2027 NACCHO360 - Call for Abstract Guideline

Local Public Health Shines, Communities Thrive

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Abstracts for the 2027 NACCHO360

The National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) invites you to submit an abstract for the **2027 NACCHO360 Conference** to be held July 20-23 in Orlando, FL**.** Proposals for presentations at the 2027 NACCHO360 conference should be made using the formal online abstract process. The NACCHO360 Planning Committee will evaluate abstracts based on several criteria, including timeliness, relevance, design, clarity, outcomes, and potential impact. All abstracts must be submitted via the online abstract system no later than **Sunday, November 29, 2026, by 11:59 am Eastern Time.** Proposals that are incomplete, late, or submitted in an inappropriate format will not be considered.

About the 2027 Conference Theme

Centered on the theme **Local Public Health Shines, Communities Thrive**, 2027 NACCHO360 will spotlight leadership, innovation, and community partnerships that help local health departments improve health and well-being where people live, work, learn, and gather. Attendees will explore how local public health is adapting to meet today's challenges while building stronger, more resilient communities for the future.

Who Should Submit an Abstract

- State, local, tribal, territorial, and federal public health agencies
- Academic, research, community-based, faith-based, private-sector, or critical infrastructure partners
- National, regional, and local partners

Submission Priorities

- Cross-sector coordination and operational collaboration
- Community engagement, access, and resilience
- Recovery and long-term community health
- Risk communication and public trust
- Data modernization, applied epidemiology, and information sharing
- Emerging technology and innovation
- Planning, exercises, and continuous improvement
- Workforce development and leadership
- Responder safety, mental health, and wellbeing
- Policy, funding, and sustaining foundational capabilities

What We Are Looking for in an Abstract

- Clear description of the issue, approach, partners, outcomes, and lessons learned
- Actionable insights, transferable models, promising practices, tools, evaluation findings, real-world cases
- Timely and relevant content grounded in practice, evidence, evaluation, or response/recovery experience

How to Submit

Submit abstracts through the official NACCHO360 portal when it opens in October. Deadlines, session types, and review criteria will be posted there and shared in related communications. Questions? Email Abstracts@naccho.org or refer to the Home - NACCHO 360 for current information.

Abstract Tracks

Tracks	Description	Suggested Session Topics
Track 1: Healthy Communities & Community Engagement	Focuses on community-centered approaches to improving health outcomes through engagement, partnership, behavioral health, and upstream drivers of health.	Community-led case studies; partnership models; interactive workshops; equity-focused panels; local health department spotlights.
Track 2: Public Trust, Messaging & Communications	Explores how local health departments can strengthen public confidence through strategic communications, storytelling, crisis messaging, branding, and misinformation response.	Communication labs; crisis simulation sessions; message-testing workshops; storytelling showcases; media strategy panels.
Track 3: Policy, Advocacy & Public Health Law	Examines policy development, public health law, advocacy, regulatory approaches, and governmental affairs as tools for advancing population health.	Policy roundtables; legal update sessions; advocacy skill-builders; legislative case studies; facilitated discussion forums.
Track 4: Public Health Systems, Performance & Improvement	Highlights strategies to modernize operations, improve accountability, strengthen foundational capabilities, integrate services, and demonstrate measurable impact.	Quality improvement workshops; performance management case studies; accreditation lessons learned; operational improvement clinics; peer learning.
Track 5: Workforce, Leadership & Organizational Development	Addresses workforce development, recruitment, retention, succession planning, organizational culture, employee well-being, and leadership capacity.	Leadership institutes; workforce strategy panels; mentorship sessions; peer exchange discussions; organizational culture workshops.
Track 6: Preparedness, Response & Community Resilience	Covers emergency preparedness, response operations, recovery, resilience, environmental health threats, infectious disease response, and public health protection.	Emergency scenario exercises; after-action reviews; preparedness tabletop sessions; resilience planning workshops; response innovation showcases.
Track 7: Data, Surveillance & Decision Intelligence	Focuses on surveillance, epidemiology, analytics, predictive modeling, population health insights, dashboards, and data-informed decision-making.	Data demonstrations; dashboard showcases; epidemiology updates; applied analytics workshops; decision-support case studies.
Track 8: Public Health Informatics, Digital Transformation, & AI	Explores informatics, information management, artificial intelligence, interoperability, cybersecurity, automation, and technology-enabled public health modernization.	Technology demos; AI use-case sessions; cybersecurity briefings; implementation workshops; innovation labs.

