

Call for Sessions

Call for Sessions Open: Wednesday, September 9, 2026

Deadline: Thursday, October 15, 2026

Notification: Mid-January 2027

Contact: program@bio.org

Session Submission Tips

As you consider your submission, think about provocative and cutting-edge topics that matter to the global biotech audience. Carefully consider the audience level and presentation format that best fits your proposal.

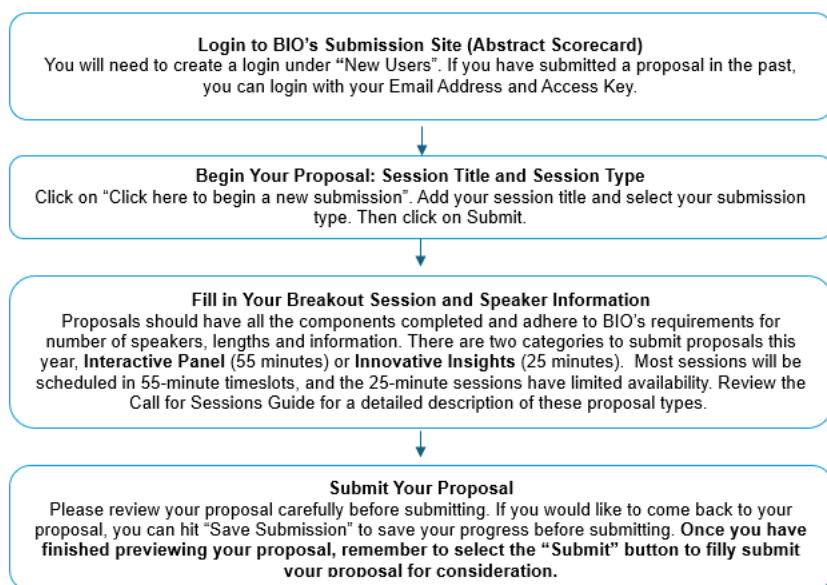
2027 BIO International Convention Sample Session Proposal	
Focus Area	Choose the 2027 primary Focus Area that best describes your proposed session.
Session Title Make sure your title is listed as you would like it to be published on the Convention website (if selected), including correct grammar, capitalization, and punctuation. While a catchy session title can attract the attention of Convention attendees, the proposal itself should be clear and complete in order to be favorably viewed by the Program Committee. There is a 200-character limit for the session title, but titles of fewer than 15 words are recommended.	BIO 2027: What makes a session proposal successful?
Format Carefully consider the presentation format that best fits your proposal.	☐ Interactive Panel (55 minutes) ☐ Innovative Insights (25 minutes; NEW in 2027). A limited number of sessions will be selected in this category.
Ability Level	☐ All ☐ Intermediate

Choose the level of biotech industry experience and/or expertise recommended for attendees of your proposed session	☐ Advanced
Abstract Provide a concise description that will explain the focus and significance of your proposed session. There is a 300-word limit for abstracts.	Refrain from writing session proposals that are sales pitches of your region, country or company, ensure that your proposal is complete before submitting, and be mindful of your target audience and the key take-aways that you want your attendees to learn during the session. Interactive panels should not propose multiple speakers from the same organization, but instead should ensure a diversity of organizations are represented. Reviewing past Convention programs and session lists at https://convention.bio.org/ can be helpful for understanding previous topics of interest and themes that have been previously selected by the Program Committee for BIO's audience. And remember, BIO is continually seeking cutting edge topics that have not been presented in prior years or at other industry conferences.
Methodology How do you intend to accomplish the goals of your session?	Present an explanation of how you will conduct the presentation and what each speaker will address. Provide enough detail for the Program Committee to clearly visualize and evaluate your proposed session.
Elevator Pitch What is the essence of your session?	If you only had one sentence to convince someone to attend your session, what would it be?
What are 3 top takeaways from your session?	Please list three takeaways you want the audience to walk away with after attending the session.
Participant Details	
Submitting Company	Provide the name of the organization you are submitting this proposal on behalf of (if any)
Participant Information	
You are allowed a maximum number of five speakers and one moderator per panel. <i><u>Program Committee will give preference to comprehensive proposals that list confirmed speakers.</u></i>	
Role	☐ Moderator ☐ Speaker
Name	John Smith
Title	CEO
Company	John Smith, Inc.

