

# Call for Speakers and Abstracts

APTA Orthopedics Virtual Conference

**Submission open:** January 15, 2026, 12:00 PM CST

**Deadline to submit:** March 16, 2026, 11:59 PM CDT

The **APTA Orthopedics Virtual Conference** brings together orthopedic physical therapy clinicians, educators, and researchers for a high-impact virtual learning experience focused on evidence-based practice and clinical reasoning.

The Academy of Orthopaedic Physical Therapy invites proposals for:

- **90-minute Educational Sessions**
- **30-minute Micro-learning Sessions**
- **Poster Presentations**

Sessions should be evidence-informed, clinically relevant, and designed for engagement in a virtual environment. Proposal acceptance and final scheduling decisions rest with the conference programming leadership.

## Session Formats

### 90-minute Educational Sessions

Designed for comprehensive coverage of an orthopedic topic, incorporating evidence, clinical reasoning, and application (e.g., case-based integration, polling, breakout discussion).

### 30-minute Micro-learning Sessions

Designed for concise, high-impact learning focused on one concept, one clinical decision point, or one targeted skill update.

## Submission Requirements

All proposals must be submitted via the online portal and include the following elements (adapted from the CSM educational-session requirements):

1. **Title** (15 words maximum).
2. **Session description** (250 words maximum).
3. **Learning objectives**
  - 90-minute session: **3–5 objectives** (5 maximum).
  - 30-minute micro-learning: **3-5 objectives** (5 maximum).

4. **Current bibliographic references (from the past 10 years)**
  - 90-minute session: **5 references.**
  - 30-minute micro-learning: **5 references.**
5. **Timed outline** that aligns with learning objectives.
6. **Content related to differential diagnosis**
7. **Speaker information** for each presenter
8. **Brief biographical information** for each speaker.
9. **Keywords** to support attendee search.
10. **Teaching and learning assessment methods.**
11. **Recommended content level (entry level, advanced)**
12. **Conflict of interest disclosure.**

## **Submission Expectations**

- Proposals will be reviewed based on **foundation in evidence, clarity, likely interest to participants**, and **feasibility** within program constraints.
- Proposals should reflect **cultural and/or ethical components** relevant to clinical practice and research where appropriate.
- Proposals must be **devoid of promotional content.**
- Speaker information will appear **exactly as submitted** in conference materials; please verify accuracy with any co-presenters prior to submission.
- The Academy may limit the number of accepted sessions per speaker to maintain programming balance.

## **Virtual Design Guidance**

Strong proposals will clearly describe how the session will engage a virtual audience, such as:

- Live polling, chat-based Q&A, structured case reasoning, brief breakout tasks, or “pause + apply” moments.
- Clear take-home tools: clinical decision algorithms, quick checklists, or short demo videos.

Speaker information will appear exactly as submitted.

## POSTER INSTRUCTIONS

We invite you to submit a poster for consideration at the upcoming professional conference. All submissions will be peer reviewed by the conference committee. Special categories for student and resident/fellows as primary presenters.

We encourage members to share their research, projects, and innovations with the broader professional community and look forward to your submissions.

### **Abstract categories for research reports and case reports.**

#### Research Report

- Title & Citations:
- Purpose:
- Number of Subjects:
- Methods:
- Results:
- Conclusion:
- Clinical Relevance:
- References

#### Case Report

- Title:
- Background:
- Case Description:
- Outcomes:
- Discussion:
- References:

## **Review & Selection**

Proposals will be reviewed for evidence base, clarity, participant interest, and feasibility. Content must be non-promotional and reflect ethical and/or cultural considerations where appropriate. To maintain program balance, the Academy may limit the number of accepted sessions per speaker.

Accepted speakers will be notified after **March 16th**.

Questions? Contact David Chessen, [dchessen@setonhill.edu](mailto:dchessen@setonhill.edu)