



**Call for Presentations**  
**BIAPA 2026 Annual Conference**  
**June 22 - 23, 2026**  
**SUBMISSION DEADLINE:**  
**Friday, October 31, 2025**

*You are invited to submit a Presentation Proposal. This year's theme is:*

## **Brain Injury Rehabilitation Across the Lifespan: Achieving Outcomes and Strengthening Community**

The Brain Injury Association of Pennsylvania (BIAPA) has been holding an Annual Conference for over two decades and it is typically attended by 300 or more people. Among the annual brain injury conferences held across the country, BIAPA's Annual Conference has been recognized for its commitment to designing and offering a conference with content for survivors of brain injuries, their family members and caregivers, as well as the multidisciplinary practitioners, researchers, educators, and students who make up this ever-emerging field. This inclusive conference provides opportunities for networking and communication among all stakeholders, as needed to advance the field. This year, to help attendees find the sessions that best fit their educational needs, we will offer options tailored for professionals, survivors, and caregivers. While everyone is welcome to attend any session, these designations are intended to help participants plan their experience more effectively. Pediatric-focused sessions will be offered on Tuesday. The Annual Conference is an important part of BIAPA's mission to foster a community of education, advocacy, support, and research to maximize the quality of life for individuals with brain injuries, their families, and their communities.

In planning the annual conferences, the Conference Committee carefully reviews the evaluations of past attendees and their suggestions for specific topics. Verbal feedback and suggestions have also been solicited by committee members. While ensuring that all attendees can choose any workshop(s) they want to attend, the topics specifically requested by survivors will be identified in the conference brochure's listings.

All attendees will receive a general certificate of attendance for the conference. Licensed and certified professionals who are required to meet continuing education requirements in specific disciplines will be able to earn continuing education (CE) units/credits. Specifics regarding CE fees will be provided on the conference registration form.

Presentations are an excellent way to share your expertise and contribute to advances in the field of brain injury rehabilitation overall, and to support BIAPA. Professionals attending the conference typically include certified brain injury specialists, occupational therapists, physical therapists, speech therapists, social workers, nurses, psychologists, therapeutic recreation specialists, vocational rehabilitation counselors, cognitive rehabilitation therapists, physicians, case managers, personal care home administrators, individuals with interests in alternative treatments, and representatives from various fields of health care.

### **General Information:**

- The conference is scheduled for two days in order to provide substantial sharing of knowledge and resources and a significant number of continuing education units. The dates for the 2026 Annual Conference are Monday, June 22, and Tuesday, June 23, 2026.
- The conference will be held at the Lancaster Marriott & Convention Center in Lancaster, PA.
- Concurrent educational sessions (i.e., workshops) last 60 minutes: 50 minutes for the formal presentation and 10 minutes for questions and answers.
- Approximately 50-75 individuals attend each session; session audiences include a mixed representation of attendees (survivors, caregivers, and professionals).

- **Complete presentation proposals, including resume/CV, session outline, references, and headshot photo, must be received by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, October 31, 2025. For your convenience, this is an editable PDF.** Presenters will be notified by December 31, 2025, if their presentation has been accepted.
- **Presentation materials (e.g., PowerPoint, any handouts) must be submitted in an electronic format by May 1, 2026. Presenters must agree to meet the guidelines and submission date. They must also agree to permit BIAPA to share their presentation and materials with conference attendees.**

### **Presentation Proposal Submission Guidelines:**

- Individual, group, or panel presentations may be submitted. Group or panel presentations that include professionals and persons with brain injury and/or care partners are encouraged.
- Individuals or groups may submit multiple proposals; however, a separate proposal must be completed for each presentation, and each submission must include full information on all presenters.
- Submission of a proposal does not guarantee that your presentation will be selected. The Conference Committee reserves the right to make final presentation selections, to combine proposed topics and presenters, and to edit the abstracts.
- Presenters must be careful to use disability-sensitive language throughout their submission (e.g., using “person first” terminology, avoiding stereotypes) and language that is professional and appropriate for the diverse audience of varying perspectives and values.
- Please refrain from making political statements during your presentations. Our goal is to foster a focused and inclusive environment for all attendees; keeping the content of your presentations nonpolitical will help us achieve that goal. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.
- Presenters may NOT use any educational session as an opportunity to promote a company, product, or service, verbally or in writing. **Marketing is prohibited.**
- Presenters who are selected to speak at the 2026 Annual Conference agree to abide by **ALL** deadlines established by the Conference Committee.