Email	One unique email per speaker is required. Speakers will not be contacted by BIO regarding the session without the organizer's knowledge.
Gender	The submitter can opt-in to reporting this data for each speaker or you can select prefer not to answer.
Biography	Provide a brief biography of each proposed speaker. Include information on previous speaking engagements.
Invitation Status *Mandatory*	☐ Confirmed ☐ Invited ☐ Have Not Contacted

How to Submit Your Proposal

You will need to submit **all proposals** through the [BIO Program Portal](#). Step-by-step instructions detailing how to navigate the Call for Sessions online submission site are listed below.



For entering each speaker's data, you should use the "Credentials" field to note advanced degrees such as PhD or MD, but if not applicable, the portal will list "Not Applicable" after the speaker's name on the "Edit Speaker Information Task" summary page.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. Does BIO charge a fee to submit a session proposal?

A. BIO does not charge a fee for proposing a session.

Q. Does BIO provide an honorarium for speaking?

A. BIO does not provide honoraria or reimburse for travel or housing expenses.

Q. Will I receive a complimentary registration to attend the BIO Convention?

A. Speakers, Moderators and Session Organizers receive complimentary General Access Registration to attend. There will be an opportunity to upgrade to Premier Access for an additional fee. BIO staff will provide registration instructions to the Session Organizers after your proposal has been accepted.

Q. Once I have made a submission, can it be modified?

A. No, once you submit your session proposal entirely no additional edits can be made. If you are not prepared to submit the session you may save it as a 'Draft' and return to make edits and submit before the portal closes.

Q. Will any changes be made to my proposal?

A. If your session is accepted, you will have a call in January with a member of BIO staff to review the 2027 Program Committee's feedback. BIO reserves the right to make recommendations and requirements for revisions of content and/or speakers.

Q. When will I be notified if my session has been accepted?

A. You will be notified via email in mid-January. Contact program@bio.org if you have not received notification by January 31, 2027.

Q. Can the deadline to submit be extended?

A. The deadline cannot be extended. This is the beginning of an extensive review process to allow the newest and best data to be professionally peer reviewed without rushing the process. BIO needs a firm deadline so that the Program Committee has sufficient time to review each submission

thoroughly.

Q. When would my session be scheduled at the International Convention?

A. Sessions may be scheduled any time between Monday, June 7, 2027, through Thursday, June 10, 2027. The session organizer and speakers must be available to present on any of those days.

Q: When will I find out the date and time of my session?

A: If accepted, you can expect to know the date/time of your session by early March 2027.

Q. Is there a limit to the number of speakers per session?

A. Yes, there is a maximum of five speakers plus one moderator for the interactive panel (six people total). For Innovative Insights, no more than 4 speakers with a maximum of two per organization are permitted.

Q. Can more than one speaker from the same organization participate on a panel?

A. Interactive panels should only have one panel member per organization. Interactive insights can have a maximum of two speakers from each presenting organization.

Q. Should I contact the proposed speaker in advance of submitting the name?

A. We recommend inviting speakers prior to submitting your session proposal. However, please let them know the session is still pending and you will be notified of its status by mid-January. The invitation status of a speaker does play an important role in the selection process of sessions with sessions that have invited or confirmed speaker's participation ranking more highly than those proposals that only speculate about speakers' willingness to participate.

Q. I'd like to invite a speaker from the FDA to participate. What is the best process to invite them?

A. BIO adheres to the FDA speaker request process set forth by the agency. After your proposal has been accepted, BIO will submit the formal speaker request. Please note, requests can take 2-3 months to process and hear back from the agency. If your requested speaker is unavailable, the FDA may provide a substitute, but we always recommend having 1-2 back up speakers to request if your first request is unavailable to participate. Please include who you intend us to invite for your session in the session proposal.



Q: Will BIO contact any of my submitted speakers?

A: BIO will contact your submitted speakers after you've been notified of the session's acceptance status and BIO has provided additional information around next steps.

Q. What are my responsibilities as session organizer?

A: The session organizer is responsible for being the main contact for the session. You will submit the proposal, attend the session organizer call in January, let BIO know of any changes, invite and confirm speakers, ensure your speakers are registered, schedule a speaker prep call in advance of the session and attend the session in person. If you are no longer able to complete these responsibilities, please notify program@bio.org immediately to share the name and contact details for the new session organizer who will be responsible. If your panel details are not confirmed by May 1, 2027, BIO has the right to revoke your panel from the program.