



Call For
SESSION PROPOSALS



Association for Dental Safety
Annual Conference

DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 19

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The Association for Dental Safety (ADS) will host its **2026 Annual Conference in Salt Lake City, Utah, from May 27 - 29**. The conference provides an opportunity for the oral healthcare community to engage in exceptional learning experiences, advance professional development, and learn about the latest scientific and evidence-based information in dental infection prevention, occupational health, and patient safety.

Educate your peers and contribute to the field by submitting a proposal for consideration!

Important Dates and Deadlines

- **September 19:** Deadline for Session Proposals
- **October:** Notifications Emailed
- **May 27 - 29:** 2026 Annual Conference – Salt Lake City, UT

How to Submit

All proposals must be submitted online. We suggest writing your proposal in a word processing program and then pasting it into the submission site.

Submission Website:

<https://site.phedloop.com/portal/event/EVEGHEBPFEVBT/submission/CALTCKY8J25DCLG/application#start>

If you have questions, please get in touch with office@MyADS.org.

Presentation Format

We seek a balance of programming reflective of the experience levels of our participants; however, the majority have an **intermediate or advanced level of expertise** in dental infection prevention and safety.

- **Forum:** *1.5- hour session with a maximum of two (2) speakers.*
Focuses on current trends, best practices, and idea-sharing in a collaborative, discussion-driven environment. Designed to foster dialogue and peer learning for groups like consultants, corporate, educators, DSOs, and public health professionals.
- **Lecture:** *1-hour session with a maximum of two (2) speakers.*
Provides a focused, formal presentation on a key issue or topic—covering either a broad overview or up to three detailed aspects. Best suited for expert-led, in-depth presentations including specific case studies and/or scenarios rather than covering an entire subject.
- **Workshop:** *1-hour session with a maximum of two (2) speakers.*
Emphasizes hands-on learning, skill development, or action planning. Begins with brief instruction followed by interactive activities such as demonstrations or debates, encouraging participant engagement and practical skill-building.

The committee reserves the right to accept all or part of a proposal (e.g., edits to the title, objectives, speakers, or combining it with another session, topic, etc.).

Target Audience

The conference serves the professional and educational needs of various professionals. Those in **bold** are our largest audiences.

Professional Roles

Administrator

Association/Non-Profit
Management

Compliance Officer/Risk Manager**Consultant/Lecturer**

Customer Service Department

Dental Assistant**Dental Hygienist****Dentist****Educator/Program Director**

Engineer

Federal Agency Personnel

Industry Executive

Infection Control Coordinator

Inspector/Investigator

Lab Technician

Marketing/Product Development

Nurse

Office Manager/Practice Manager

Policy Maker

Researcher

Sales Representative

School Sealant Coordinator

Scientist

Service Technician

State Agency Personnel

Sterilization Technician

Work Settings

Association/Non-Profit**Community Health Center (CHC)**

Compliance/Risk Management

Dental Clinic Through a Dental

School

Distributor/ Manufacturer**DSO****Educational Setting**

Federal Agency

FQHC or Public Health Facility

Group Practice

Hospital-Based Dental Clinic**IHS/Tribal Health****Organization/Tribal Urban Clinic**

Military-Based Dental Practice

Retired

School Sealant Program

Self-Employed

Solo Practice

State Agency

Topics

The Annual Conference is designed to cover a wide range of dental infection prevention, occupational health, and patient safety topics. Some topics requested from past participants include:

- Culture of Safety
- Dental-Medical Integration
- Emerging Issues and New Research
- Laboratory Infection Control
- Patient Safety
- Risk Management
- Workplace Violence Prevention

Proposal Requirements

We suggest writing your proposal in a word processing program and then pasting it into the submission site. You can edit your submission until **September 19**.

Please provide enough details for the committee to evaluate the presentation. Failure to do so may result in rejection. Describe or outline topics with enough detail for reviewers to fully understand the proposed content and presentation strategies. A description, “such as will review topic A,” is inadequate.

****Enter the main speaker's email . If you are submitting for someone else, use their email, not yours.****

2026 ADS Annual Conference

Submission Portal

Proposal Application

Event Information

Start Session Survey Cospeakers Profile Files Success

The Association for Dental Safety (ADS) will host its **2026 Annual Conference in Salt Lake City, Utah, from May 27 – 29**. The conference provides an opportunity for the oral healthcare community to engage in exceptional learning experiences, advancing professional development, and learning about the latest scientific and evidence-based information in dental infection prevention, occupational health, and patient safety. Educate your peers and contribute to the field by submitting a proposal for consideration!

We recommend you write your proposal using a word processing program and then paste it into the submission site. Once you start the application, you cannot move backward. However, you can make edits post-submission until the deadline.

Application Deadline: September 19

Enter the main speaker's email below. **If you are submitting for someone else, use their email, not yours.**

Speaker Email *

Enter the speaker's email address

Next

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We recommend you write your proposal using a word processing program and then paste it into the submission site. Once you start the application, you cannot move backward. However, you can make edits post-submission until the deadline.