### **Presentation Selection Guidelines/Criteria:**

- Topics should reflect the conference theme and relate to at least one of the suggested topics listed below.
- The knowledge, strategies, and skills presented should be able to be applied immediately.
- The workshop format is intended to stimulate audience participation.
- The quality of the content will meet professional standards. References to relevant, timely, and recent evidence-based research and/or best practices must be included.
- The resume/CV and references for professionals must provide evidence of expertise and public-speaking experience.

## **Suggested Topics**

The following suggested topics reflect areas of interest for professionals, survivors, and caregivers:

### **Professional Presentations**

Topics will be presented by professionals and should qualify for Continuing Education Units [CEUs] required for licensure and certification renewal.

### **Clinical Care & Rehabilitation**

- Best practices in brain injury rehabilitation across the lifespan
- Strategies for cognitive enhancement
- Updates on brain injury research (in progress or completed)
- Interdisciplinary collaboration in rehabilitation
- Pediatric-focused case studies and early intervention approaches (birth–5)

- Behavior management with adolescents after brain injury
- Vestibular therapy (inpatient and outpatient rehabilitation)
- Holistic approaches in brain injury rehab
- Treatment considerations and interventions for Long COVID

### **Mental & Behavioral Health**

- Mood disorders and neuropsychiatric sequelae
- Anger, anxiety, depression, and suicidality
- Substance misuse and brain injury
- Management of behavioral challenges (trauma-informed care, de-escalation, and emotional regulation)
- Neuropsychopharmacology interventions
- Ethical considerations in brain injury care

### **Physical Health & Wellness**

- Headaches, pain, fatigue, and sleep disorders
- Roles of nutrition and alternative therapies after acquired brain injury
- Hearing and vision impairments
- Medical marijuana and other alternative interventions

### **Technology & Innovation**

- Artificial intelligence and high-tech strategies in rehabilitation
- Use of technology to improve cognition and communication
- Recommendations for assistive technology across the lifespan

### **Access, Systems & Advocacy**

- Access to services for unhoused brain injury survivors
- Access and navigation of funding resources (e.g., Social Security, waiver programs, and the PA Head Injury Program)
- Financial stressors, strategies, and services after brain injury

### **Survivor & Family Presentations**

Topics often requested by or presented by survivors and family members. Note: These sessions will not qualify for CEUs unless co-presented with a professional and meeting professional standards.

### **Community & Relationships**

- Development of safe, meaningful relationships and intimate partner considerations
- Intimate partner violence and brain injury
- Assessment of safe driving capability after brain injury
- The importance of “soft skills” in employment and appropriate disclosure
- Return to work strategies (volunteer and paid employment)

### **Creative & Complementary Approaches**

- Music, art, horticultural, equestrian, and pet therapies
- Meditation and mindfulness

- Tai chi and yoga
- Adaptive vacation programs and retreats for adults with brain injuries

**Real-Life Experience & Family Perspectives**

- Survivor panel: successful socialization approaches
- Survivor and family panel: management of family issues at different stages after brain injury
- Common problems and practical solutions for aging brain injury survivors

**PLEASE PROCEED TO THE FILLABLE PRESENTATION PROPOSAL**

**Brain Injury Association of Pennsylvania  
Presentation Submission Form for 2026**

**Presentation Proposal**

**Please Note:** After presentations have been reviewed, approved, and submitted to applicable continuing education organization(s), there should be no changes in the title, objectives, or content specified in this submission.

**Name of Each Presenter:** Please provide the full name/credentials of each person presenting or participating in the presentation (with the credentials in the order your discipline prefers).

