

Abstract Submission Instructions and Scoring Criteria

***“Stronger Together -
Building Healthy Futures for Every
Child”***

2026 National School-Based Health Care Conference

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**SCHOOL-BASED
HEALTH ALLIANCE**

The National Voice for School-Based Health Care

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Conference Introduction, Goals, and Objectives

The National School-Based Health Care Conference is an opportunity to connect with hundreds of health care professionals, education professionals, youth, and advocates from across the country. Nearly 4,000 school-based health centers (SBHCs) nationwide deliver integrated, patient-centered care, screening for conditions like obesity and depression, and offering preventive services—all with a particular focus on children, adolescents, and families who lack access to health care because of systemic inequities, low incomes, lack of health insurance, or where they live. Conference attendees will explore the innovative ways SBHCs serve their students and families in rural, urban, and suburban schools and communities by promoting wellness and health equity through engaging communities and fostering partnerships.

Goal: To provide high-quality continuing education and national networking opportunities to the school-based health care community and its allies.

Audience:

- ▶ School-based health care administrators/managers
- ▶ Interdisciplinary clinical teams
- ▶ Education professionals, such as superintendents, principals, school social workers, school psychologists, school safety professionals, and community schools staff members
- ▶ Youth and youth leaders
- ▶ Funders and sponsor organizations
- ▶ School-based health care oversight agencies, including departments of health and education
- ▶ Researchers and evaluators
- ▶ Advocates, supporters, and policymakers

Conference participants will:

- ▶ Update clinical, diagnostic, and skills for treating and preventing common mental and physical health conditions seen in SBHCs.
- ▶ Share practices related to addressing social factors that impact the health of children and adolescents.
- ▶ Increase knowledge of SBHC and other school-based health care administration (e.g., services and modalities such as oral health, vision care, telehealth, and mobile health) with an emphasis on financial stability, school and community services integration, workforce enhancement, emerging practices, and continuous quality improvement.
- ▶ Investigate long-term sustainability issues for SBHCs, including workforce challenges and innovations.
- ▶ Expand knowledge of school-based health care-related research and evaluation.
- ▶ Deepen knowledge of innovative prevention and early intervention strategies to change risk-taking behaviors, emphasizing anticipatory guidance, health promotion, and health education.
- ▶ Strengthen interdisciplinary team building among staff comprising physical and mental health providers, health education staff, and education stakeholders.
- ▶ Bolster knowledge of ways to increase family and community involvement in SBHC efforts.
- ▶ Explore issues related to advocacy, policy, and coalition building.
- ▶ Share ideas and best and emerging practices and network with colleagues.

Call for Conference Abstracts Details

The School-Based Health Alliance is pleased to invite abstracts for our National School-Based Health Care Conference. Open to submissions from October 17 – November 21, 2025.

We seek subject matter expertise in the following categories:

1. Clinical Practice (Primary Care, Behavioral Health, and Specialty Services)
2. Business Operations, Sustainability, and Quality Improvement
3. Policy & Partnerships
4. Innovations
5. 'Be the Change' Youth Training Program (for youth participants only)

We also accept posters and workshop proposals exclusively in Spanish for the Clinical Practice, Policy & Partnerships, Innovations, Business Operations, Sustainability, and Quality Improvement categories.

All workshop abstracts must detail training content that appeals to school-based health care professionals, education professionals, and youth; is relevant to participant learning needs; is interactive in presentation strategy; and describes specific skills, expertise, resources, and tools that align with and advance the workshop category themes. We highly encourage abstracts that include young people as lead or co-lead presenters. **All abstracts must be submitted online. Applicants must use the Oxford Abstract link and submit [HERE](#).**

Each abstract requires a separate submission. All sections of the abstract form are **REQUIRED**. Submitting an abstract does not guarantee that it will be selected for presentation at the conference. The abstract review committee reserves the right to assign accepted abstracts to categories other than those selected during abstract submission. If you have any questions regarding the abstract process, please email convention@sbh4all.org. If you have questions specific to the 'Be the Change' Youth Training Program, please email youthdevelopment@sbh4all.org.

