

NEACSM 2020 Fall Virtual Conference  
Abstract Submission Instructions

This year, the NEACSM Fall Conference will be a virtual meeting. Accepted abstracts for Student and Professional presentations will occur via ePoster format during the conference.

Abstract submissions are DUE FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2020 by 5PM (EST).

**NEACSM 2020 VIRTUAL Meeting Date:** October 15-16, 2020

**ABSTRACT SUBMISSION DEADLINE:** FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2020 BY 5PM (EST)

\*For all who submit an abstract, to complete your application, you must also send a .pdf of your abstract to [neacsmfreecomm@gmail.com](mailto:neacsmfreecomm@gmail.com) by the deadline.

\*If you are a student, to complete this form you will need an attestation from the Faculty Sponsor (below).

There are 2 general categories for submission, STUDENT and PROFESSIONAL:

STUDENT submissions are from research completed in a Bachelors, Masters, or Doctoral program. Students have one year from graduation from a Bachelor's, Master's or Doctoral program to present in that category.

PROFESSIONAL submissions are from faculty, researchers, practitioners, and clinicians (e.g. PhD, MD, DO, PT, OT, Athletic Trainers, Physical Trainers). Professional submissions may be from original research or case studies.

GENERAL DIRECTIONS FOR ALL SUBMISSIONS (Student and Professional): Please carefully read over the instructions listed here and then complete the 2020 NEACSM ABSTRACT SUBMISSION FORM, providing the information requested in the next section.

1. The primary focus and substance of submitted abstract must be novel. The abstract must not have been published or presented as an abstract or a full paper in a retrievable or readily available scientific, medical, or professional publication. Abstracts presented first at the NEACSM meeting may later be presented at another meeting, as abstracts will not be published.
2. Each individual is permitted to be first author on only one abstract, but may co-author several abstracts. The first author should be the applicant and must present the abstract.
3. If multiple abstracts are being submitted from the same study/project, in order to be eligible for presentation, each abstract should be uniquely written for title, purpose, methods, results, and conclusion, and relate directly to the stated purpose.

4. Only electronic submissions will be accepted. Late applications WILL NOT be accepted.
5. Upon receipt by the Free Communications Committee, the applicant will receive a "submission received" notification. A NEACSM representative will review the abstract for adherence to the rules and notify the lead author of the abstract of acceptance ("submission accepted") by email within one week of receipt of the abstract.
6. Detailed guidelines for the abstract, including a checklist and sample abstract are found here:  
[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1mHzaXfKi3M3NY\\_pgQ6VTbNbCP806\\_-A8/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1mHzaXfKi3M3NY_pgQ6VTbNbCP806_-A8/view?usp=sharing)
7. All presentations will be in ePoster format consisting of 5-6 slides (no more than 6 slides in total). You may choose to include a 5-minute audio explanation to accompany your slides. Students who engage in the Student Investigator Competition AND are selected as a finalist from the abstract submission stage, are REQUIRED to record a 5-minute audio explanation as part of their ePoster presentation (see details below).
8. All ePosters will be due on THURSDAY October 1, 2020 by 5PM (EST).

#### STUDENT INVESTIGATOR AWARD COMPETITION INFORMATION AND GUIDELINES:

1. If you would like your abstract to be considered for the Student Investigator Award Competition, you must denote this on the abstract submission form.
2. Students competing in the Student Investigator Award Competition (Bachelor's, Master's, and Doctoral) must be a current member of NEACSM (through October 2020).
3. The student competition category (Bachelor's, Master's, Doctoral) should be based on what program the student was in when the work was completed. If currently a Master's student and presenting work done while in a Bachelor's program, the competition category chosen should be Bachelor's. This is true for Doctoral students presenting work done in a Master's program or a Doctoral graduate presenting work done while a Doctoral degree student. Students have one year from graduation from a Bachelor's, Master's or Doctoral program to present in that category.
4. Students who have previously received a Student Investigator Award in a specific category (e.g., Bachelor's, Master's, or Doctoral) are not eligible to compete for an award again in the same category (a previous Master's winner may compete for Doctoral award but not a Master's award).
5. Student Investigator Award Competition submissions must represent the student's ideas and work.
  - a. Complete the "Student Description of Research Contribution and Faculty Attestation" (Note: To be eligible for the competition, a student must have initiated the research questions, objectives and/or

aims.) If more information is needed, please complete the optional description of the student's specific role (no more than 100 words).

