a 5-minute informal presentation, presenters will describe the situation, outline the factors that influenced their decision-making process, explain the actions taken, and share lessons learned. These sessions are designed to spark thoughtful discussion and attendee participation, including asking questions, exploring alternative approaches, and sharing their own experiences and perspectives.

Presenter Expectations

A session proposal submission is considered a commitment to attend the meeting and to help organize or present at the session if accepted, as outlined at the time of submission:

- All session presenters agree to register for the meeting and pay the registration fee.
 - All session presenters will be responsible for their own travel and lodging expenses.
 - All session presenters agree to work collaboratively with the Program Committee on any recommended session adjustments to best meet attendee and program needs.
 - All session presenters agree to attend the conference and conduct the session or presentation at the time(s) assigned. The conference will be in-person only.
 - All session presenters are responsible for bringing and distributing handouts, if any.
 - All session presenters agree to use the standard audiovisual setup provided by the AAMC (LCD projector, laptop, wired podium microphones).
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Proposal Requirements

Because session formats are designed for different types of content and engagement, some proposal fields vary by format. All submitters will complete a set of common fields. Additional fields will appear based on the selected session format to ensure reviewers have the information needed to evaluate the proposal appropriately. Submitters should review the online form for the specific questions associated with their selected session format. Some of the requested information includes:

- **Session Title** (max. 100 characters)
- **Session Format**
 - Resource: [Sample Learning Formats](#)
 - Select the session type that best aligns with your proposal.

- **Primary Topic Area & Subtopics**
 - Choose the topic area most closely aligned with the proposed session.
- **Intended Audience (select all that apply)**
 - Institutional Leaders
 - Research Training and Education
 - Graduate Training
 - MD-PhD Training
 - Postdoctoral Training
 - COI and Research Compliance
- **Level of Expertise**
 - Introductory
 - Intermediate
 - Advanced
 - Applicable to All Levels
- **Short Session Description (Max. 2,000 characters)**
 - Provide a short description of your proposal. This description will appear in the final meeting program. It should be descriptive, thought-provoking, and accurately reflect the session content. Please include one sentence that clearly identifies the audience this session is best suited for.
- **Expanded Session Description (Max. 2,500 characters)**
 - Include additional or new information that expands on the short description. This description will be used by the reviewers to evaluate your proposal.
- **Audience Engagement Strategy (Max. 500 words)**
 - Resource: [Session Activities](#)
 - Describe your planned instruction strategies and activities for participants during the session. Proposals with meaningful audience engagement are strongly encouraged.
 - Examples include:
 - Live polling
 - Small group discussions
 - Scenario-based exercises
 - Audience problem-solving activities
- **Learning Objectives**
 - Resource: [Writing Learning Objectives](#)
 - Learning objectives should be specific and allow for assessment of outcomes. For example, if developing a best practice, how can the impact of implementation be assessed? **Min. 2 Learning Objectives Required (Max. 200 words each).**
- **Presenters**
 - Where possible, proposals should reflect diversity of perspectives, experience levels, institution types, and professional roles. Note: The platform requires at least one speaker entry, feel free to enter your name, if the speaker(s) still need to be identified. For each presenter provide:

- Name
- Presenter Role (Speaker or Facilitator)
- Email Address
- Title
- Institution
- Credentials
- Biography (Max. 2,500 characters)
- Headshot (Max. 2 MB)
- The primary author may invite suggested speakers to complete their own profile. After adding a speaker, select the “Invite” button. Invited speakers will receive an email notification with a custom link to complete their profile.

Proposal Review Criteria

All proposals will be reviewed and evaluated by the Program and Steering Committees will review and evaluate submissions based on the following criteria, as well as overall program balance and audience needs. Additional resources are available on the AAMC website: [Speaker Resources](#).

- **Relevance:** Proposal is applicable to the identified audience(s) and is associated with topic areas of interest as stated in the call for proposals.
- **Method of Teaching and Audience Participation:** A clear plan has been identified for content delivery and is found to be appropriate for the time allotted. Emphasis is placed on engagement through small group exercises, networking, and sharing of tools and other experiential learning methods or interactive activities. Presentation and engagement should spark discussions and deliver strategies, best practices and solutions that appeal to attendees across the continuum.
- **Definition of Objectives:** Proposal has clear and obtainable learning objectives. (*Resource: [Writing Learning Objectives](#)*)
- **Outcome Measures:** Proposal has evidence of implementation, demonstrated impact and/or practical strategies. If outcome has not been measured then activity should have a clear purpose, plan, process, and description of how the initiative will be evaluated with intended/projected results.
- **Quality of Content:** Proposal is thoughtfully constructed, includes required submission elements, and follows a logical flow.
- **Reproducibility/Adaptability:** Where appropriate, the proposal includes strategies on how the programs/models could be adapted/implemented in attendees’ institutions.
- **Innovation, creativity, and originality**
- **Significance for advancing current knowledge or developing novel models and/or practices**

Rapid-fire presentations will be evaluated on:

- Relevance
- Quality of Content
- Reproducibility /Adaptability
- Innovation, creativity, and originality
- Significance for advancing current models and/or practices at your institution
- Data driven submissions and outcomes data

The program committee will consider relevance, quality of content, and adaptability for ‘What would you do?’ presentations.

Timeline and Important Dates

- **Call for proposals open:** August 27, 2026
- **Deadline:** October 19, 2026
- **Review period:** October-December 2026
- **Notification of Decision:** January 2027
- **Conference Dates:** July 15-17, 2027

Questions? Contact the program team at biomedicalresearch@aamc.org.