



Call for Sessions

A Guide on How to Submit a Session Proposal for BIO 2024

Call for Sessions Open: Tuesday, September 12, 2023

Deadline: Friday, October 20, 2023

Notification: Mid-January 2024

For the latest information on BIO 2024 and/or the Call for Sessions, [click here](#).

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What makes a proposal successful?

Science and innovation is the core of what we do – we want voices and viewpoints that are fresh and diverse. BIO's top-notch education program covers the biotechnology industry's most relevant and timely topics - providing the know-how you need to advance your business. In each session, top thought leaders offer insights on issues essential to the industry and provide a wealth of information of strategic relevance to your business.

Please remember that your submission is one of hundreds that will be read and reviewed by the 2024 BIO International Convention Program Committee. With such a large number of proposed sessions, those with incomplete, unclear, or inaccurate details are unlikely to be accepted.

Key details to include:

WHO

- ✓ A clear definition of the ideal audience you are targeting
- ✓ Diversity of panelists*. Examples include:
 - ✓ Race/ethnicity
 - ✓ Sexual orientation
 - ✓ Gender and Gender identity
 - ✓ Company focus
 - ✓ Company financing
 - ✓ Company geographic location
 - ✓ Company size

WHAT

- ✓ New, innovative topics
- ✓ Emerging industry issues
- ✓ Industry updates
- ✓ Educational value not available elsewhere
 - Introducing news about a terrain
 - Deep dive into implementation details
- ✓ Thought-provoking key take-aways for attendees

HOW

- ✓ Enough resources to organize the session and successfully execute it
- ✓ Moderators who can lead discussion and facilitate interaction among panelists
- ✓ Specific plan for interactive engagement
 - Audience polling
 - Group exercises
 - Q&A

* BIO is committed to workforce diversity, equity, and inclusion, and strives to include these values, in communications, membership engagement, at BIO events, and in the composition of the Board of Directors and its committees.

Session Submission Format Guidelines

As you begin completing your submission, carefully consider the audience level and presentation format that best fits your proposal.

Ability Level: Choose the level of biotech industry experience and/or expertise recommended for attendees of your proposed session:

- **All:** Appropriate for all knowledge levels, including individuals who are new to the topic/subject area.
- **Intermediate:** Intended for individuals who already have a basic knowledge of the topic/subject area, and are looking to further their understanding of the subject matter.
- **Advanced:** Appropriate for seasoned professionals and experts, this level assumes the audience already grasps the intermediate elements of the topic and is seeking to explore the topic/subject matter with a more in-depth perspective.

Presentation Formats: Most sessions are scheduled in 60-minute timeslots. Select one presentation format for your proposed session:

- **How-To Session:** Tutorials for the novice or expert in biotech with 1 – 2 speakers. Addresses a specific topic or issue in biotech and provides practical lessons learned. Also, group or solo exercises (e.g., writing examples, brainstorming) may be applicable here.
- **Interactive Panel:** Panelists (maximum of 4 plus one moderator) present case studies from multiple perspectives facilitated by a moderator. Moderator will facilitate formal Q&A or polling with the audience and panelists for a minimum of 15 minutes.
- **Interview:** One presenter, one moderator. The moderator questions the presenter on the session topic for approximately three-fourths of the time, after which the floor is opened up for questions to the presenter from the audience.