b. Both the mentor/advisor and the student must confirm the student contribution to the research described in the abstract and sign the application form.

c. If this section is not complete, the student will be ineligible for the Student Investigator Award Competition.

6. The Free Communications Committee will assign each submitted abstract to the Abstract Review Committee, who will judge each abstract based on a standard criteria (listed below). The top 3 highest rated written student abstracts in each competition category (Bachelor's, Master's and Doctoral) will be selected to present ePoster presentations as Student Investigator Award Competition finalists.

Written abstracts will be scored 1-5 (5 being highest possible score) on the following criteria:

I. Significance and Innovation: How well the project relates to the mission statement of ACSM; novelty and use of new methodologies, under-investigated populations, addressing emerging problems, etc

II. Research Design: Ability of the methodologies used to address research question and hypothesis; appropriate use of design and statistics to test hypothesis

III. Results: Appropriate selection and presentation of critical key data

IV. Interpretation/Translation: Appropriate and clear conclusions from findings

7. Notifications of the abstract judging results are expected to be sent out by Thursday, September 17, 2020. The ePoster submission deadline is Thursday, October 1, 2020.

8. The Student Investigator Award Competition will occur on October 5-6, 2020 where finalist ePosters (with required 5-minute audio explanation) will be evaluated by a panel of judges. A winner for each category (Bachelor's, Master's and Doctoral) will be determined from the highest rated ePoster Presentation score.

ePoster Presentations will be scored 1-5 (5 being the highest possible score) on the following criteria:

I. Presentation Content: Description of the research project is clear and includes intro/background, methods, results, summary/conclusion

II. Presentation and Communication Skills: Clarity, elocution, and projection

III. Quality of visuals: Clarity of the figures and tables to explain methods and results as appropriate

IV. Presentation of strengths and limitations of the work: Articulated significance, evaluation of the quality of research design and methods.

9. Winners of the student competition will be awarded \$500 in the Doctoral category, \$500 in the Master's category, and \$500 in the Bachelor's category.

10. Students who entered the competition but are not selected as finalists will have their ePosters presented during the Fall Conference along with other ePoster submissions.

#### PRESIDENT'S CUP COMPETITION INFORMATION:

1. If you are a graduate student in the Student Competition and you would NOT like to be considered for the President's Cup Competition, you must OPT OUT on the abstract submission form.

2. Students must be a currently enrolled graduate student at the time of the 2020 Fall NEACSM Meeting and must be willing and able to present at the 2021 ACSM National Annual Meeting.

3. The top rated written abstract presented by a graduate student will be awarded the President's Cup. The winner must present their ePoster at the NEACSM virtual meeting with a required 5-minute audio explanation.

Note: The President's Cup winner may not necessarily be the same as the winner in the Student Investigator Master's or Doctoral category due to different scoring criteria and eligibility.

4. The winner of the President's Cup competition will represent the New England chapter at the 2021 ACSM National Annual Meeting in a poster competition held June 1-5, 2021 in Washington, DC. The winner will be awarded a \$1,200 travel allowance and registration fee waiver for the ACSM National Annual meeting.

5. The NEACSM President's Cup award winner's research will be presented as a poster on either Wednesday or Thursday night (June 3rd or June 4th, 2021) at the ACSM National Annual meeting. Awards and cash prizes will be given for the top three presenters.

Please direct questions to the Free Communications Committee at  
[neacsmfreecomm@gmail.com](mailto:neacsmfreecomm@gmail.com)