

# Call for Proposals: APWA Mid-Atlantic Chapter Student & Young Professionals Poster Session

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The 2019 APWA Mid-Atlantic Chapter Conference will be in Norfolk, Virginia from May 15<sup>th</sup> to May 17<sup>th</sup> and will include a Poster Session for Students & Young Professionals. Poster Sessions are a means to communicate and exchange ideas, programs, research, and projects to fellow conference attendees. The Student & Young Professional Poster Session will be held at the Norfolk Convention Center on Thursday May 16<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., but authors are encouraged to leave their posters up for the duration of the conference.

## Poster Proposals

The 2019 Conference Committee invites poster proposal submissions from students of higher learning and young professionals of APWA member organizations. Poster Session proposals should focus on public works projects and programs as well as student research having an impact on public works.

Proposals are encouraged from any of the following categories:

- Structures
- Transportation
- Environment
- Historical Restoration/Preservation
- Disaster or Emergency Construction/Repair

Submit a proposal (250-word limit) along with the following information:

- Poster Title.
- Full names and affiliation of authors.
- Contact Information for primary author (full name, address, email, and telephone number).
- Indicate if proposal is associated with a project, and if so, please include the date the project was or will be completed.
- Specify if the Poster Session topic is being submitted for a 2019 Chapter Project of the Year Award.

Proposals should be submitted to Kelly Mattingly at [kmattingly@blacksburg.gov](mailto:kmattingly@blacksburg.gov) by December 17, 2018.

## Proposal Evaluation

The Conference Committee will evaluate all proposals submitted by the deadline. Proposals will be evaluated on:

- Originality.
- Technical Content.
- Clarity.
- Proposal Quality.

Ten (10) Individuals with proposals chosen for inclusion in the 2019 APWA Mid-Atlantic Conference will be notified by February 1, 2019. Posters should be brought to the conference Poster Session area by 3:00 p.m. on May 16<sup>th</sup>. Posters will be judged on March 16, 2018 between 4:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. One poster will be selected to receive a \$250 cash prize.

## Poster Session Tips

Posters typically include pictures, data, graphs, diagrams and narrative text on boards that are approximately 40x32 inches. Authors are required to be present with their posters during the scheduled Poster Session of the conference. Authors should be prepared to present elevator like speeches that summarize the poster content to attendees that stop by the poster to view it and ask questions. Helpful tips on creating posters are available at these links:

- ALA Poster Presentations (at conferences): <http://www.ala.org/tools/atoz/poster-presentations>
- Penn State University: Designing Communications for a Poster Fair <http://www.personal.psu.edu/drs18/postershow/>
- The Writing Center at UW-Madison: Creating Poster Presentations <https://writing.wisc.edu/Handbook/PosterPresentations.html>
- UNC Grad School Poster and Presentations Resources: <http://gradschool.unc.edu/academics/resources/postertips.html>

Poster presentations cannot be used to advertise products or to display vendor items. If you are unsure if your proposal qualifies, please email Kelly Mattingly at [kmattingly@blacksburg.gov](mailto:kmattingly@blacksburg.gov) .

## Frequently Asked Questions

1. Will APWA pay my travel expenses and/or registration fee to attend the Conference if I am presenting a poster? *No, APWA would not reimburse you for your travel or conference registration expenses.*
2. What if I have a conflict between the Poster Session time and a conference technical education session that I am presenting? *At least one author of the poster must be present during the Poster Session. This is the opportunity to give feedback to conference attendees who stop to ask questions. Poster Sessions cannot be presented unless at least one author is present during the allotted time.*
3. What happens if I have to cancel my poster presentation because I can't attend the conference? *Please plan on a backup person who will be able to represent your poster if an emergency arises.*
4. Can I have an Internet connection or other electrical support? *If your poster presentation includes electrical equipment, you will need to provide your own source of power (e.g., batteries). No electrical support is available. Internet is available in the Poster Session area. Audio-visual presentations that include sound are not encouraged. These can be very distracting to the presenters located nearby. If you are able to supply headphones for viewers/listeners, sound is acceptable.*
5. What about simultaneous submissions? Can I submit a Poster Session proposal about a project for which I've also submitted a 2019 Chapter Project of the Year Award? *Yes, poster submissions for projects that have been simultaneously submitted for a 2019 Chapter Project of the Year Award are welcomed.*
6. Where will the Poster Session area be located at the conference? *The Poster Session will be held at Norfolk Convention Center in the hallway just outside the Exhibit Hall.*

**If you have any other questions about the Poster Session proposal process or on the status of your submission please email Kelly Mattingly at [kmattingly@blacksburg.gov](mailto:kmattingly@blacksburg.gov) .**