



2026 ISBD ANNUAL MEETING Interactive Workshop Submission Guidelines

DEADLINE: January 29, 2026*

**All deadlines occur at 5:00 PM Central*

Overall Proposal by Chairs Submitted due January 22, 2026

Abstracts from Individual Participants due January 28, 2026

Chairs Review & Finalize Proposed Sessions due: January 29, 2026

Equity Statement: The primary factor considered in the scientific review process is the *quality of the submitted proposal*. However, in keeping with the longstanding commitment of the ISBD to seek excellence through inclusion the involvement of women, early career professionals, those with lived experience of bipolar disorder, and participants from diverse geographic regions will be given particular consideration when reviewing the suitability of proposals for the program.

General Requirements for all Submissions

- The purpose of the conference is to **promote education free from product promotion**, thus use of any advertising, trade names, or product-group message association is prohibited; this rule will be strictly enforced.
- To promote the opportunity for many participants to be involved in the conference, speakers are limited to no more than two (2) speaking roles in the Conference (Keynote Lecture, Symposia and Workshops).
- Speakers who have their session accepted will be eligible for a reduced registration fee. Regrettably, no financial assistance can be provided for travel or other expenses. Please note that a chair can also double as a speaker.
- Once a session is accepted, speaker changes are NOT allowed unless approved by the Program Committee Chair.
- It is the responsibility of the chair/moderator to keep the schedule approved by the Program Committee.
- All presenters' and co-authors' disclosures must appear on the first slide of the presentation. Slides will be reviewed in the speaker ready room to ensure compliance.
- Commercial logos (e.g., Company) are not permitted to appear on meeting materials, including presentation slides.

Interactive Workshops

Interactive Workshops provide the opportunity for more intensive interactive learning opportunities.

To encourage learner participation and interactivity, there will be a limited number of participants per course on a first come, first served basis.

- Interactive Workshops will run during the meeting for a 2-hour session. These workshops will have limited participation to ensure a smaller, more interactive audience.

- A maximum of 3 speakers, including the chair/moderator, will be eligible for a reduced registration fee; a chair may double as a speaker.
- We encourage speakers to consider designing your session with state-of-the-art teaching strategies, such as a flipped classroom model*, pre- and post- course quizzes, clinical scenarios, and vignettes.
- Strategies for promoting interactivity with attendees should be specified in the submission.
- If your workshop is selected, we will reach out to you to get a detailed timetable as well as requirements for interactive portions of your course.
- Workshops in a language other than English may be submitted for a bilingual audience. Please note there is no translation service available.

* For examples of the flipped classroom model, please visit

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O8lLpqP7Hr8>

Submission Details:

- The Chair will submit a brief course description and outline the means by which interaction will be used to ensure audience engagement.
- The Chair will provide all workshop participants and their affiliations on the submission form.
- All participants will be required to provide a financial disclosure.

Experts by Experience (ExE) Workshop Submissions

ISBD reserves several spaces in the program for “Experts by Experience” (ExE) talks as part of the ExE track. If accepted as an ExE workshop, your presentation will be badged in the program as an ExE event. If you identify your workshop as an ExE submission and it is NOT accepted into the ExE track, it will still be eligible for consideration in the general program.

- An “Experts by Experience” (ExE) submission must have been coproduced alongside individuals with lived experience, care partners, and/or advocacy groups.
- We occasionally have funding to support the persons with lived experience (PWLE) of bipolar disorder’s travel to the meeting. We cannot guarantee it, but if funding were to become available, PWLE who are presenting in an ExE track would be given priority for these grants.
- Coproduction goes beyond inclusion of a lived experience speaker in a proposal and involves:
 - Working with persons with lived experience (PWLE) of bipolar disorder from the outset.
 - Having a mutual discussion and understanding of the priorities of those with lived experience when developing the presentation.
 - Having a PWLE be an equal partner in the development of the symposia themes and content.
- To be considered for an ExE you should select ExE Workshop in the submissions drop-down. In addition to the workshop questions, you will have additional questions to answer listed below as part of their submission.
 - *Based on the description of coproduction above, briefly describe how this presentation was coproduced with PWLE?*
 - *What way will this presentation benefit PWLE?*

Workshop Topics

For the 2026 Annual ISBD Conference, we would like to highlight that, in addition to our primary focus on bipolar disorder, we are also accepting proposals that focus on mood disorders more broadly. Topic areas include:

Topic areas include:

- Basic research:
 - Biomarkers
 - Brain Structure and Function
 - Genetics
 - Omics
 - Physiological, Molecular, Cellular Markers and Models
 - Animal Models
- Applied research and/or clinical practice:
 - AI
 - Assessment
 - Alternative and Complementary Therapies
 - Brain Imaging
 - Clinical Trial Designs
 - Diagnosis and Classification
 - Medical Comorbidity
 - Psychiatric Comorbidity
 - Disability / Rehabilitation
 - Cognition
 - Innovative Therapeutics
 - Integrative and Holistic Treatments (i.e., pharmacological, somatic, psychological)
 - Developmental Psychopathology, Prodromes, Early Recognition
 - Illness Course, Staging
 - Psychosocial Treatments and Self-Management
 - Quality of Life
 - Stigma
 - Suicide and Self-Harm
 - Trauma
 - Updates on Treatment Guidelines
- Population Health/Analysis
 - Big Data and Advanced Analytics
 - Implementation Research
 - Population Health
 - Epidemiology
 - Economics
- Special groups
 - Advocacy and Patient Organizations
 - Children and Adolescents
 - Cultural Differences and Its Consequences
 - Racial & Ethnic Considerations
 - Sex & Gender Related Issues
 - Older Adults (the elderly)
- Hot Topics

The conference also welcomes submissions outside of the specific topics above, so long as they are relevant to bipolar and depressive disorders.