Track 9: Healthy Aging, Longevity & Age-Friendly Communities	Healthy Aging as FLA signature focus, emphasizing longevity, caregiver support, dementia preparedness, social connection, aging in place, age-friendly communities.	Signature panels; cross-sector partnership sessions; age-friendly community case studies; caregiver support workshops; innovation showcases.
Track 10: Tribal Public Health, Sovereignty & Tribal-Local Partnerships	Elevates Tribal sovereignty, Indigenous public health practice, Tribal epidemiology, data governance, cultural resilience, and respectful Tribal-local partnerships.	Tribal-led sessions; Tribal-local partnership panels; consultation practice workshops; data sovereignty discussions; community resilience case studies.

11 Cross Cutting Themes:

A navigation layer for abstracts, review, sponsor engagement, mobile app discovery, and attendee wayfinding



Important Dates:

October 2026: Open call abstracts (first call)

11/29/2026: Deadline for abstract submission

February 2027: Invitations sent to accepted presenters

March 2027: Deadline for presenters' invitation response

February 2027: Second call for abstracts (select organizations and partners only)

6/25/2027: Deadline for presentation upload

Call for Abstracts: A Phased Approach

The 2027 Call for Abstracts opens in two phases — an initial call for eligible submitter types, followed by a later call that expands to additional session and partner opportunities.

FIRST CALL
Eligible Submitter Types

- Public Health Agencies
- Federal Government
- Academic and Research Institutions
- Community-Based and Nonprofit Organizations
- Students and Trainees

SECOND CALL
Expanded Opportunities

- Pre-Conference Session Proposals
- Sponsored Session Proposals
- Ancillary Event Requests
- Exhibitor or Sponsor Educational Opportunities
- Partner-Led Special Session Proposals
- Other NACCHO360 Partnership Opportunities

Eligibility

The first call for applications is open to eligible public health and government agencies, healthcare and medical preparedness organizations, emergency management, EMS and public safety agencies, academic and research institutions, community-based and nonprofit organizations, public health associations and networks, and students and trainees.

For-profit organizations must use the separate For-Profit Organization Presentation Application. Submissions made by or on behalf of a for-profit organization **will not be accepted** through the general Call for Abstracts. This application will be available in February 2027.

General Information: Abstract Submission

Abstracts must represent the work of the presenters listed and appropriately referenced.

All information should be reviewed prior to submission to ensure completeness. Abstract revisions are permitted at any time before the abstract submission deadline.

Abstracts may not be modified after the submission deadline. Presenters may make minor changes after an abstract is accepted until the invitation response deadline. NACCHO reserves right to edit session information after abstract acceptance to ensure information meets our standards and guidelines.

Before submitting an abstract, please make sure you and an alternative presenter are committed to attending the conference and giving the presentation if the abstract is accepted. All presenters are required to register for the conference and pay related fees. NACCHO does not provide travel allowances, honorariums, or reimbursements for attending the conference.

There are NO restrictions on the number of abstracts you may submit or on the number of submissions you may be selected to present.

Submitted abstracts who **DO NOT** follow guidelines will be ineligible for review.

Choosing a Presentation Format

While the Planning Committee will attempt to honor a submitter's first choice in session format, this will not always be possible. When selecting a session type, there is an option to select consideration for an alternative format.

Learning Session (30, 60 or 90-minute options)

Findings are presented on a specific topic with the opportunity for Q&A. Presentations are 60 to 90 minutes with a maximum of 3 speakers and 1 moderator.