1)

2)

3)

4)

**Title of Presentation (Required, and Must Include Brain Injury as Part of the Title):**

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**Presentation Dates I Am Available:**

*(Preferred dates will be taken into consideration but cannot be guaranteed. Please check one or both options.)*

☐ Monday, June 22, 2026

☐ Tuesday, June 23, 2026

**My Proposed Session Is Intended For:** ☐ Professionals ☐ Survivors/Caregivers ☐ Both

**Session Description (*Required for all proposals*):** Please provide a 100-word description of the presentation content, which attendees will use to select their workshop sessions. Keep in mind that this is the **only** information attendees will have when deciding which sessions to attend. The Conference Committee reserves the right to edit session descriptions.

**Session Objectives (Required):** Complete the following sentence to provide three specific, measurable learning outcomes and/or knowledge/skills the attendees will gain. For continuing education application approval, the objectives must be written in accordance with the APA Guidance on Writing Behavioral and Learning Objectives. For examples and formatting guidance, please refer to: <https://apastyle.apa.org/instructional-aids/reference-examples.pdf>.

***At the conclusion of this session, the participant should be able to:***

1)

2)

3)

**Session Outline (Required):** A one-page outline of the presentation is required and must include the title, main topics, and subtopics, as well as citations from books and/or reputable, peer-reviewed journals published within the past five years.

The outline must support the three specific learning objectives listed above.

**Session References (Required):** Please provide citations for at least three recent references (**published on or after June 22, 2021**) in relevant literature (e.g., book chapters, journal articles) that will support the content of your presentation. All references should follow APA citation guidelines. For examples and formatting guidance, please refer to: <https://apastyle.apa.org/instructional-aids/reference-examples.pdf>

1)

2)

3)

## PRESENTER INFORMATION

An information form must be completed for EACH presenter.  
All information is required.

Check here if you are the primary contact: ☐

Full Name and Credentials \_\_\_\_\_

Agency/Employer \_\_\_\_\_

Current Job Title \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Presenter Resume or Curriculum Vitae (*Required*):** Professional presenters must submit their resume or curriculum vitae, including educational history, in an electronic file.

**Complete Biographical Sketch (*Required*):** Please submit a 150–250 word biographical sketch (1–2 paragraphs) written in third person. This will be used for CEU approval, may be included in conference materials, and will serve as the moderator's introduction. Include degrees, certifications, professional background, relevant expertise, achievements, research, and speaking experience. See the Example Biographical Sketch [\[here\]](#) for guidance. Please be sure it will be accurate at the time of the conference. If there are any changes between the proposal submission and the conference, please send a revised biosketch as soon as possible to [admin@biapa.org](mailto:admin@biapa.org).

**Completed Proposals must be received by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, October 31, 2025.**

**Proposal Submission Task List:**

- *Presentation Proposal*
- *Presenter Information Form (for each presenter)*
- *Educational History (for each presenter)*
- *Resume or Curriculum Vitae (for each professional)*
- *Complete Biographical Sketch (150–250 words, for each presenter; see example)*
- *Presentation Outline*
- *References*
- *Professional headshot photo in .JPEG or .PNG format (emailed to [admin@biapa.org](mailto:admin@biapa.org))*

**Email:** [admin@biapa.org](mailto:admin@biapa.org) – An email confirmation will be sent upon receipt of your proposal.

**PLEASE NOTE – Email is strongly preferred.** Upon receipt of your proposal, an email confirmation will be sent to you. If you do not receive an email confirmation within 48 hours of your submission, please contact Sandra Powell. BIAPA is not responsible for lost submissions.

**Mail:** Brain Injury Association of Pennsylvania  
947 Wayne Avenue, No. 110  
Chambersburg, PA 17201

**Questions:** Email Sandra Powell at [admin@biapa.org](mailto:admin@biapa.org), or call her at 833-242-7248.

**Required Presentation Materials:**

Materials for accepted presentations (e.g., PowerPoint, handouts) in an electronic format are required for each session by the deadline of May 1, 2026. Presenters not meeting the deadline for handout materials may not be selected to present at future events.

☐ **I give BIAPA permission to share my presentation, in a secure PDF format, with conference attendees. If you have any questions concerning this requirement, please contact [admin@biapa.org](mailto:admin@biapa.org).**

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*(Submitter signature here)*

**Presenter Registration Information:**

In accordance with our conference policy, no fee or honorarium will be provided for giving your presentation. We very much appreciate your commitment to the Brain Injury Association of Pennsylvania and the expertise you will provide to support its mission.