Application Deadline: September 19

Enter the main speaker's email below. **If you are submitting for someone else, use their email, not yours.**

Logged in as aquackenbush@myads.org [Logout](#)

Speaker Email *

aquackenbush@myads.org

First Name *

Ashley

Last Name *

Quackenbush - ADS

Designations

Organization *

Role/Title *

Enter the speaker's contact information in this section

Session Title

Limited to 150 characters and entered in title case, following AP style. Should not be in “all caps.” [Click here to Capitalize My Title.](#)

- *Remember:* Make the title dynamic and conclusive, rather than descriptive. A powerful title excites the reader and should convince someone to attend your presentation.

Session Description

Limited to 5,000 characters (do not include references). If your proposal is accepted, your description **will** be posted online as submitted.

- *Remember:* When developing your session description, focus on what the participants will “take away” from the presentation. Write concisely and in the second person (e.g., “you will learn” rather than “I” or “we”). Avoid writing opinions about the topic or advertisements for the speaker.
- Need help wording your description? [Try ChatGPT!](#)

Learning Objectives

Write up to **three (3)** clear and focused learning objectives. Learning objectives tell participants what the session will teach or enable them to do.

- *Remember:* Complete this stem: “After participating in this session, learners will be able to: ...”
- Begin each objective with an action verb from [Bloom’s Taxonomy](#) (e.g., Describe, Define, Explain, Identify, Summarize, etc.).
- Do not use verbs that are difficult to measure (e.g., Understand, Learn, Know, Be aware, etc.)

Relevant Format

Select the format (Forum, Lecture or Workshop) most suitable for the delivery of your topic.

Participant Engagement Plan

Outline how you will involve participants during the session—such as through polls (a function available in event app), interactive activities, or other participation methods.

Keywords

List 2 -3 keywords to describe the high-level topics/content that will be covered (e.g., antibiotic stewardship, culture of safety, risk management).

Scientific Articles/References

List 2 - 3 scientific articles/references related to your topic that will be used in your presentation.

Commercial Interest – Speaker Policy

ADA CERP defines a commercial interest as an entity whose primary business is producing, marketing, selling, re-selling, or distributing healthcare products used by or on patients, or an entity that is owned or controlled by an entity whose primary business is producing, marketing, selling, re-selling, or distributing healthcare products used by or on patients.

Owners or employees of commercial interests may be ineligible to act as speaker because of the opportunity to introduce commercial bias. The following exceptions are situations where owners or employees of a commercial interest may be eligible to act as instructors:

- Content of the CE is not related to the business lines or products of their employer/company.
- Content of the CE is limited to basic science research (e.g., preclinical research and drug discovery), methodologies of research, and no care recommendations are given.
- Participating as technicians to teach the safe and proper use of medical devices, do not recommend whether or when a device is used.

If you are an owner or employee of a commercial interest, you will need to attest that you understand you may be ineligible to speak if your presentation does not fit into the exceptions listed above.

Disclosure of Relevant Financial Relationships and Conflicts of Interest

Speaker(s) must disclose whether they (or an immediate family member) have a financial interest/arrangement or affiliation with the corporate organization offering financial support or grant monies for this continuing dental education program or have a financial interest in any commercial product(s) or service(s) they will discuss in the presentation. If the speaker has nothing to disclose, type in “Not Applicable”.

Resume/CV

Upload a resume/CV for each speaker (**required**)

Speaker Compensation

You will need to attest that you understand the speaker compensation policy – speakers receive **50% off registration** to the 2026 Annual Conference.

Co-Speakers

If you have a co-speaker, provide their information, including a speaker bio (will be published on the website and mobile app).

Profile

Upload a headshot, provide a speaker bio (will be published on the website/mobile app), and complete the additional fields.

Additional Files

Upload any additional documentation (slides, papers, handouts, etc.) that will support your proposal (**not required**)

Eligibility Requirements

- Members and non-members can submit proposals.
- Fill out all required fields on the submission form. Incomplete forms will not be reviewed.
- Proposals must **not** promote a specific drug, device, service, or technique of a commercial entity.
- Sessions can be scheduled at any time from May 27 - 29, 2026; therefore, speakers must be available to present **in-person** during these days.
- Proposals must be submitted online; email submissions **will not** be accepted.

Review and Selection Process

Session proposals are assessed based on their content and relevance, clarity, format, degree of learner interactivity, quality of writing, the value of learning objectives, past successes of similar presentations, number of other submissions on the same topic, historical speaker evaluation ratings, and the proposal's overall contribution.

Each completed submission is peer reviewed and evaluated by the committee using the criteria provided in the evaluation rubric.

The committee reserves the right to accept all or part of a proposal (e.g., edits to the title, objectives, speakers, or combining it with another session, topic, etc.).