Poster Session

Poster sessions are a visual illustration on a poster board that presents summaries by way of limited text, graphics, and/or photographs. The presentation is for 90 minutes with a maximum of 2 speakers. See also, Poster Presentation additional information below.

Student Poster Session

This format allows students to present original research or projects relevant to public health preparedness. Presentation options include in person or virtual posters. These are encouraged by undergraduate, graduate, or doctoral-level students.

Poster Information

Posters will be on display over two days of the conference. If you are selected as a poster session, you will be given your poster number and presentation date and time. You will receive **an email a week before the conference with your poster number/location** assignment and set-up/take-down times. **NACCHO does not print the poster on your behalf.**

Poster dimensions should be 4 ft by 6 ft (horizontal). The poster board is this size, you may choose to fill as much or as little space as you'd like. Posters can be printed on poster paper, fabric, or vinyl. NACCHO will provide you with push pins to adhere your poster to the poster wall.

Pre Conference Workshop (Second Call for Abstracts)

Workshops offer deep-dive skill-building through active participation. Formats may include interactive group work, live demonstrations, simulations, games, exercises and hands-on training activities. Workshops are a 3-hour session with a maximum of 3 speakers and 1 moderator.

For-Profit Learning Session (Second Call for Abstracts)

For-profit organizations are invited to lead informative sessions that align with the Summit's focus. These sessions offer an opportunity to present solutions, innovations, or services relevant to the preparedness community. A NACCHO representative will contact submitters following the close of the submission period to discuss sponsorship opportunities and coordination. Presentations are 30 or 60 minutes with a maximum of 3 speakers and 1 moderator. For-profit sessions will be noted as such in conference materials.

Presentation Formats at a Glance

Presentation Format	Learning Session	Poster
Key Attributes	Findings presented on a specific topic within a breakout session with the opportunity for Q&A	Visual display of graphics, diagrams and limited text. Oral presentation focused on discussion and Q&A.
Abstract Requirements	Background, methods, results, conclusion	
Session Length	30, 60, 90 minutes	90 minutes
Q&A	10-15 minutes at the end of the session	During discussion
# of Presentations in Session	1 presentation	1 presentation
Audio/Visual Provided	Screen, projector, sound, one lectern, one laptop connection	None
Room Type	Theater/Rounds* *Rounds limited availability	NA
# of Presenters Allowed	1 moderator, up to 3 presenters	1 to 2 presenters
Alternative Presentation Types Considered	Yes	No

Abstract Title and Description

Submit each individual abstract to appropriate track. Review the list of tracks carefully to determine which one might be appropriate for your subject area.

Duplicated abstracts will NOT be considered.

Submission with incomplete descriptions will not be selected.

Abstract Title

The title is not included in your abstract word count: however, titles should NOT exceed 15 words.

Title case should be used where the first word and all other major words (nouns, pronouns, verbs, adjectives, adverb(s); some conjunctions are capitalized.

- Articles such as a, an, and, but, for, or and nor should be in lowercase
- Lowercase the part of a proper name that would be lowercased in text

DO NOT begin abstract titles with "The."

DO NOT end title with a period.

Use a concise title that summarizes the content of the abstract.

DO NOT use abbreviations, unless they are widely accepted by the field (for example, HIV/AIDS is acceptable in place of Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Deficiency Syndrome).

Abstract Session Description

Abstracts descriptions for review are **limited to 500 words**, not including the title.

The use of "all caps" should be limited to acronyms generally accepted in the field and names of organizations. The full organization name should be used for first reference.

Session descriptions for publication are limited to **150 words**. This description will be used for the conference program. As such, the first sentence should be a hook that grabs the reader's attention and entices them to come to the session. The description should only briefly reiterate the problem/issues being addressed and the solution. Also, make sure to use good grammar, proper sentence structure, transitions between sentences, and so on. Do not use incomplete sentences. Please do not use bullet points.

