

CALL FOR POSTERS

Deadline extended to: January 21, 2026

New in 2026 — poster format requirements have changed. Please see below for the new guidelines.

Share Your Knowledge and Expertise

Abstracts for posters are being accepted until January 21, 2026 for the APHL 2026 Annual Conference, celebrating APHL's 75th Anniversary! All abstracts for posters for the conference must be submitted through the Abstract site. APHL is committed to providing needs-based education to support changes in knowledge, competence and performance to improve public health.

APHL membership, committees and conference participants are invited to submit abstracts for poster presentation. Attendees are from public health laboratories, governmental laboratories and other industry partners who wish to discuss issues relative to environmental health, emerging infectious diseases, emergency preparedness, informatics, food safety, newborn screening, global health, workforce development and other important laboratory topics.

APHL 2026 Abstract Requirements

All abstract submissions must include the following information: name of presenter, institution, department, mailing address, phone number, email address and suggested topic. The abstract text limit is 3,000 characters including punctuation but not spacing.

Guidelines for Poster Presentations

NEW in 2026 — APHL is offering the option to present a digital poster instead of a printed one. This will allow an image and abstract of your poster to be available longer — in the exhibit hall, in conference foyer space outside of exhibit hours and within the conference app! Traditional printed posters can also be accepted in a 4' x 4' size only.

Printed posters will be displayed inside the exhibit hall during exhibit hours only, starting May 4 at 6:00 pm. Digital posters will be available to attendees Monday, May 4 12:00 pm through Thursday, May 7, 11:00 am, and will be transported inside and outside the exhibit hall at various times for peak viewership. Poster presenters **MUST** be at their posters during their assigned time to discuss their work with interested attendees.

Posters should emphasize visual materials: photographs, drawings and graphic representations of statistical data. Text material should be limited to summarizing key points. The use of color is welcome but not essential. It is also recommended that you try to subdivide your presentation (abstract, methods, results, conclusions, etc.). You might also consider bringing a number of copies of a written summary of your poster presentation or related full-length papers. These may be placed on the floor immediately below your poster display for distribution.

Proposal Selection Process

The APHL 2026 Planning Committee will determine the poster presentations by choosing from abstracts submitted.

Rapid Poster Presentations

A number of poster authors will be selected to present their work orally in a group setting in 1 minute time intervals (the overall session is usually 30 minutes). Following the rapid poster session, there are scheduled times where the poster author will be available for one-on-one interaction with attendees in the exhibit/poster hall.

Poster Award

To encourage excellence in poster presentation, a Best Poster Award for APHL 2026 will be presented by the Poster Review Committee. Results will be announced at the Awards Breakfast. A certificate and a gift card will be awarded for First Place.

Posters will be judged equally on the following criteria:

- Importance and Relevancy
- Broad Interest of the Topic
- Educational Value
- Design and Layout
- Meeting Poster Presentation Guidelines

Educational Topics of High Interest

Submitters are encouraged to focus on new knowledge, problems and solutions, and data. Posters may focus on one topic area and highlight current challenges and problems. Authors are not required to follow this suggestion. Educational topics of high interest include (but are not limited to):

Laboratory Operations and Administration

- *Laboratory automation*
- *Procurement*
- *Building laboratory systems or renovating/building BSL-3*
- *Building and sustaining infrastructure*
- *Human resource practices*
- *Budget and finance*

Environmental Health and Overdose Surveillance

- *Environmental testing technologies and practices*
- *Biomonitoring and chemical threats*
- *Wastewater surveillance*
- *Overdose surveillance — cannabis, opioids and controlled substances*
- *PFAS and emerging chemicals*
- *Impact of climate change on public health*

Food Safety

- *PFAS and emerging chemicals in food and water*
- *Food safety and defense*

Infectious Diseases

- *Vector-borne disease surveillance*
- *Surveillance, outbreaks and emerging infectious diseases*

Informatics

- *Data and analytics*
- *Informatics, LIMS, ITS, FHIR*
- *ETOR*

Newborn Screening and Genetics

Preparedness, Response, Biosafety and Biosecurity

- *Chemical threat response, radiochemistry*
- *Biosafety and biosecurity*
- *Pandemic preparedness, disease forecasting and emergency response*
- *Response to severe weather, floods, fire disasters*
- *Continuity of operations*

Quality and Regulatory Compliance

- *Regulatory science, compliance and investigations*
- *CLIA, FDA, ISO*

Advanced Molecular Detection and Bioinformatics

- *Next generation/long-read sequencing, metagenomics and bioinformatics*

Veterinary and Agricultural

- *Agricultural and veterinary testing technologies and practices*

Cross Cutting

- *Diagnostics and new detection technologies*
- *One Health approaches*
- *Education and outreach*
- *Workforce development*
- *APHL resources in action*

Proposal Submission

The submission process will be done online.

Submit your poster here (Follow the directions on the website.)

Abstracts must be received by **Wednesday, January 21, 2026** to ensure consideration for poster sessions at APHL 2026. Notification of the outcome will be made no later than Wednesday, March 4, 2026.

Posters chosen for presentation will be displayed during scheduled times allotted. Final poster selection is limited.

Direct all questions to the Conferences and Events Team at conferences@aphl.org.