Evaluation Rubric

Criterion	Format	4- Excellent	3-Good	2-Fair	1-Needs Extensive Improvement
Content		The proposal presents issues of immediate relevance and importance for dental infection prevention, occupational health, and/or patient safety, with evidence-based current best practices.	The proposal focuses on issues and evidence based on current best practices in dental infection prevention, occupational health, and/or patient safety.	The proposal is related to dental infection prevention, occupational health, and/or patient safety, but does not contain information relevant to best practices.	The proposal does not clearly focus on issues of importance and relevance to best practices in dental infection prevention, occupational health, and/or patient safety.
Clarity		The title, session description, and learning objectives clearly describe the session.	The title, session description, and learning objectives are generally well described.	The title, session description, and learning objectives are unclear.	The title, session description, and learning objectives are incomplete and unclear.
Format	Forum	The proposal demonstrates a high level of interactivity, discussion, and peer-to-peer learning for a specific professional role/work setting.	The proposal describes some active learning and interaction among participants within a specific professional role/work setting.	The proposal describes little interaction among participants for a specific professional role/work setting.	The proposal describes no interaction among participants within specific professional role/work setting.
	Lecture	The proposal clearly addresses the Conference learning objective(s) in a well-organized, provocative, and interactive format.	The proposal addresses the Conference learning objective(s) in a well-organized format.	The proposal does not clearly describe how it addresses the Conference learning objective(s), or the format and organization of the session are unclear.	The proposal does not demonstrate a connection to the Conference learning objective(s), and the format and organization of the session are unclear.
	Workshop	The proposal demonstrates a high level of interactivity among participants in an active learning environment.	The proposal describes some active learning and interaction among participants.	The proposal describes little interaction among participants.	The proposal describes no interaction among participants.
Professional Writing		The proposal is well written.	The proposal has minor errors and would require some editing.	The proposal has errors and would require significant editing.	The proposal requires complete rewriting to understand its meaning.
Contribution		The proposal will make a significant contribution and should attract many participants.	The proposal would make a meaningful contribution and should be of interest to at least one section or group of participants.	The proposal will make a small contribution and will be of interest to a few participants.	The proposal will make no contribution and will attract few participants.

Speaker Compensation

Speakers receive a **50% discount** on registration for the 2026 Annual Conference.

Speakers will be responsible for all other expenses related to their hotel stay, airfare, ground transportation, and meals not included in the registration fee. Any additional special events (including any pre-conference workshops) are at the speaker's expense. Speakers will be responsible for registering and paying fees for guests and spouses.

Continuing Education Information

ADA CERP Recognition



The Association for Dental Safety (ADS) is an ADA Continuing Education Recognition Program (CERP) Provider.

ADA CERP is a service of the American Dental Association to assist dental professionals in identifying quality providers of continuing dental education. ADA CERP does not approve or endorse individual courses or instructors, nor does it imply acceptance of credit hours by boards of dentistry.

Concerns or complaints about a CE provider may be directed to the provider or to the Commission for Continuing Education Provider Recognition at [ADA.org/CERP](https://ada.org/CERP).

The maximum number of continuing education credits will be announced in Spring 2026.

CE Guidelines

- **Owners and employees of a commercial interest cannot serve as a speaker on a session related to business lines or products of their company.**
- Presentations must address the conference learning objectives:
 - Describe current and emerging issues related to infection prevention and safety in oral healthcare settings.
 - Demonstrate the implementation of best practices, new resources, and tools to facilitate compliance.
 - Identify important attributes to develop and enhance global leadership for the optimal delivery of infection prevention and The Safest Dental Visit™.
- Presentations must provide a balanced view of all evidence-based infection prevention and safety options.
- Presentations must **NOT** promote specific products, drugs, devices, services, or techniques.
 - Whenever possible, generic names must be used to contribute to the impartiality of the program presented. If reference must be made to a specific product by its trade name, reference shall also be made to competitive products.

- Speaker(s) must disclose whether they (or an immediate family member) have a financial interest/arrangement or affiliation with the corporate organization offering financial support or grant monies for this continuing dental education program, or have a financial interest in any commercial product(s) or service(s) they will discuss in the presentation.
 - Disclosure will include the speaker's name, the name of the commercial interest, and the nature of the relationship the individual has with each commercial interest.
 - Disclosure will not include the use of a trade name or product message.
 - For individuals that have no relevant financial relationships, the speaker will disclose that no relevant relationships exist.
 - Disclosure will be made before the start of the continuing education activity and will be made in writing, either in publicity materials, course materials, and/or audiovisual materials.

CE Disclaimer

The 2026 ADS Annual Conference is planned and presented by the Annual Conference Planning Committee to provide participants with relevant and rewarding continuing educational experience. However, neither the content of a course nor the use of specific products in lectures or workshops should be construed as indicating endorsement or approval by ADS of the views presented or the products used.

Speakers must present a balanced view of therapeutic options, use generic names of products whenever possible, use images that have not been falsified or misrepresent the treatment outcome, and refrain from marketing or promoting any products or commercial services. Speakers must include peer-reviewed content supported by generally accepted scientific principles or methods that can be substantiated or supported with peer-reviewed scientific literature that is relevant and current. Speakers must support clinical recommendations with references from scientific literature, with a sound scientific basis, whenever possible. Speakers disclose to participants any financial, commercial, or promotional interest in a product or company that may influence their presentations. However, ADS shall not be liable for a speaker's failure to disclose such interest.