2024 BIO International Convention Sample Session Proposal	
Focus Area	Choose the 2024 primary focus area that best describes your proposed session. See the complete list below.
Session Title Make sure your title is listed as you would like it to be published on the Convention website (if selected), including correct grammar, capitalization, and punctuation. While a catchy session title can attract the attention of Convention attendees, the proposal itself should be clear and complete in order to be favorably viewed by the Program Committee.	BIO 2024: What makes a session proposal successful?
Format Carefully consider the presentation format that best fits your proposal.	<input type="checkbox"/> How-To Session <input type="checkbox"/> Interactive Panel <input type="checkbox"/> Interview
Ability Level Choose the level of biotech industry experience and/or expertise recommended for attendees of your proposed session	<input type="checkbox"/> All <input type="checkbox"/> Intermediate <input type="checkbox"/> Advanced
Abstract Provide a concise description that will explain the focus and significance of your proposed session.	Refrain from writing session proposals that are sales pitches of your region, country or company, ensure that your proposal is complete before submitting, each company should only have one (1) representative listed as a speaker, and be mindful of your target audience and the key take-aways that you want your attendees to learn during the session. Reviewing past Convention programs and session lists can be helpful in understanding previous topics of interest and themes that have been previously selected by the Program Committee for BIO's audience. And remember, BIO is continually seeking cutting edge topics that have not been presented in prior years or at other industry conferences.
Methodology	Present an explanation of how you will conduct the presentation and what each speaker will address. Provide enough detail for the

How do you intend to accomplish the goals of your session?	Program Committee to clearly visualize and evaluate your proposed session.
Elevator Pitch What is the essence of your session?	If you only had one sentence to convince someone to attend your session, what would it be?
Participant Details	
Submitting Company	Provide the name of the organization you are submitting this proposal on behalf of (if any)
Participant Information	
You are allowed a maximum number of four speakers and one moderator per panel. <i><u>Program Committee will give preference to comprehensive proposals that list all speakers.</u></i>	
Role	<input type="checkbox"/> Moderator <input type="checkbox"/> Speaker
Name	John Smith
Title	CEO
Company	John Smith, Inc.
Email	One unique email per speaker is required. Speakers will not be contacted without organizers knowledge.
Gender	<input type="checkbox"/> Male/Man <input type="checkbox"/> Female/Woman <input type="checkbox"/> Transgender Male/Man <input type="checkbox"/> Transgender Female/Woman <input type="checkbox"/> Genderqueer, gender non-binary <input type="checkbox"/> Prefer not to answer <input type="checkbox"/> Not listed
Biography	Provide a brief biography of each proposed speaker. Include information on previous speaking engagements.
Invitation Status *Mandatory*	<input type="checkbox"/> Confirmed <input type="checkbox"/> Invited <input type="checkbox"/> Have Not Contacted

BIO 2024 Focus Area Priority Topics

Submit provocative and cutting-edge topics that matter to the global biotech audience in one of the focus areas below. We've provided priority topics for each focus area but welcome all innovative ideas!

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Biotech

- Health Equity
- Workforce Development
- Training the Next Generation of Researchers
- Promoting Economic Development of Marginalized Communities

Biomanufacturing

- Advanced/Innovative Manufacturing
- Benefits and challenges

Brain Health

- Latest scientific advances
- AI and Big Data applications
- Addiction
- New approaches to neurodegeneration
- Examples of collaborations and novel partnerships

Business Development & Finance

- Trends in Licensing Deals
- M&A Valuations and Deal Volume Trends
- Working with Venture Philanthropy and Non-Dilutive Financing
- Cross-Border Investor Recruitment
- Shifting Incubator Business Models

Cell & Gene Therapy and Genome Editing

- Scientific advances
- Regulatory and policy changes and challenges
- New applications
- Overcoming manufacturing bottlenecks
- Public engagement and education

Clinical Trials Innovations

Diagnostics & Personalized Medicine

- Futurist Challenges / Precision Medicine
- Pipeline Outlook (in 2030)
- Direct to Consumer Genetic Testing (Health Risk Reports)
- Data and Patient Empowerment / Data Privacy Concerns
- Drug Target Identification (Biomarker Discovery and Validation)
- Data Science / Biopharma Partnerships with Data Providers
- Public, Private and Academic Research Programs (NIH All of Us Research Program, Genome Centers, Biobanks, Databanks)
- Human Genome Project / Genome Wide Association Studies
- Innovative Capital Formation Ideas or Trends (i.e. Diagnostics Companies vs. Tech Companies)
- Companion Diagnostics for Targeted Therapies
- Scientific and Technological Advances in Sequencing

