

Call for Session Proposals

APTA Combined Sections Meeting
Feb. 12-14, 2026 | Anaheim, California



The specialty academies and sections of the American Physical Therapy Association hereby issue a Call for Session Proposals.

Proposal submission deadline: April 15, 2025, 11:59 p.m. PT

Proposals for APTA CSM educational sessions and preconference courses are submitted online through APTA's submission site. The decision to accept or reject a proposal, and matters regarding the final content, format, and scheduling of any presentation, rests with each academy/section as represented by that entity's program chair.

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

Proposal submissions for education sessions must contain the following:

- Title (15 words maximum).
- Session description (250 words maximum).
- Session learning objectives (four maximum).
- Minimum of five to seven current bibliographic references, no more than seven years old at time of CSM presentation.
- Timed outline of content that aligns with learning objectives.
- Total of content related to differential diagnosis (expressed in minutes).
- Speaker information, including name, degrees/credentials, institution, city, state, and speaking experience for each speaker.
- Biographical information for each speaker.
- Keywords to help potential attendees search for the session topic.
- Teaching and learning assessment methods.
- Recommended content level (fundamental, intermediate, advanced).
- Conflict of interest disclosure.

Proposal submissions for preconference courses must contain the following:

- All of the above pertaining to educational session submissions, **plus:**
- A commitment that, if selected, the submitter will provide a 25-question, multiple-choice posttest to assess learning. Each question must correspond with a learning objective. This learning assessment is required for continuing education unit approval.

Important things to remember when submitting your proposal:

- **The same proposal may not be submitted to multiple sections.**
- The APTA academies/sections have agreed to limit a speaker to three accepted sessions within their individual programs. This includes both primary speaker and co-speaker positions.
- Speaker information will appear exactly as submitted in all APTA CSM publications. Contact co-presenters to ensure the accuracy of this information before finalizing your submission.
 - Proposals may be for 90-minute (1.5 hour) educational sessions or for one- or two-day preconference courses.
 - If you have content exceeding 90 minutes (1.5 hours) for an educational session, you may submit two 90-minute (1.5 hour) sessions, designating in the title that it is part 1 or part 2.
- Selection of proposals will be based on foundation in evidence, clarity of proposal, probable interest to participants, fiscal feasibility, and space and time constraints.
- Proposals should reflect cultural and/or ethical components related to clinical practice and research,

as related to session content.

- Proposals should be devoid of any promotional content.
- Use your APTA member login to access the submission site and submit your proposal. If you do not have a member login, you can create one, or contact Member Success at 800-999-2782.

Acceptance of speaker responsibilities

If your proposal is selected for an educational session or preconference course, you will be asked to sign a form agreeing to speaker responsibilities. Since there are a lot of moving parts involved in preparing for APTA CSM, our conference timeline is necessary to make sure everything stays on track.

- Every speaker or co-speaker must sign the speaker agreement(s) in their Speaker Center, if accepted for a session/course.
- You agree to meet all deadlines (deadline reminders will be sent to chairs); however,
- If you cannot meet a deadline, you must contact APTA Events Programming staff at eventprogram@apta.org with notification.
- Please include reference to your academy/section and the title of your approved session or course in all communications to streamline processing by staff.

APTA Academy/Section Program Chairs (as of March 10, 2025)

APTA Component	Contact	Email
APTA Acute Care, an academy of the American Physical Therapy Association	*Enjeen Woolford, PTA James Crick, PT, DPT	enjeen@gmail.com James.crick@osumc.edu
APTA Academy of Aquatic Physical Therapy	*Nicole Needles, PT, DPT Carrie Thorson	nicole.needles.pt@gmail.com cthorr217@gmail.com
APTA Academy of Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Physical Therapy	*Julie Skrzat, PT, DPT, PhD John Connelly	skrzatj@arcadia.edu John.Connell@va.gov
APTA Academy of Clinical Electrophysiology & Wound Management	*Neely Sullivan Deborah Wendland, PT, DPT, PhD	nsullivan@selectrehab.com wendland_dm@mercer.edu
APTA Academy of Education, a component of the American Physical Therapy Association	*Rebecca Leugers, PT, PhD Fran Kistner Scott Euype, PT, DPT, MHS	leugerrc@ucmail.uc.edu ptfran@earthlink.net euypes@ccf.org cc: csmchair@aptaeducation.org
APTA Federal, a section of the American Physical Therapy Association	*Laura Riebel, PT, DPT, MBA Joe Kardouni, PT, PhD	Laura.k.honan@gmail.com jkardouni@hotmail.com
APTA Geriatrics, an academy of the American Physical Therapy Association	*Jake Raecker, PT, DPT Emma Phillips	Jake.raecker.dpt@gmail.com ochs.emma@gmail.com
APTA Hand and Upper Extremity Physical Therapy, an academy of the American Physical Therapy Association	*Marissa Pontillo, PT, PhD, DPT Christos Karagiannopoulos, PT, MPT, PhD, MEd	pontillo77@gmail.com handspc@handpt.org karagiannopoulosc@gmail.com
APTA Home Health, an academy of the American Physical Therapy Association	Nikki Gilroy, PT, DPT	Nikki.Gilroy@pennmedicine.upenn.edu
APTA Leadership & Innovation, a component of the American Physical Therapy Association (formerly known as the Health Policy & Administration Section)	*Allison Kellish, PT, DPT, PhD Neeka Menard, PT, DPT, MHA	Kellisha@Franklinpierce.edu Neekamenard@gmail.com

Academy of Neurologic Physical Therapy	*Heather Salon, PT, DPT Rebecca Martin, PT, DPT, PhD	hsalon@partners.org rmartin@wildfirept.com
APTA Oncology, an academy of the American Physical Therapy Association	*Jeannette "Jet" Lee, PT, PhD Laura Leigh Fuss	jetlee@sfsu.edu Laura.leigh.fuss@gmail.com
Academy of Orthopaedic Physical Therapy	*Brian Eckenrode, PT, DPT, PhD	eckenrodeb@arcadia.edu
APTA Academy of Pediatric Physical Therapy	*Stacey Marguerite, PT, DPT Kimberly Klug, PT, DSc	stacey@staceypediatrics.com kklug@carrollu.edu
APTA Pelvic Health, an academy of the American Physical Therapy Association	*Ariana Alexander, PT, DPT Truly Moore, PT, DPT	programming@aptapelvichealth.org csm2@aptapelvichealth.org
APTA Private Practice, a section of the American Physical Therapy Association	Kat Castillo Kate Spencer, PT, DPT	KCastillo@ppsapta.org cc: Kate.Spencer.pt@gmail.com
APTA Academy of Research, a component of the American Physical Therapy Association	LaDarius Woods, PT, DPT, PhD	ldwoodspt@gmail.com
American Academy of Sports Physical Therapy	* Brandon Schmitt, PT, DPT, ATC Craig Garrison	brandon.m.schmitt@gmail.com craig.garrison@memorialhermann.org

*Indicates this person is serving as chair when more than one contact is listed.

Last Updated: 3/10/2025

Contact: eventprogram@apta.org