

2026 Spine Summit Abstract Guidelines and FAQs



Meeting Dates/Location:

February 26- March 1, 2026 | Phoenix, AZ

Abstract Submission Opens:

Monday, June 23, 2025

Abstract Submission Closes:

Friday, September 26, 2025, 11:59 pm CT

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

How do I submit an abstract?

Visit the [2026 Spine Summit Abstract Center](#) and log in using your MyAANS username and password to submit an abstract.

What information is required to complete a submission?

- **Abstract Title:** Titles should read as you want them to appear in publications. Use title case capitalization, *do not* use all CAPITAL LETTERS and *do not* put a period at the end of the title. Example: This is a Properly Formatted Abstract Title
- **Presenting Author (First Author):**
 - The Presenting Author ***is required to register and attend the meeting.***
 - The Presenting Author ***is expected to present.***
 - The Presenting Author's account information/status (at the time of submission) is used to determine award eligibility.
 - All correspondence regarding the abstract submission and possible acceptance is done via email with the Presenting Author.

Please note, all reviews are blinded and therefore, the author's name will only be able to be viewed by the submitter and AANS Staff.

- **Co-Authors:** List full names with credentials. All authors must be added to submissions before the deadline. Additional authors are not able to be added to the submission after Friday, September 26 at 11:59 pm CT.



- **Topic Categories:** Basic Science, Deformity, Degenerative, Minimally Invasive/Motion Preservation, Oncology, Peripheral Nerve, Socioeconomic, Trauma, Other.
- **Disclosure:** A disclosure is required for each presenting author, as well as an agreement with the Terms and Conditions.
- **Abstract Body:** Include introduction, methods, results and conclusion sections. Text is limited to 350 words.
- **Research Grants and Award Submission Selection:** Review the 2026 Spine Summit research grants and award criteria thoroughly. To review the full list of awards, visit the [Spine Section's website](#). The Presenting Author's account information/status (at the time of submission) is used to determine award eligibility.
- **Manuscript/Research Proposal Upload:** For those applying for the J.A.N.E. Award or Mayfield Award, a manuscript must be submitted along with your abstract. For those applying for the Benzel Surgeon-Scholar Research Award or Kline Peripheral Nerve Research Award, a research proposal must be submitted with your abstract. To review award application instructions, visit the [Spine Section's website](#). If you are not applying for one of these awards, please select "I did not apply for these awards".
- **Additional Information:** This includes elements such as previous presentation of the abstract, FDA approval, industry employment status, medical student/resident/fellow designation, senior author information, and funding/database questions.
- **Review Work:** You may review your abstract by pressing "Preview Abstract." Please proofread before submission to avoid errors. Once reviewed, hit the save submission button to confirm all tasks have been completed.
- **Submit:** All tasks must be completed, and the abstract status must read "COMPLETE" on the submission site home screen for the abstract to be included in grading. Make sure to complete your abstract by hitting the submit button. A confirmation email will be sent once completed.

Note: Abstracts cannot contain advertising, trade names or product-group messaging. Include generic names or terms in your abstract content. If the abstract includes trade names, names from several companies should be used — not just trade names from a single company — to present all available treatment options. If trade names or company names are included in your abstract, the Spine Section reserves the right to remove them to ensure all scientific content is free from commercial bias.

Can I edit my submission?

- Yes, you can make edits **before the submission deadline**.
- Once the review process begins, no changes to the submitted abstracts are allowed – **no exceptions**. Please note that any typographical or spelling errors, improperly formatted titles, missing co-authors, etc., **will not be edited by anyone at the Spine Section**.
- It is the responsibility of the submitter to review and verify all the work submitted. Please remember, after making any changes to your abstract, you must **save and resubmit** the abstract (even if it was previously submitted). The abstract status must read "COMPLETE" on the submission site home screen for the abstract to be included in grading. A confirmation email will be sent for every resubmission.

What are the presentation formats?

NOTE: Abstract submissions will be reviewed for all categories.

- **Oral Presentations:** Selected abstracts are to be presented orally at designated scientific or award sessions.
- **E-Posters:** E-Posters are a one-page digital version of an abstract and can be viewed throughout the entirety of the Spine Summit on the conference website, mobile app and app kiosks in a designated area at the headquarter hotel. There is no formal presentation date/time associated.

When will I know if my abstract has been accepted?

- All abstract submitters will be notified by email in November regarding their abstract status.

If I accept an invitation for either an Oral presentation or E-Poster, am I required to attend the 2026 Spine Summit in Phoenix, AZ?

- **Yes, all** Presenting/Lead Authors are required to register and attend the 2026 Spine Summit in Phoenix, AZ.
 - **Registration must be completed by Monday, January 12, 2026.** If the Presenting/Lead Author does not complete registration by **Monday, January 12, 2026**, all accepted abstracts submitted by the Presenting/Lead Author will be declined.

Can I submit charts, graphs or images with abstract submission?

- No, the Spine Section does not allow for any charts, graphs or images in the abstract submission process.

How will the abstract be available to 2026 Spine Summit attendees?

- All Oral Presentations are available live in-person.
- E-Poster abstracts are available in the mobile app and on the conference website. Screens displaying the E-Posters will also be located in a designated area of the headquarter hotel.
- All abstracts will be published on the 2026 Spine Summit website and in the mobile app exactly as they are submitted, **no exceptions**. Proofread all abstracts before they are submitted to avoid errors.

What is the review process?

Each submission is blindly reviewed by the DSPN Scientific Program Committee.

When will abstract submissions close?

The 2026 Spine Summit Abstract Center closes on Friday, September 26, 2025, at 11:59 pm CT.

Contact Information

American Association of Neurological Surgeons
5550 Meadowbrook Industrial Ct.
Rolling Meadows, IL 60008-3852

Phone: 847.378.0500 or 888.566.AANS (2267)

Email: spinesummit@aans.org