2024 NATIONAL CONVENTION
CALL FOR PROPOSALS

We invite you to submit a proposal to present at The Arc's 2024 National Convention, which will take place November 1-3 in Columbus, Ohio.

Key Deadlines:
May 5, 2024 – Proposal submission deadline
June 14, 2024 – Speakers notified

Submit a Proposal

The Arc's National Convention is our main event for the disability community.

We bring together our chapter network, advocates, people with disabilities, family members, researchers, and disability professionals to:
- shape future leaders,
- share best practices,
- inspire innovation,
- energize advocates, and
- celebrate our diversity.

Over the course of three days, Convention attendees:
- share and learn from each other,
- form new and lasting friendships, and
- attend thought-provoking and motivating sessions.

We are looking for people to present at the National Convention!

We welcome presenters who:
- Are part of The Arc's chapter network, people with disabilities, family members, disability professionals, or researchers.
- Will share high quality content that reflects The Arc's mission.

We especially would like presenters from diverse backgrounds.

SESSION THEMES

We invite proposals for breakout sessions that are **60 minutes long.** We encourage about 45 minutes of content and 15 minutes for questions from the audience.

Presentation proposals should fall into one of the themes listed below:

1. **Organizational and Professional Development:** New strategies and tools to strengthen and support chapters' work and help individuals to grow and learn.
2. **Advancing Access, Equity, and Inclusion:** Ways to better understand and support people who have multiple marginalized identities.
3. **Innovative Programs and Direct Services:** New ways to support people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) to live their best lives.
4. **Advocacy and Self-Advocacy:** Strategies and tools for mobilizing people to share their stories and drive change.
5. **Public Policy:** Trends in federal and state legislation that effects people with IDD and their families.

Interesting topics for attendees include:
- Leadership and organizational development
- Modern service models in employment, housing, enabling technology, and community involvement
- Public policy and grassroots advocacy
- Finding new workers, hiring workers, and keeping them
- Criminal justice reform
- Access, equity, and inclusion
- Inclusive education
- Fundraising strategies and new funding models

All presentations and presenters must be in person (no remote options).

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

- The same proposal may not be submitted more than one time.
- Sessions cannot sell or market a specific product or service.
- All mandatory sections of the proposal application must be completed to be considered for acceptance (these will have a "*" by the question).

GUIDELINES FOR ACCEPTED PRESENTERS

Presentation Guidelines:

- **Presenters must be in person. There is no virtual component for this event.**
- Presenters are responsible for preparing all materials for their session (PowerPoint presentations, handouts, etc.).
- **Presenters must use the approved 2024 National Convention PowerPoint template (will be provided)**
- Materials should be accessible, equitable, and inclusive (helpful guidance and resources will be shared with all presenters).
- All presentations must adhere to The Arc's Language & Style guidelines and Usage agreements. All presentations must be consistent with The Arc's Core Values and Position Statements.

- Presenters must submit their completed PowerPoint presentations by **October 4, 2024.** Presentations will be reviewed for accessibility before they are made available to attendees. Please note that this may result in changes to submitted materials.
- Presenters are responsible for printing their own materials. Shipping information will be shared with presenters weeks before the 2024 National Convention
- All presentations will be made available to conference participants through the National Convention app.

Financial Guidelines:

- The Arc does not pay people to present at The Arc National Convention.
- Presenters need to make their own hotel and travel arrangements.
- Presenters will get **$75** off registration to attend The Arc's 2024 National Convention.

The proposal submission deadline is May 5, 2024.

Speakers will be notified via email of final decisions by June 14, 2024.

Submit a Proposal