



University of
Pittsburgh

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
Health Sciences

2025 Health Disparities and Social Justice Poster Competition Guidelines for Applicants

The Office of Health Sciences Diversity, Equity and Inclusion invites Pitt students (undergraduate, graduate, doctoral, professional) and postdoctoral trainees to submit abstracts describing their research or interventions in health disparities or health-focused social justice.

Health disparities are differences in incidence and prevalence of health conditions and health status between groups. They can arise from factors like identity, socioeconomic status, geographic location, disability, and other social determinants of health. ([Learn more about health disparities from Pitt's Center for Health Equity.](#)) **Health-disparities research** ranges from detecting differences in health and health care, to understanding disparities' root causes, to designing and testing interventions that reduce or eliminate disparities.

Applicants must have conducted research (qualitative, quantitative or laboratory-based) in a health sciences or health-related discipline, and/or an intervention focused on health disparities. Individuals or teams may apply.

Important Dates

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| Friday, Feb. 14, 2025 | Abstract submission deadline (Submit via this link or the QR code below) |
| Friday, Feb. 28, 2025 | Notification to applicants whose abstracts are chosen for presentation |
| Thursday, March 27, 2025 | Poster setup, 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Poster session, 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. |



Abstract Guidelines

An abstract is a concise, text-only summary of your research or intervention describing your methodology, findings and conclusions. For this event, your abstract should be accessible to an educated but non-expert audience and should not exceed 300 words in length.

For tips on writing an abstract, consult your advisor or PI, or view resources from Pitt's [School of Public Health](#), [University Center for International Studies](#), and [Department of Biological Sciences](#).

Abstract submissions will be scored on each of the following criteria:

- **Originality:** How original is the concept presented? Or, how original is the approach to an old problem?
- **Significance:** How significant or relevant is the work to the author's field? To society in general? Does the author identify and address a significant problem?
- **Methods:** How suitable is the design for the stated objectives? How appropriate are any analysis techniques applied?

Poster Guidelines

If your abstract is accepted, prepare and print a research poster to present at the poster session. For excellent poster-making guidance, view [resources from Pitt's School of Public Health](#). Display/backing boards will be provided during poster setup.

Poster submissions will be scored on each of the following criteria:

- **Originality:** How original is the concept presented? Or, how original is the approach to an old problem?
- **Significance:** How significant or relevant is the work to the author's field? To society in general? Do they identify and address a significant problem?
- **Presentation:** How logical are the ideas presented in this poster? How interesting is the manner of presentation?
- **Methods:** How suitable is the design for the stated objectives? How appropriate are any analysis techniques applied?
- **Visual Impact:** How effective is this poster visually? How effectively do the figures and graphs convey information?
- **Interview:** How knowledgeable and conversant is the presenting author with the research or intervention presented in the poster?

Judging and Awards

Abstract reviewers and poster judges include Pitt faculty and postdoctoral trainees.

Cash prizes will be awarded in each of five categories: bachelor's, master's, doctoral, postdoctoral and professional.

Please contact diversity@hs.pitt.edu with any questions.