What information do I need to submit an abstract? **Required Fields*

Before you start, you will need to gather the following information:

1. Title of abstract *(no longer than 12 words)**
2. Category that best describes your submission *(see selections in the instructions below)**
3. Format *(see selections in the instructions below)**
4. Expertise level *(beginner, midlevel, advanced)**
5. Intended audiences *(see selections in the instructions below)**
6. Abstract description *(limited to no more than 350 words)**
 - a. Be sure to describe the content you will cover and the strategies you will use to engage participants. Based on the abstract, the reader should be able to understand how the proposed workshop will flow.
7. Enter at least one objective, but no more than two *(limited to no more than 200 words)**
8. Presenter information *(you MUST enter information for ALL presenters, including moderators and yourself if you are a presenter)*
 - a. Title, First Name*, Last Name*, Degree, Email*, Organization*, City*, State*
 - b. Pronouns *
 - c. Whether the presenter is a moderator or youth
 - d. Age of any youth presenters (ages 15-22)
 - e. All presenters must complete this statement: "I am qualified to be a moderator, presenter, or panelist on this content because." *(limited to no more than 75 words)**
 - f. All presenters must answer the following questions: Do you have a financial interest with any entity producing health care goods/services included in this abstract? *(yes or no)**

Presentation Categories and Program Priorities

Category 1. Clinical Practice (Primary Care, Behavioral Health, and Specialty Services)

This category's abstracts will explore practices to address health and social needs among students, families, and staff. Abstracts must include tangible clinical skill-building techniques. We welcome abstracts featuring practices tailored to in-person, telehealth, or hybrid care models, partnerships with families to improve student/family health, and partnerships with the community. We encourage presenters to consider co-presenting with youth and/or educational partners. We accept abstracts from the topics below, focusing on evidence-based, promising/emerging practices and culturally relevant and respectful approaches to care.

Highly requested health topics from past years include:

- **Primary Care:** reproductive and sexual health, preventative care/well-child visits, nutrition and physical activity, population health, diabetes, LGBTQIA+ health and gender-affirming care, integration with behavioral health, and care coordination.
- **Behavioral Health:** trauma-informed care, anxiety, depression, substance use, suicide, ADHD, integration with primary care, injury and violence prevention, mental health-related conditions or experiences explicitly related to the LGBTQIA+ population.
- **Specialty Services:** oral health, vision, respiratory disease, dermatology, infectious diseases, sports medicine.

Category 2. Business Operations, Sustainability, and Quality Improvement

This category's abstracts will explore best practices and innovative approaches for sustainable business operations of school-based health centers, especially those that engage their community and foster partnerships. We accept abstracts that identify strategies to develop the infrastructure for sustainable, comprehensive SBHC models (e.g., brick-and-mortar, telehealth, mobile) while addressing payer partnerships that maximize utilization, productivity, reimbursement, and return on investment. Real-world factors impacting operational success and sustainability, including accessibility, consent, enrollment processes, and innovations supporting special populations (e.g., rural areas, schools with small enrollment, etc.) and examples of leveraging novel technologies and using quality improvement data to make systematic changes.

Abstracts should provide comprehensive learning opportunities for various experience levels while providing tools to apply to participants' daily work. We encourage a diverse group of presenters, including youth, educational institutions, community partners, and rising stars, to be subject matter experts.

Category 3. Policy & Partnerships

This category's abstracts will explore how SBHC advocates collaborate with local, state, and federal stakeholders to advance policies that strengthen SBHCs. We also welcome examples of partnerships between schools, health centers, and community organizations that expand access, improve coordination, and promote sustainability. Abstracts featuring campaigns that engage youth, parents/guardians, and families as equitable partners in advocacy and policy efforts are encouraged, as are presentations co-led with these partners.

Category 4. Innovations

This category's abstracts will explore innovations within school-based health settings besides those related to clinical skills, business operations, and policy. We accept abstracts that describe evidence-based innovations with outcomes impacting individuals, organizations, communities, or systems and detailing the role of communities, youth, and partnerships in program planning, implementation, outcomes, and dissemination. Abstracts can highlight successful or unsuccessful innovations, including promising practices or lessons learned from implementing new processes.

Category 5. 'Be the Change' Youth Training Program (for youth participants only)

This category's abstracts will explore youth-led and partnered strategies that inspire students to participate successfully and lead efforts in school-based health settings, such as health campaigns, program planning, outreach and promotion, policy and advocacy, and peer-led education and support groups. Abstracts must include young people as lead or co-lead presenters and have a youth audience in mind.

NOTE: Workshops must be interactive and implement various learning strategies besides traditional lecture-discussion, such as learning games, live demonstrations, practice of new skills and techniques, small group exercises, role-playing, case scenarios, action planning, and sharing small group findings with larger groups.

Presentation Formats

The 2026 conference will offer the following presentation formats:

Pre-conference (Tuesday, June 23)

Time Frame: 180

Maximum number of presenters: three, plus one moderator*

Workshop

Time Frame: 75 minutes

Maximum number of presenters: two, no moderator

Panel

Time Frame: 75 minutes

Maximum number of presenters: three, plus one moderator*

Poster

Time Frame: 60 minutes (in-person presentation during poster session)

Maximum number of presenters: one

* The moderator may be an additional person responsible for assisting the presenters, facilitating Q&A, and keeping the session on time.

