

Call for Sessions

A Guide on How to Submit a Session Proposal for BIO 2022

Call for Sessions Open: September 9, 2021

Deadline: October 11, 2021

Notification: Late January 2022

For the latest information on BIO 2022 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 2022 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 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

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:

- **Debate:** One moderator and no more than two speakers will have an interactive, lively discussion in which they will put forth opposing views on the session topic.
- **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.
- **Single Speaker Proposal:** Recommended for a particular topic subject matter expert to be considered for inclusion on a developed panel OR to be considered for a deep-dive presentation with emphasis on data trends and statistical analysis.

2020 BIO International Convention Sample Session Proposal	
Focus Area	Choose the 2022 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 2022: What makes a session proposal successful?
Format Carefully consider the presentation format that best fits your proposal.	<input type="checkbox"/> Interactive Panel <input type="checkbox"/> Interview <input type="checkbox"/> Debate <input type="checkbox"/> How-To Session <input type="checkbox"/> Single Speaker Proposal
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 How do you intend to accomplish the goals of your session?	Present an explanation of how you will conduct the presentation and what each speaker will address. Provide enough detail for the 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>Program Committee will give preference to comprehensive proposals that list all speakers.</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 <input type="checkbox"/> Female <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 2022 Focus Area Priority Topics

Direct the industry’s conversation. 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, provocative, and cutting-edge ideas!

BIOEquality - Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Biotech

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

Brain Health

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

Biomanufacturing

- Advanced/Innovative Manufacturing
- Benefits and challenges

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 Therapies and Genome Editing

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

Chronic Diseases

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 Issues: Solving new challenges through biotechnology

Industry issues on the horizon
New, innovative topics

Emerging Opportunities in Global Markets

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

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

IT Infrastructure, Data Policies, and Cybersecurity

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

One Health

- One Health
- Zoonotic diseases
- Antimicrobial resistance
- Mosquito-borne diseases
- Human, animal, environmental health
- Cross-sectoral solutions/innovations
- Climate change

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, bioevents.hubb.me.

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

Login to BIO's Program Portal

You will need to create a login by clicking on the **Create An Account** button. *This login will be utilized for all future BIO event submissions.*

Choose your Proposal Type

Click the submit button next to the Proposal Type you would like to submit for the BIO International Convention.

Submitting a Session

Complete Proposal Form

Proposals should have all components completed and adhere to the total length requirements. See **Sample Proposal Form** on page 4 to ensure that you have all the required information available before you submit your proposal. Note: No edits will be permitted after the final deadline, **October 11, 2021 at 5:00 PM ET**

Add Speaker Information

Immediately beneath the session proposal form is the Speaker Information form. Please fill out all of the required information and add as many speakers as you have invited or confirmed. You are allowed a maximum number of three speakers and one moderator per proposal.

Review & Submit

Please review your final proposal before submitting. If you think you will need to make changes to your proposal before the deadline, please click **Save As Draft**. When you are ready to submit your proposal, click the **Submit** button. Note: *Once you click 'Submit' you will not be able to make any edits to your proposal. If you have any edits to make you will need to email program@bio.org.*

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. BIO reserves the right to make recommendations and requirements for revisions of content and/or speakers within proposals prior to acceptance.

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

A. You will be notified of via email in late January, 2022. Contact program@bio.org if you have not received notification by February 15, 2022.

Q. Can the deadline to submit be extended?

A. The deadline cannot be extended. October 11, 2021 at 5:00 PM (ET) is the beginning of an extensive review process so that the newest and best data can 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 13, 2022 through Thursday, June 16, 2022. 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 2022.

Q: Will the 2022 BIO International Convention be an in-person event?

A: Yes, BIO is currently planning for an in-person event in San Diego, California from June 13 – 16, 2022.

Q: Is in-person attendance required in order to be accepted on the program?

A: BIO continues to monitor the COVID situation and will abide by CDC guidelines. As we prepare to (hopefully) meet in person, we are also exploring additional formatting options to accommodate speakers who cannot travel. We will provide additional details as we can.

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.