Writing Tips

- State the problem.
- Present the key findings and explicit how they address the problem.
- State the overall significance of the work being presented.
- Provide background as needed.
- Make your writing as clear and accessible as possible.
- Also make every effort to use good grammar, proper sentence structure, transition sentences.

Online Abstract System

Please follow all directions provided in the online abstract system (eshow) to ensure your abstract is entered correctly. The system will ask for details of person who is submitting the abstract. This person will not be on the website/app as part of the session listing. The submitter will be asked to identify the presenter(s) and moderators of your session. All presenters MUST be in attendance to be listed on the session on the interactive schedule. The maximum number of speakers is based on the type of session. Additionally, each session MUST provide their own moderator. *Please note: Student submissions will ONLY be considered for poster sessions*.

Submitters

A presenting speaker is defined as an individual person who will present during a conference session. Only the presenters (s) will be listed on the conference platform and mobile app.

The submitter is the person that completes the online abstract submission process. This person is usually involved with the abstract as a presenter or co-presenter.

The abstract submitter will receive formal communication regarding the Planning Committee determination. Formal letters of invitation are sent to submitters by email from **NACCHO in February 2027.** Abstract submitters will receive formal communication regarding the Planning Committee determination. Only the submitter should accept or decline an invitation.

If your abstract submission is approved, you will then be able to add additional presenters.

All in-person presenters can be added to the approved abstract. If people who are not presenting in person contributed to the study design, statistical analysis, or interpretation, they may be listed as non-presenting in your session materials but should not be included in the online abstract system.

It is the responsibility of the submitter to communicate with any co-presenters prior to the presentation. For the sessions, the lead presenter is responsible for coordinating the presentation with the moderator.

View and Edit Submission:

After completion of your submission, you will receive an email. The email will include session information, link, and confirmation of receipt. To view or edit your abstract submission, please visit the abstract service center. You may view and edit an abstract any time before the abstract **deadline on November 29, 2026.**

Review and submit:

After you have completed all steps in the process and are ready to submit an abstract for consideration, please carefully proofread your abstract on the final step and confirm. If you exit the system without completing all steps, your abstract will be considered incomplete. You must receive a confirmation email for your abstract to be considered complete.

Invitation Response

Formal letters of invitation will be sent by email from NACCHO in February 2027. This email will come from the online abstract system. All submitters will receive a formal communication that informs them of the Planning Committee decision. All presenters are expected to register for the conference and pay related fees. The deadline for responding to the invitation to present will be in your official acceptance letter. Submitters that fail to respond by the deadline will have their presentation pulled from our programming. Failure to present an accepted abstract could result in disqualification from presenting abstracts at future conferences. Submitters should respond to the invitation via the online speaker portal.

Withdrawals

Withdrawals of a presentation after invitation acceptance should be communicated via email to Abstracts@naccho.org. Withdrawals made after due date or failure to present accepted abstracts could result in disqualification from presenting at future conferences.

Student Abstracts

Students are encouraged to submit abstracts for poster sessions at NACCHO conferences. To be eligible for consideration, abstracts must be submitted by students currently enrolled full time in an undergraduate or graduate/professional program who are actively pursuing a degree in public health or related field. Discounted registration fees are offered to qualified students.

Presenter Disclosure

Presenters must disclose to participants prior to speaking any significant financial interest or other relationships with manufactures of any commercial product(s) or provider(s) of any commercial services discussed in a session presentation and with any commercial supports of activity. This pertains to relationships with pharmaceutical companies, biomedical device manufacturers, or other corporations whose products or services are related to subject matter of the presentation topics. Having an interest or affiliation with a corporate organization does not prevent a speaker from making a presentation but the relation must be made known in advance to the audience.

Generative AI in Conference Abstract Submissions and Presentations

Summary

NACCHO developed this policy to guide responsible generative AI use in conference abstracts and presentations while protecting content accuracy, authenticity, originality, attribution, and integrity.

The policy allows routine editorial assistance without disclosure, requires disclosure of substantive AI use, holds authors and presenters accountable, and prohibits fabricated or misleading content from submission through presentation.