Competitive Selection Process

Workshop proposals and poster abstracts will be reviewed for content and measurable objectives. Submission of an abstract does not guarantee participation in the conference program. The abstract review committee reserves the right to assign accepted abstracts to categories other than those selected during the abstract submission.

The Abstract Review Committee will review all abstracts to determine if they meet the following criteria:

- the content is relevant to the theme and the conference attendees
- the presentation style is conducive to young adult and adult learning and includes interaction whenever possible
- the presenters are qualified to teach this content based on their real-world experience and expertise
- the objective is clearly defined

The peer review process will include a technical and programmatic evaluation of all abstracts by a panel of professionals considered topic-area experts. The applications are read and scored using the following criteria rubric:

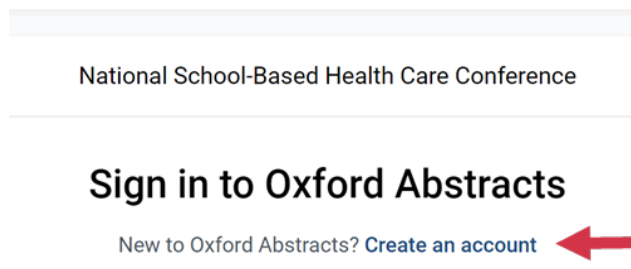
Criteria	Minimal	Adequate	Satisfactory	Good	Outstanding
Title	(1) Unrelated to content; Confusing or mundane	(2)	(3) Generally clear and concise, though not particularly creative.	(4)	(5) Clearly reflects presentation content Creative; Catches attention.
Learning Objective(s)	(1) Unclear, vague, not measurable; Too omnibus for given time frame.	(2)	(3) Mostly clear but may need some revision for attainability or scale.	(4)	(5) Very clear, measurable, and obtainable in the given time frame.
Abstract Description – Content Quality	(2) Presentation purpose and findings/ recommendations are unclear; Efficacy of content not grounded in evidence.	(4)	(6) Mostly clear summary of presentation purpose and findings/ recommendations; Some evidence to support practices or techniques. May need clarification or simple revision.	(8)	(10) Excellent summary of purpose, methodology/activity (as applicable), and findings or recommendations; Represents a best practice/technique -or- describes the rationale and existing evidence for an innovative emerging practice.
Abstract Description (Relevance) – Connection to category and theme. Relevance to SBHC field.	(2) Content does not appear relevant to the SBHC field; Unrelated to category or conference theme. (For Spanish abstracts - Content does not align with needs /	(4)	(6) Content relevant to the SBHC field and loosely connected to category and conference theme. (For Spanish abstracts - Content somewhat aligns with needs / relevant to Spanish-speaking communities, and	(8)	(10) Addresses a priority topic within the category; Exemplary connection to how the presentation addresses or relates to the theme. (For Spanish abstracts - Content aligns with needs and is relevant to Spanish-speaking communities, and

	relevant to Spanish-speaking communities and does not target those working with Spanish-speaking populations.)		only targets Spanish-speakers, with less content for those working with Spanish-speaking populations.)		goes beyond Spanish-speakers, with content for those working with Spanish-speaking populations.)
Abstract Description – Clarity & Mechanics	(1) Severely over or under word limit. Many grammatical or spelling errors; Writing is very unclear.	(2)	(3) Meets word limit; Some spelling or grammatical errors. Writing is somewhat clear.	(4)	(5) Meets word limit, includes correct spelling and grammar, and is very clearly and concisely written.
Participant Engagement & Accessibility (for workshops only)	(1) No planned participant engagement activities; Interactivity not mentioned. Accessibility not mentioned.	(2)	(3) Briefly mentions participant engagement and one non-didactic/ lecture learning strategy; Briefly mention accessibility for participants but is vague.	(4)	(5) Highly interactive and implements two or more adult learning strategies in addition to traditional didactic lecture-discussion; Explicitly and creatively describes how content and activities will be made accessible.

Abstract Submission Process Instructions

QUICK LINK: <https://app.oxfordabstracts.com/stages/79879/submitter>

NOTE: The program may time out. We strongly suggest you develop your abstract description and summary in a word-processing program **before** logging into Oxford Abstracts.



Create an account to begin. You will receive an email to confirm your account.

Email may go to your spam/trash folder.

Abstract Homepage



**SCHOOL-BASED
HEALTH ALLIANCE**
The National Voice for School-Based Health Care

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS (Open October 17 - November 21 at 11:59 pm ET)

The School-Based Health Alliance is pleased to invite abstracts for our 2026 National School-Based Health Care Conference, June 23 - June 25, 2026, in Washington, DC. The theme for the conference is "Stronger Together- Building Healthy Futures for Every Child."

