



CALL FOR PROPOSALS & SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

76th Annual Convention of the Mississippi Psychological Association

"Stranger Minds: Exploring Uncharted Territories of Psychology"

Program Chair: David Gavel, Ph.D.

IP Casino Resort Spa

Biloxi, Mississippi

September 24 – Friday, September 26, 2025

GENERAL INFORMATION

The 2025 Annual Convention of the Mississippi Psychological Association (MPA) will be held in Biloxi, MS at the IP Casino Resort Spa from Wednesday, September 24 – Friday, September 26, 2025. The convention will provide a variety of opportunities to share scientific and practice presentations, and for earning continuing education (CE) credits. We hope you will join us for an exciting meeting by submitting your proposed program or presentation for consideration.

SUBMISSION DEADLINE

Proposals for presentations, symposia, panel discussions, and poster presentations will be considered for inclusion in the program if they are received by the standard submission deadline of **Friday, May 30, 2025 (11:59PM CST)**. Submissions received after this date will only be considered on a space-available basis.

Proposals incorporating this year's theme "**Stranger Minds: Exploring Uncharted Territories of Psychology**" are strongly encouraged!

PARTICIPATION

MPA Members and Non-Members are welcome to submit a proposed program or presentation for consideration. Program submissions are encouraged from individuals and groups who work in various settings (academia, private practice, hospitals and VA settings, group clinics, correctional facilities, etc.). Programs related to evidence-based practice, early career topics, changing health care system, reimbursement, integration or application of science and practice, forensic psychology, and innovative academic endeavors are encouraged. We strongly encourage students, early career psychologists, and faculty from colleges and universities to submit proposals and to be actively involved in the convention. **All presenters must register for the convention.**

Presenters are expected to comply with the American Psychological Association Ethical Principles and Code of Conduct for Psychologists. The ethics code can be downloaded at <http://www.apa.org/ethics>

SUBMISSION CATEGORIES

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: May 30, 2025

PROCEDURE FOR SUBMITTING PROPOSALS

You will be able to electronically submit your convention proposals to MPA. When you are ready to submit your entire proposal, submit via email to Executive Director LaDarion Ammons at mpa@mpassoc.org. You may direct any questions to the Convention Chair Dr. David Gavel at steadfast.gavel@gmail.com.

STANDARD SESSION CATEGORIES

Presentation (60-minute session, 90-minute session or 180-minute Workshop): A presentation is a research or clinical program based on sharing of research data, teaching direct skills, experiential approaches, or demonstrating application of theory to participants. Presenters may offer practical experience to help audience participants increase their understanding and/or skills in a particular area of current interests in psychology. The audience has an opportunity to ask questions and discuss relevant issues. Select presentations may be considered for Continuing Education (CE) credit. If selected, presenters will be contacted and asked to provide additional information. CE presentations are subject to additional requirements.

Symposium (Standard 60-minute session; however, 120 minutes may be requested): A symposium is a program based on sharing of research findings. A symposium typically includes 3 to 5 individual paper presentations on a related topic or theme and may (but is not required to) include a discussant. The format of the symposium usually consists of an introduction of each speaker by the chairperson or session moderator. If a discussant is included, participants should prepare presentations in advance so that the discussant can prepare a coherent summary. The role of the discussant is to highlight the essential issues raised by presenters and to integrate and interpret them.

Panel Discussion (Standard 60-minute session; however, 120 minutes may be requested): A panel discussion is a focused session in which participants present their views about a common theme, issue, or question. The format of the panel usually consists of an introduction to the topic by the chairperson to provide the audience with a background for the ensuing discussion. Participants then present their viewpoints, followed by interchange among participants and between the audience and participants. Most importantly, a panel discussion is not a paper-reading session. Participants should prepare presentations in advance so that the chairperson or discussant can prepare a coherent summary. The role of the chairperson or discussant is to highlight the essential issues raised by participants and to integrate and interpret them.

STUDENT SESSION CATEGORIES (*undergraduate and graduate students only*)

Students are specially invited to submit under two designated programming categories that will be considered for the Student Poster Research Award and the Student Data Blitz Research Award. These awards will be presented at the Thursday evening reception.

Student Poster Presentation: Poster sessions allow presenters and attendees to engage in extended discussions regarding the author's work, presented in an illustrated form on poster board. If your poster is selected, you must supply your own poster board, not to exceed 4' wide by 6' high. You must also supply any pushpins, Velcro fasteners, or tape which you may need. A single tripod easel will be provided for your poster.

SUBMISSION CATEGORIES

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No lighting, electronic equipment, or freestanding displays will be permitted, unless a special waiver is granted by the Program Chair. Poster Presentations will be held on Thursday (September 25th).

Student Data Blitz Oral Presentation: The Data Blitz Oral Presentation allows students the opportunity to provide a brief (5-7 minute) oral presentation of a research project. Master's Thesis and Dissertation projects will receive first priority for Data Blitz Oral Presentations; however, other projects are welcome. The Data Blitz session will be held on Thursday (September 25th). Submissions not selected for oral presentation will be considered for poster presentation.