

Call for Proposals: 105th OAND Annual Conference, April 10, 2026

Theme: *Evidence to Action: Leading Change in Nutrition*

The Ohio Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics 105th Annual Conference will be in Dublin (Columbus area), Ohio, April 10, 2026.

We are seeking proposals from speakers for educational sessions for this year's Annual Conference. Along with education sessions, this event will provide mainstays of the OAND Conference experience: exposure to nutrition and dietetics related products and services, awards and recognition for members from various practice areas, special sessions for students, and networking—all essential for advancing careers. We are striving to achieve a higher level of engagement and interaction between speakers and the audience at this year's conference and therefore are seeking proposals for educational sessions focused on practical application of research and insight into emerging research and trends that will capture the broad interests of RDNs, NDTRs, and dietetics students in Ohio and beyond.

Please review this Speaker RFP before completing the online form (Survey Monkey).

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CKC9LZR>

Speaker RFP Overview

We invite proposals that reflect this year's theme, "*Evidence to Action: Leading Change in Nutrition.*" This theme underscores the foundation of our profession in Science, Technology, the Engineering of Health through Food, and Clinical and Culinary Mathematics. We are seeking proposals that highlight the critical role of translating evidence into actionable, innovative strategies that drive change in nutrition practice and policy. Presenters are encouraged to offer new perspectives, possibilities, and partnerships that advance the field of nutrition and dietetics.

The conference committee has identified the following potential topics; however, we welcome your expertise and encourage you to submit your own proposals.

- Role of Nutrients in Mental Health and Cognitive Function
- Student Engagement and Leadership Development
- Resilience and Burnout Prevention for Nutrition Professionals
- Food is Medicine: Functional Foods and Mental Health
- AI for Dietetics: Innovations, Ethics, and Evidence Based Practice
- Nutrition and Longevity: Latest Findings in Anti-Aging Science

Please **submit one proposal per session**, including all speakers or panelists. Be sure to provide complete information for each participant. All proposals must be submitted online through the submission portal, and must be received by 5:00 pm on Friday, October 24, 2025. ***No emailed proposals will be accepted.***

Please review the detailed guidelines on the following pages before submitting your proposal.

Presentation Style and Format

- Most sessions will include a lecture component, with flexibility in length and audience engagement. Formats may include panel discussion workshops, culinary demonstrations, or other interactive approaches.
- Each session will run 60 minutes—for those following a traditional lecture format it is critical you leave at least 15 minutes for moderated Q&A.

General Guidelines

- All proposals must be submitted online.
- Proposals are due by **5:00 pm on Friday, October 24, 2025.**
- Late and/or Incomplete proposals will not be considered.
- Sponsored speakers/sessions will be considered; be sure to indicate how your content will be educational and not commercial and meet the theme of the Conference.
- If the speaker is not sponsored, the Ohio Academy offers the following standard speaker package, however, we reserve the right to negotiate compensation when there are multiple panel members with different levels of responsibility to the presentation:
 - Complimentary conference registration \$199
 - Honorarium of \$200
 - Travel up to \$300 with receipts

Evaluation Criteria

Proposals will be reviewed and scored by members of the Conference Committee based on the following criteria:

- **Quality:** Is the proposal well-written, clearly presented, and grounded in science?
- **Relevance:** Does the topic address current and emerging issues in nutrition and dietetics? Is it applicable to a broad range of professionals (i.e. RDNs, NDTRs, nutrition students, dietetic interns)?
- **Originality:** Does the proposal offer an innovative perspective or a unique approach to the topic?
- **Speaker:** Is the speaker a recognized expert through experience, research, or education? Will they engage the audience with a dynamic presentation style?

Proposal Requirements

Proposals must be submitted using the Survey Monkey online proposal submission form.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CKC9LZR>. A complete proposal must include the following components, which are fields in the online form:

- Session Title
- Session Abstract
 - 75 words or less, to be used for marketing purposes. This should entice the audience to choose your session.
- Learning Objectives (list 3)
 - After attending this session, the participant will be able to...
- Performance Indicators (list 3)
 - Reference the [2025-2030 Essential Practice Competencies](#)

- CPE Level (Note: priority will be given for presentations that are Level 2 or 3)
 - 1: Assumes that the participant has little or no prior knowledge of the area(s) covered.
 - 2: Assumes that the participant has general knowledge of the literature and professional practice within the area(s) covered.
 - 3: Assumes that the participant has thorough knowledge of the literature and professional practice within the area(s) covered.
- List of references or a bibliography (Speaker 1)
- Session Format
 - Lecture, panel discussion, group workshop, culinary demonstration, etc.
- Areas of Focus for Conference
 - Clinical Nutrition
 - Community Nutrition
 - Entrepreneurial
 - Food and Nutrition Management
 - Research
 - Industry
- Sponsor Information (if applicable)
 - Contact name, sponsoring company, email address, phone number
- Speaker information
 - Name and credentials, to appear in the conference program and for marketing purposes
 - Position and affiliation
 - Contact information, including mailing address, phone, and email
 - Bio (65 words or less, to be used for marketing purposes and speaker introduction at conference, if the proposal is accepted)
 - Educational degree(s)
 - Certification/licensure
 - Professional position, current and previous employment
 - List of references or a bibliography (Speakers 2-4)
 - AND member? OAND member? OAND 2024 or 2025 speaker? Identify as BIPOC?
 - Photo/video/recording release
 - Agreement to provide in-person or virtual presentation (if needed) if selected with speaker package described.
 - Photo upload (JPG/JPEG, 16MB or less)

All proposals must be submitted online by

5:00 pm on Friday, October 24, 2025.

**For Questions, Contact Jeannine Windbigler, Executive Director, OAND
at jeannine@eatrightohio.org or 614-436-6131.**