FEBRUARY 17
2025 theme is announced and session submission site opens

MAY 6
Deadline to propose Scientific Sessions and Workshops

MAY 15
Session proposal review begins with volunteer session reviewers

LATE AUGUST
Scientific Session and Workshop organizers receive accept/decline notifications

FEBRUARY 13-15, 2025
2025 Annual Meeting takes place in Boston, Massachusetts

JULY
Program committee meets for final review to select Scientific Sessions and Workshops

MID-OCTOBER
2025 Annual Meeting program and registration available online
Considerations

- Does it offer a **unique opportunity** to AAAS attendees that would not be available in another venue?
- Will speakers present different perspectives from which **dynamic discussions** can develop?
- Does this demonstrate **research results** and evidence of conclusions, rather than descriptions of singular projects or programs in earlier stages of development?
Considerations: Newsworthiness

New (not previously disclosed) advances with implications for technology, medicine, health, society, and/or policy

• Is it relevant to current events?
• Is the discovery new or unexpected?
• How could it impact the public’s lives?
Considerations: Newsworthiness

Historically, the press is interested in stories that address:

• My Family & Me (health & medicine)

• Gee-Whiz!
  (robots, dinosaurs, asteroids, new technology)

• My World
  (climate change, natural disasters)
And honestly,

- Does this talk sound interesting to you?
- Would you want to attend it?
Submitting Your Proposal

https://meetings.aaas.org/program

Due May 6, 11:59 PT
Conference Theme

Science-informed policies and decision-making are critical to ensuring a healthy, prosperous, and equitable future. Relationships of trust between scientists and policymakers are foundational to science-informed decision-making.
Conference Theme (cont’d)

We must work towards an ecosystem where the expertise of scientists and engineers is put to work collaboratively with policymakers and communicators to better identify and address future challenges opportunities.
Conference Theme (cont’d)

Whether climate change, public health, or the responsible use of artificial intelligence, science alone cannot solve the most pressing issues of our time. Only when scientists and policy-makers trust and collaborate with one another at the local, national, and global levels can the greatest challenges of our time be overcome.
Conference Theme (cont’d)
The 2025 AAAS Annual Meeting will celebrate and strengthen the projects and collaborations among science, policy, and communication that already exist and promote the infusion of scientific and technical expertise into the public discourse and policymaking. We will highlight not only the responses to challenges and crises, but also marvel at what our future could be.
Historic Audience

Based on previous registration data, here is the overall profile for Annual Meeting attendees:

• Scientific Focus
  o Span the gamut from Astronomy to Zoology

• Gender
  o 50% identified as Male, 45% as Female and 5% Non-binary/prefer not to answer
Historic Audience

Based on previous registration data, here is the overall profile for Annual Meeting attendees:

- **The Top Work Sector Categories**
  - 60% from the academic sector
  - 11% government
  - 9% research

- **Degrees**
  - 85% advanced degrees, with 50% holding PhDs
Historic Audience

Based on previous registration data, here is the overall profile for Annual Meeting attendees:

• Age Range
  o The age groups are equally spread between the following groups: 25-34 years, 35 to 44 years, 45 to 54 years, 55 to 64 years, and 65 years or over.

NOTE: Past Boston conferences have attracted more students and early career attendees than other host locations.
Format: Scientific Session

- Stage with a head table and podium and projector/screen
- On stage: 1 Moderator, 3 Speakers
- Organizer (and optional co-organizer) off stage Unless also acting as moderator or speaker.
**Format:** Scientific Sessions Outline

- 0:00-0:04  Moderator introduces the session
- 0:05-0:15  First presenter introduces self and presents
- 0:16-0:25  Second presenter introduces self and presents
- 0:26-0:35  Third presenter introduces self and presents
- 0:36-1:00  Moderator hosts panel discussion and intersperses questions from audience.
Language and Editing

• Use American English for spelling and translations
• Spell out all abbreviations and acronyms.
• Avoid jargon; most session attendees may be non-specialists.
• Ensure that a keyword for your presentation is used in the first three words in the title.
NOTE: *AAAS reserves the right to edit all submissions for publication, as they will be published in the online meeting program and app. Modifications are sometimes made to improve clarity and encourage attendance.
Submission Process:
Set-up Proposal

- Title (Max 80 Characters)
- Category Selections
- Description (Max 1500 Characters)
- Highlight content’s newsworthiness.
- How relates to the theme if at all?
- Conflict of interest statement
- Diversity Checklist
Conflict of Interest

AAAS requires clear disclosures from all presenters at its Annual Meeting regarding any affiliations, funding sources, or financial holdings that might raise questions of bias or be perceived to have potentially influenced presentation content.

Both organizers and accepted session speakers will be asked for disclosures.
Submission Process:
Presenters

Looking for Broad, Diverse Perspectives

- Gender
- Race/Ethnicity
- Scientific Discipline
- Stage of Career
- Institution
- Geographical Area
- Speaker perspective on the issue
Organizer/Coordinator

• The organizer/coordinator is the primary person responsible for shaping the topic, coordination, and recruitment of participants.

• Is the primary contact for all communications with AAAS staff.

• Must ensure that participants receive all information relevant to their inclusion in the proposal and in the meeting if the proposal is accepted.
Speakers

- Can they speak authoritatively on their topic?
- Are the presentations integrated and coherent as a group?
- Does the panel present a balanced perspective?
- Are they all “invited” or “confirmed”?
- Have you included correct email addresses?
Scientific Session Speakers

• **Unique talk titles and summary** (maximum 500 characters) are crucial to reviewers’ understanding of why you are proposing a particular speaker.

• Please **no CVs, biographical information, or formal abstracts**.

• While recognizing that some changes will occur, the committee **reserves the right to reconsider sessions** if there are speaker substitutions after acceptance of the original proposal.
Submission Process: 3-5 Keywords

- Assists in matching proposals with reviewers and program committee subgroups
- If accepted, to assist the on-line program's search feature
Submission Process:
Choose 3 AAAS Sections

- To match proposals potential sections, who might want to financially support speaker travel or endorse the proposal.

- If accepted, these will be highlighted under the Individual section interest page.
Last Check...

Is the proposal complete and ready for review?
  - Is there a complete abstract?
  - Are the speakers confirmed (Not just invited)?
  - Are there complete speaker talks descriptions?
  - Does the proposal clearly describe the session?
  - Is it well organized and coherent?
QUESTIONS or COMMENTS?

MEETINGS@AAAS.ORG