- Allows routine editorial AI assistance without disclosure.
- Requires disclosure of substantive AI use.
- Holds authors and presenters accountable for accuracy, originality, attribution, and integrity.
- Prohibits fabricated, falsified, or misleading content.

Key Policy

NACCHO's policy establishes the following:

1. A single NACCHO Conference Guideline for Generative AI applies to abstract submissions and accepted presentations across NACCHO conferences and educational events.

2. Routine AI-assisted editing is permitted without disclosure, including spelling, grammar, formatting, readability, and refinement of author-written content.

3. Substantive generative AI use must be disclosed through a brief question in the abstract submission process.

4. Submitters must acknowledge responsibility for the accuracy, originality, appropriate attribution, authenticity, and integrity of abstracts, including AI-assisted content.

5. Accepted presenters must separately acknowledge that these responsibilities continue after acceptance and apply to presentation materials.

6. Use of generative AI to fabricate, falsify, or misrepresent data, findings, citations, research, programs, experiences, outcomes, or other information is prohibited.

7. Responsible AI disclosure serves as a transparency and integrity mechanism rather than an abstract-scoring criterion; disclosure alone does not negatively affect review or selection.

Objective

The policy distinguishes legitimate assistance from uses that undermine the authenticity or integrity of conference content. The central question is not simply whether AI was used, but whether the submission and presentation

remain accurate, transparent when appropriate, attributable to accountable people, and grounded in authentic work or experience.

- Applies from abstract submission through final presentation materials.

NACCHO Policy Framework

1. Scope
The guidelines apply to abstract submissions and accepted presentations for NACCHO conferences, summits, and other educational events, including associated slides, posters, handouts, images, analyses, and session materials.

2. Routine AI Assistance
Generative AI may be used for spelling, grammar, readability, formatting, shortening author-written material, organizing ideas, and similar editorial assistance. Routine editorial assistance does not require disclosure.

3. Substantive AI Use
Substantive use must be disclosed. Examples include generating significant portions of narrative content, synthesizing research or literature, assisting with substantive data analysis or interpretation, generating images or other presentation content, developing substantive case examples or scenarios, or developing or restructuring intellectual content.

4. Human Responsibility and Verification
Authors and presenters remain responsible for reviewing and verifying AI-assisted content, including factual claims, citations, statistics, data, findings, quotations, images, analyses, conclusions, and recommendations.

5. Prohibited Uses
AI must not be used to fabricate or falsify research, data, results, outcomes, citations, quotations, experiences, or case studies; describe work that did not occur; misrepresent AI-generated content as firsthand professional experience or authentic findings; conceal plagiarism; falsely attribute work; or create deceptive content.

6. Privacy and Sensitive Information
Authors and presenters remain responsible for complying with applicable laws, organizational policies, contractual obligations, confidentiality requirements, data-use agreements, and other restrictions when using AI tools. Sensitive, confidential, proprietary, or personally identifiable information must not be entered into an AI system when doing so would violate those requirements.

7. Accepted Presentations
The same responsibilities continue after acceptance. Presenters may use AI to assist with presentation development, but acceptance of an abstract does not constitute approval of subsequently generated AI content.

8. Review and Enforcement
Responsible AI disclosure does not determine acceptance. NACCHO may request additional information where questions concerning accuracy, authenticity, attribution, or integrity arise and may reject or withdraw content found to be materially fabricated, falsified, improperly attributed, or otherwise inconsistent with the policy.

General Information

We look forward to receiving your abstract submission and learning more about the innovative work being done across the preparedness community. Your contributions are vital to advancing our shared mission of building stronger, more resilient systems and communities. Please ensure you review all requirements carefully, including sessions format guidelines, speaker limits, moderator responsibilities, and participation expectations. Incomplete submissions or those without a designated moderator will not be considered. Thank you for your commitment to public health

Questions

For more information or assistance with your submission, please contact us at Abstracts@naccho.org.