

2026 Education Summit Call for Papers

Sign-up deadline: June 2, 2026

We invite you to submit an abstract for presentation at the annual **Education Summit**. This summit provides a unique opportunity for occupational therapy educators to gather and share new research evidence and teaching innovations, and discuss the state of scholarship in occupational therapy education.

Instructions for Submission

- Proposals may be submitted through 11:59 PM PDT **June 2, 2026**
- Proposals will only be accepted through the online process.
- All presenters, for each proposal submitted, must have a valid email address. If you are submitting multiple abstracts, please use the same email address for all submissions. Use an email address that you regularly check.
- Each submitter is limited to five submissions.
- We recommend that you first develop your proposal using the [templates provided](#). This will allow you to view detailed criteria, spell check your work and ensure that you are within the noted character limits. Then copy and paste the information into the online process. This will ensure greater accuracy. Please make sure that spelling and credentials are accurate.
- Complete required fields in all sections. You may access the submission process as needed to complete your proposal until the deadline.
- Incomplete proposals will be deleted after the deadline. Please do NOT create a new submission if you have made errors. Simply edit and continue with the existing proposal.
- **Review the scoring rubric prior to submission.**

Pro Tips

- Read through the instructions and view the template prior to creating an account in the system. This will allow you to familiarize yourself with the requirements.
- Save as you go! Even if you have not filled out all of the required fields click Save in the bottom of each tab to save information you have entered.
- An exceeded character count will paste into the text box but will not save. Please refer to the character counter below the text box.
- All emails come from noreply-ai@communitybrands.com. To ensure you receive all communication, please be sure to add this email to your approved senders list or have your IT department add it.

If you have any technical issues with the submission site, please email conference@aota.org

The goals of the AOTA Education Summit are to:

1. Provide a forum for scholars to share their research, network across academic institutions, and formulate ideas to advance occupational therapy education.
2. Contribute to occupational therapy education research by strengthening our approaches to research that specifically examines: (1) theory building, (2) signature pedagogies, (3) instructional methods, (4) learner characteristics and competencies, (5) socialization to the profession, (6) faculty development and resources, and (7) the unique perspectives and experiences of all individuals, ensuring accessibility and serving person with equal dignity

and respect. **American Occupational Therapy Association. (2018). Research Agenda—Occupational therapy Education Research Agenda - Revised. *American Journal of Occupational Therapy*, 72(Suppl. 2), <https://doi.org/10.5014/ajot.2018.72S218>.**

The 2026 Education Summit will include:

Three formats for disseminating knowledge:

1. **Oral Presentations:** (1) Keynote and (1) Closing; and (35) Platforms - 20-minute presentations with 10 minutes for questions and discussion following each presentation.
 - a. All accepted Oral Presentations will be scheduled within a Platform.
 - b. AOTA will create Platforms from accepted submissions on similar topics.
2. **Posters:** (35) Completed poster submissions will be chosen. Posters will be on display during a designated 60- or 90-minute time period. Presenters are required to be with their poster for the entire session. Posters will be presented on tabletops. Poster presenters will be provided with a 36" W x 38" H poster board. The poster boards will be placed on a 6' length table that is 30" wide. Feel free to bring your own Poster board (tri-fold) if you like, but it must be able to fit on a 6' long table that is 30" wide.
3. **Technology Round Table:** (10) Completed Technology Round Table submissions will be chosen. Roundtable discussions will be held during a designated 60-minute period. There will be 3 – 20 minute rotations with 10 minutes for the presentation and 10 minutes for discussion. There will be no A/V for these discussions.

Two types of presentations will be featured:

1. **Completed Research:** Research that examines (1) theory building, (2) signature pedagogies, (3) instructional methods, (4) learner characteristics and competencies, (5) socialization to the profession, (6) faculty development and resources, and (7) the unique perspectives and experiences of all individuals, ensuring accessibility and serving person with equal dignity and respect. Research presentations must include rigorous methods appropriate to the questions being asked and clear outcomes from the research projects [i.e., data that has been collected and analyzed].
2. **Exemplar Projects:** Examples of innovative evidence-based teaching/learning practices that have been used successfully in occupational therapy education settings and are supported by outcome measures and/or educational research outcome literature.

For all formats and types of proposal, priority will be given to the following identified topics:

- Delivery models beyond the face to face classroom
- Scholarship in academic programs
- Mental Health & Resilience
- Apply research evidence to practice/models for educating students in knowledge translation
- Assess accountability, quality indicators or outcomes
- Addressing occupational barriers to health and wellness of individuals, group and/or populations
- Applying research evidence to practice/models for educating students in social drivers of health
- Continuing professional development and competency
- Experiential learning (e.g. fieldwork, residencies, doctoral experiential component, community-based practice) or innovative approaches to developing clinical competencies (e.g., simulation, standardized patients, etc.)
- Promoting the scholarship of teaching and learning
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