



Guidelines for Proposal Submission: Learning Labs (Clinical)

Learning Labs are highly interactive, hands-on learning experiences designed to help athletic trainers develop, refine and apply clinical skills in a guided environment. These sessions emphasize active participation, real-world application, feedback and skill development.

Unlike traditional presentations, Learning Labs prioritize learning by doing. Attendees should expect to actively participate throughout the session through demonstrations, guided practice, case-based activities, simulations, peer learning or other experiential learning strategies.

Learning Labs are intended for the development of clinical skills and competencies. Proposals focused primarily on creating plans, policies, resources, or organizational strategies should be submitted as Working Sessions.

Format:

- 90 minutes total
- Hands-on and application-focused
- Facilitated by one or more subject matter experts
- Active participant engagement throughout the session

Learning Labs are ideal for:

- Developing clinical skills and techniques
- Practicing patient assessment and clinical decision-making
- Applying evidence-based interventions
- Performing evaluations, treatments, or procedures
- Exploring emerging clinical technologies and tools
- Building confidence through guided practice and feedback

Presenters should design sessions that maximize participant involvement and dedicate the majority of session time to application, practice, discussion and feedback rather than lecture. Instruction should support active learning rather than serve as the primary focus of the session.

What Makes a Strong Practice Lab?

Successful proposals typically:

- Focus on skills participants can immediately apply
- Provide structured opportunities for hands-on practice
- Incorporate real-world scenarios or case-based learning
- Allow participants to receive feedback and guidance
- Promote active participation throughout the session
- Clearly demonstrate how the skill or technique improves professional practice

Presenter Guidelines

- One to two lead presenters
- A minimum facilitator-to-participating ratio of 1:25 is required
- Additional lab assistants or facilitators must be identified as needed to support hands-on learning, feedback, and participant safety

Presenter Benefits: For each accepted proposal, up to two (2) presenters will receive complimentary full-convention, in-person registration.