



Guidelines for Proposal Submission: Interactive Panel Session

Interactive panel sessions are highly interactive, discussion-driven learning experiences that explore current issues, emerging trends, controversial topics and complex challenges facing athletic trainers.

Unlike traditional panel presentations, interactive panel sessions are designed to foster meaningful dialogue between attendees and subject matter experts. These sessions should present multiple perspectives, encourage thoughtful discussion, and help participants consider diverse viewpoints on issues impacting the profession.

Interactive panel sessions are facilitated by a moderator who guides the discussion, engages participants, and ensures a balanced exploration of the topic.

Format:

- 55 minutes total
- Facilitated by one moderator and two to four presenters
- Brief framing of the topic or issue
- Guided discussion among presenters
- Audience engagement and participation throughout the session

Audience participation should occur throughout the session and should not be reserved solely for the end of the presentation.

Interactive panel sessions are ideal for:

- Exploring controversial or evolving topics
- Examining multiple perspectives on a professional challenge
- Discussing emerging trends and their implications
- Exploring opportunities and barriers facing the profession
- Sharing diverse experiences and viewpoints
- Encouraging critical thinking and professional dialogue

Presenters should design sessions that prioritize discussion and engagement rather than formal presentations. They should provide differing perspectives, experiences, or approaches that stimulate conversation and encourage audience participation.

What Makes a Strong Interactive Panel Session?

Successful proposals typically:

- Address a timely, relevant or complex issue
- Present multiple viewpoints or perspectives
- Encourage meaningful attendee participation
- Explore questions that do not have a single correct answer
- Facilitate thoughtful discussion and knowledge sharing
- Focus on practical implications for professional practice
- Generate actionable insights participants can take back to their own settings

Interactive panel sessions should leave participants with a deeper understanding of the topic, exposure to diverse perspectives, and new ideas for approaching challenges in their professional practice.

Presenter Guidelines:

- One moderator
- Two-three presenters

Presenters should represent diverse perspectives, experiences or viewpoints related to the topic.

Presenter Benefits: For each accepted proposal, up to three (3) presenters will receive complimentary full-convention, in-person registration.