Digital Health

- AI-Driven Molecular Modeling
- Clinical Trial Support Tools
- Patient-Reported Outcomes Data and Real World Evidence
- Prescription Digital Therapeutics Apps
- Algorithm and Data Bias Transparency
- Digital Health Technology Tools

Emerging Opportunities in Global Markets

- Policies/challenges to fostering biotech innovation globally
- Value/access opportunities/challenges in global markets
- Reducing trade barriers

Infectious Disease & Vaccines

- Global health and infectious diseases
- Antimicrobial resistance
- Clinical integration of infectious disease diagnostics
- Data analytics/AI in infectious disease R&D
- Influenza
- Nagoya Protocol & access and benefits sharing for infectious disease pathogens
- Next generation antibodies
- Novel vaccine delivery systems
- Pandemic preparedness
- Partnerships with developing country manufacturers
- Platforms/rapid technologies for infectious diseases
- Real-world evidence for vaccines and infectious disease therapeutics

Intellectual Property

- 101 updates
- Biologic patent litigation
- Case law updates
- International IP framework comparisons
- Drug pricing update

Next Generation Biotherapeutics

- Next generation scientific advances, examples include:
- Microbiome
- Organ on a Chip
- Exosomes
- RNA-based therapies

Oncology

- Latest scientific advances

- Regulatory and Policy changes
- Partnerships & Deal-making

Orphan & Rare Disease

- Collaborative research model case studies
- Reimbursement models
- Business development trends
- Clinical trial design
- Natural history

Patient Advocacy

- Patient Access
- Best practices to achieve successful partnerships
- Patient Voice in AMR and Vaccine
- Confidence
- Patient Voice in Value Conversations

Regulatory Innovation

- PDUFA VIIPFDD
- Real World Evidence
- Decentralized Clinical Trials
- Cost of regulatory-based policy incentives
- Innovative Clinical Trial Designs

Translational Research

- Examples of new models for collaboration
- Best practices for public-private partnerships
- De-risking academic science

