



Thank you for considering submitting an application to present at the 27th Annual Minnesota Autism Conference, which will be held April 27-29, 2022 in-person at the Hyatt Regency in Bloomington, Minn.

This document will provide you with guidance and answer common questions about applying to present. If you have additional questions about your proposal or the application process, please reach out to Maura McDonald, AuSM Registration Administrator, at mmcdonald@ausm.org.

Suggested Topics

We welcome submissions on all topics, however, the list below provides ideas and suggestions of topics that are of particular interest to members of our community:

- Employment
- Mental health (including anxiety, co-occurring diagnoses, PTSD and trauma, drug and alcohol addiction, etc.)
- Gender identity
- Emotion regulation
- Social skills
- Sensory integration/supports
- Alternative and Augmentative Communication
- Current research
- School supports
- Early intervention
- Supports and strategies for parents, siblings, educators, and providers
- Transition
- Behavior
- Housing
- Aging
- Executive function
- Sex/sexuality/dating
- Service navigation
- Sensory supports
- Ableism

Factors Affecting Selection

The purpose of the Minnesota Autism Conference is to provide a wide range of information to those affected by autism. Our goal is to offer relevant information for participants at all levels, including those who are new to autism and those who have years of experience. The following factors will be considered when selecting proposals:

- Thoughtful completion of ALL sections of the proposal and adherence to directions.
- Relevance to conference participants.
- Number of presentations on the same or similar topics and/or subtopics.

- Content-area coverage.
- Presenters' apparent level of expertise.
- Professional and geographic distribution of presenters.
- Presenters and topics reflective of the diversity of the community members we serve.

Presenter Roles and Responsibilities

All presenters will:

- Confirm commitment to present within one week of notification of selection.
- Register for the conference if participating in other sessions.
- Refrain from changing the title/content of the session after the proposal has been accepted.
- Provide a PowerPoint presentation by April 5, 2022. The PowerPoint presentation will be converted to PDF handouts and placed on a central website for conference participants to print on their own.
- Adhere to Universal Design Guidelines (provided upon acceptance).
- Presenters must bring their own laptops for their presentations. AuSM will supply a standard package of AV equipment – podium, microphone, and projector – for each session room. If you require additional equipment, you must provide it yourself. This includes adaptors for Macbooks.
- Adhere to all deadlines specified in the proposal form.

We do not offer an honorarium nor cover expenses for breakout session presenters. Presenters will be offered a discounted rate to attend the conference. Participants of the conference appreciate clear topic descriptions of what to expect during your session. If selected, your presentation must be consistent with the description provided in your proposal.

In the event that AuSM is not able to hold the conference in person, breakout session presenters may be asked to present virtually. Additionally, select speakers will be asked to record their sessions to be made available on demand for conference attendees.