

Medical Student Program Abstract Submission Deadline: Friday, June 26, 2026 (12:00 PM - Central Time) *

*Note: The submission site will not accept submissions and/or edits after this date/time.

ACS Medical Student Program American College of Surgeons Clinical Congress September 26-29, 2026

Medical students attending the ACS Medical Student Program are invited to submit abstracts in one of the following three **surgical** categories:

1. basic science research;
2. clinical science research;
3. education, outcomes, and innovation research

The top 48 abstracts will be invited to present during the **Medical Student Program Quick Shot Presentation Session**, a part of the ACS Medical Student Program, at this year's Clinical Congress in Washington, D.C. *If selected to present, please note that these digital presentations will take place before a live audience, including judges, in person at Clinical Congress.* A winner and runner-up will ultimately be selected from each research category.

Abstract Requirements:

- A. Abstracts will consist of five specific parts:
 1. Title
 2. Introduction
 3. Methods
 4. Results
 5. Conclusion
- B. Abstracts must not exceed 300 words in total (all sections combined)
- C. Abstracts may include one table or image

AI Position Statement and Rationale

Position: The American College of Surgeons' Committee on Medical Student Education does not permit the use of generative AI or AI-assisted tools and technologies to create or edit scientific work submitted to the medical student poster competition. This includes:

- Abstract writing and editing
- Data analysis and interpretation
- Image, artwork, or figure creation and editing
- Hypothesis and conclusion generation

Rationale: While the use of AI and AI-assisted technologies in the research and writing process has become more common, we believe it is imperative for students to learn the principles of scientific research without delegating key tasks to computerized processes. To affect this standard, we do not allow any AI or generative AI to be utilized in any way during the research process. Students are at an important stage in their careers, where mastering fundamental concepts and procedures is crucial. Furthermore, it is important for the future of medicine to develop students with intellectual curiosity and sound scientific reasoning capabilities to promote discovery and medical advancement.

Abstract Submission Guidelines:

- 1) To be eligible to participate in the Medical Student Program (MSP) Quick Shot Presentation Session, abstract submitters must
 - a. currently be enrolled medical students upon submission and the presentation date of September 26, 2026.
 - b. Must attend and present in person at the Medical Student Program during Clinical Congress in Washington, D.C.
- 2) Students who have applied to the ACS Scientific Forum (which had a deadline of March 2, 2026) are welcome to submit to the MSP Quick Shot Presentation Session, as well. If selected for the ACS Scientific Forum, students will not be eligible to present that abstract at the MSP Quick Shot Presentation Session.
- 3) Each student may submit up to **two** different abstracts to be considered for presentation.
 - a. Please be sure the medical student presenting is the one submitting and selected as the “Presenting Author.”
 - b. If multiple abstracts are submitted, no more than one will be selected for presentation.
 - c. Students from the same research group may not submit duplicate abstracts or rephrased versions of the same work.
- 4) Only one medical student author will be allowed to present should the submission be selected; multiple students are not permitted to present on the same poster.

- 5) Literature searches, literature reviews, case studies, or case reports will **NOT** be considered. Literature searches and reviews summarize, synthesize, and critique existing literature, and provide an overview of previously published research. Information gathered from social media or general internet searches will also **NOT** be reviewed.
- 6) Design concepts, ideas, novel techniques/device descriptions, or proposals for projects with pending or partial results will **NOT** be considered.
- 7) If a student has presented the information at another conference, they are eligible to submit their abstract at the MSP Quick Shot Presentation Session, provided that they have obtained written permission from the other conference(s) to do so.
- 8) If a student's research has been published or will be published by the presentation date of September 26, 2026, it may not be submitted to the MSP Quick Shot Presentation Session.
- 9) It is recommended that all work be reviewed by the submitter and mentors for accuracy, spelling, and grammar before it is submitted.

Financial Responsibility Notice: Presenters will not receive any financial compensation from ACS. All costs related to the development, presentation, and travel are the responsibility of the presenter.

Abstract Review and Notification Timeline: The committee reviews submitted abstracts after the submission deadline and will make every effort to send notifications by early August.

Please contact Cassie Buchignani, MS, Program Administrator, Medical Student Education, at cbuchignani@facs.org or at 312-202-5289 with any questions or concerns.