**On the day of your presentation, you will receive a complimentary day registration (including meals).** We hope that you can join us for the alternate day of the conference. Please note that you will need to cover the registration fee for the alternate day. CEUs are available for conference sessions attended; fees are the responsibility of the professional.



## **CONFLICT OF INTEREST/DISCLOSURE FORM**

The potential for conflicts of interest exists when an individual has the ability to control or influence the content of an educational activity and has a financial relationship with a commercial interest\*, the products or services of which are pertinent to the content of the educational activity.

\***Commercial interest** is any entity producing, marketing, reselling, or distributing healthcare goods or services consumed by or used on patients, or an entity that is owned or controlled by an entity that produces, markets, resells, or distributes healthcare goods or services consumed by or used on patients. Commercial Interest Organizations may be ineligible to present.

An organization is NOT a **Commercial Interest Organization** if it is:

- A government entity;
- A non-profit (503(c)) organization;
- A provider of clinical services directly to patients, including but not limited to hospitals, health care agencies, and independent health care practitioners;
- An entity the sole purpose of which is to improve or support the delivery of health care to patients, including but not limited to providers or developers of electronic health information systems, database systems, and quality improvement systems;
- A non-healthcare related entity whose primary mission is not producing, marketing or selling or distributing health care goods or services consumed by or used on patients.
- Liability insurance providers
- Health insurance providers
- Group medical practices
- Acute care hospitals (for profit and not for profit)
- Rehabilitation centers (for profit and not for profit)
- Nursing homes (for profit and not for profit)
- Blood banks
- Diagnostic laboratories

Reference: Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) Standards of Commercial Support, August 2007 ([www.accme.org](http://www.accme.org)) - ANCC's definition is intended to ensure compliance with Food and Drug Administration Guidance on Industry-Supported Scientific and Educational Activities and consistency with the ACCME definition

All individuals who have the ability to control or influence the content of an educational activity must disclose all financial or non-financial **relevant relationships**\*\* with any commercial interest, including but not limited to members of the Conference Committee, speakers, presenters, authors, and/or content reviewers. Relevant relationships must be disclosed to the learners during the time when the relationship is in effect and for 12 months afterward. All information disclosed must be shared with the participants/learners prior to the start of the educational activity.

\*\***Relevant relationships** are relationships with a commercial interest if the products or services of the commercial interest are related to the content of the educational activity.

- Relationships with any commercial interest of the individual's spouse/partner may be relevant relationships and must be reported, evaluated, and resolved.
- Evidence of a relevant relationship with a commercial interest may include, but is not limited to, receiving a salary, royalty, intellectual property rights, consulting fee, honoraria, ownership interest (stock and stock options, excluding diversified mutual funds), grants, contracts, or other financial benefit directly or indirectly from the commercial interest.

- Financial benefits may be associated with employment, management positions, independent contractor relationships, other contractual relationships, consulting, speaking, teaching, membership on an advisory committee or review panel, board membership, and other activities from which remuneration is received or expected from the commercial interest.

Is there an actual, potential, or perceived conflict of interest for yourself or spouse/partner?

☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, complete the questions below for all actual, potential, or perceived conflicts of interest:

**Relationship with (Name of Company)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Nature of relationship** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**Relationship with (Name of Company)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Nature of relationship** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\* All conflicts of interest, including potential ones, must be resolved prior to the implementation, or evaluation of the conference.**

## **DISCLOSURE OF UNLABELED / INVESTIGATIONAL USES OF PRODUCTS:**

- ☐ The content of my presentation or materials in this presentation **WILL NOT** include discussion of unapproved or investigational uses of products or devices.
- ☐ The content of my presentation or materials in this presentation **WILL** include discussion of unapproved or investigational uses of products or devices.

Describe \_\_\_\_\_

**If yes, speakers must disclose this information to the participants.**

## **STATEMENT OF UNDERSTANDING**

An "X" in the box below serves as the electronic signature of the individual completing this Conflict of Interest/Disclosure Form and attests to the accuracy of the information stated above.

☐ **Electronic Signature (Required)** **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Completed By: Name and Credentials** \_\_\_\_\_