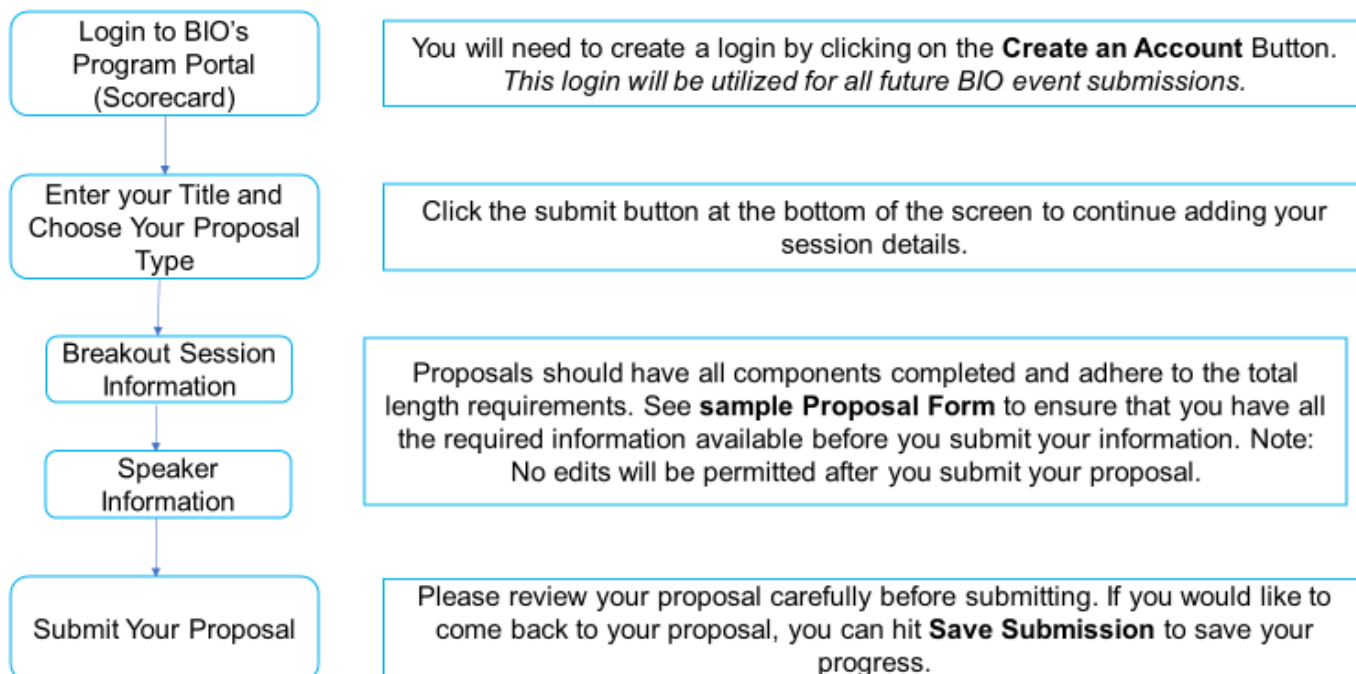
Value, Patient Access & Reimbursement

- Policy issues/priorities
- Innovative reimbursement models
- Value-based payments
- The role of value assessment frameworks

How to Submit Your Proposal

You will need to submit **all proposals** through the [BIO Program Portal](#).

Step-by-step instructions detailing how to navigate the Call for Sessions online submission site are listed below.



NOTE: Once you have finished previewing your submission, **remember to select the "Submit" button to fully submit your proposal for consideration.**

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. Does BIO provide an honorarium for speaking?

A. BIO does not provide honoraria or reimburse for travel or housing expenses.

Q. Once I have made a submission, can it be modified?

A. No, once you submit your session proposal entirely no additional edits can be made. If you are not prepared to submit the session you may save it as a 'Draft' and return to make edits and submit before the portal closes.

Q. Will any changes be made to my proposal?

A. If your session is accepted, you will meet with a member of BIO staff to review 2024 Program Committee's feedback. BIO reserves the right to make recommendations and requirements for revisions of content and/or speakers.

Q. When will I be notified if my session has been accepted?

A. You will be notified of via email in mid-January. Contact program@bio.org if you have not received notification by January 31, 2024.

Q. Can the deadline to submit be extended?

A. The deadline cannot be extended. This is the beginning of an extensive review process to allow the newest and best data to be professionally peer reviewed without rushing the process. BIO needs a firm deadline so that the Program Committee has sufficient time to review each submission thoroughly.

Q. When would my session be scheduled at the International Convention?

A. Sessions may be scheduled by BIO for a time period that could occur at any time from Monday, June 3, 2023 through Thursday, June 6, 2024. The session organizer and speakers must be available to present on any of those days.

Q: When will I find out the date and time of my session?

A: If accepted, you can expect to know the date/time of your session by early March 2024.

Q. Is there a limit to the number of speakers per session?

A. Yes, there is a maximum of four speakers and one moderator per session, depending on the session format selected.

Q. Can more than one speaker from the same company participate on a panel?

A. No, BIO only allows one panel member per company.

Q. Should I contact the proposed speaker in advance of submitting the name?

A. While it is not mandatory that speakers be contacted in advance of their names being submitted, the invite status of a speaker does play an important role in the selection process of sessions. If a session is selected based on the panel and the proposed list of speakers cannot be confirmed, BIO will review the appropriateness of including this panel on the final program.

Q: Will BIO contact any of my submitted speakers?

A: BIO will not contact any of your submitted speakers until after you've been notified of the session's acceptance and BIO has provided additional information around next steps.