We seek subject matter expertise in the following categories:

1. Clinical Practice (Primary Care, Behavioral Health, and other Specialty Services)*
2. Business Operations, Sustainability, and Quality Improvement*
3. Policy & Partnerships*
4. Innovations*
5. 'Be the Change' Youth Training Program (for youth participants only)

***We also accept posters and workshop proposals exclusively in Spanish for the Clinical Practice, Innovations, Policy & Partnerships, Business Operations, Sustainability, and Quality Improvement categories.**

Workshop abstracts must detail training content that appeals to school-based health care professionals, education professionals, and youth; is relevant to participant learning needs; is interactive in presentation strategy; and describes specific skills, expertise, resources, and tools that align with and advance the workshop category themes. We highly encourage abstracts that include young people as lead or co-lead presenters.

Each abstract requires a separate submission. All sections of the abstract form are **REQUIRED**. Submitting an abstract does not guarantee that it will be selected to be presented at the conference.

The abstract review committee reserves the right to assign accepted abstracts to categories other than those selected during abstract submission. If you have any questions regarding the abstract process, please email convention@sbh4all.org. If you have questions specific to the 'Be the Change' Youth Training Program, please email youthdevelopment@sbh4all.org.

Abstract Title

Title*

The title must be at least three words but no longer than 12 words. It should be informative, giving the reader an indication of what the workshop will cover.

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Abstract Category

Categories*

Please choose the subject category that best describes your submission. **Choose one category.**

▼

Clinical Practice

Clinical Practice (Spanish)

Business Operations, Sustainability, and Quality Improvement

Business Operations, Sustainability, and Quality Improvement (Spanish)

Policy & Partnerships

Policy & Partnerships (Spanish)

Innovations

Innovations (Spanish)

'Be the Change' Youth Training Program

Subtopic

✓Complete this field **ONLY** if you selected **Clinical Practice** as your subject category.

▼

Primary Care

Behavioral Health

Specialty Services

Abstract Format

Use the dropdown menu to select your preferences for the presentation format.

The conference committee will make the final determination. Each format has a limited number of presenters. Please adhere to these guidelines:

Format*

The 2026 conference will offer the following presentation formats:

▼

Pre-conference - (180 minutes) up to three presenters, plus one moderator

Workshop - (75 minutes) up to two presenters, no moderator

Panel - (75 minutes) up to three presenters, plus one moderator

Poster - (60 minutes) in-person presentation during poster session, one presenter

Abstract Expertise Level

Choose one expertise level.

Expertise Level*

Please provide the expertise level of your presentation.

- ☐ Beginner (will cover foundational concepts)
- ☐ Midlevel (some baseline participant knowledge recommended)
- ☐ Advanced (more in-depth participant knowledge recommended)

Abstract Intended Audiences

Choose the intended audience(s). Check all that apply.

Intended Audience(s)*

Select the audience(s) for which this proposed session is most ideally suited:

- ☐ Program administrators/managers
- ☐ Health care professionals
- ☐ Policy leaders/advocates, funders
- ☐ Support staff
- ☐ Education professionals and school personnel
- ☐ Mental health care professionals
- ☐ Youth Leaders (ages 14-18)

Abstract Description

NOTE: We strongly suggest drafting the abstract description in a word-processing program. Develop the description in Word or Notepad, complete a spell check and word count, and then cut and paste the abstract in the appropriate text box.

Abstract Description is limited to 350 words. Use this section to succinctly describe the workshop content, purpose, and teaching techniques you will employ.

Abstract Description*

Please enter an abstract of your workshop (maximum 350 words).

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Abstract Objectives

The objectives are limited to 200 words. Please provide at least **one** clear, but no more than **two**, measurable, and obtainable learning objectives for your poster or presentation. Objectives are statements indicating what the attendee will be able to do or accomplish as a result of the workshop session. By beginning an objective with “The Participant will ...” the focus stays on what the attendee is expected to achieve. Objectives always include action verbs that can be measured or evaluated. Verbs such as “assess,” “compare,” and “demonstrate” can be easily observed and measured, while verbs such as “understand,” “know,” and “appreciate” are not acceptable because they do not describe an activity that others can observe to evaluate an outcome.

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Disclosure of Relevant Financial Relationships for Continuing Education (CE) Activity

Presenters must disclose relationships with an ineligible company whose primary business is producing, marketing, selling, re-selling, or distributing healthcare products used by or on patients if both (a) the relationship is financial and occurred within the past 24 months and (b) the individual has the opportunity to affect the content of the CE activity about the products or services of that ineligible company. Examples of such ineligible companies include, but are not limited to, device manufacturers or distributors, diagnostic labs that sell proprietary products, and pharmacy benefit managers.

Interest in or affiliation with a corporate organization does not necessarily prevent you from presenting. However, the relationship must be disclosed to the audience and will be reviewed in advance by the appropriate CE activity staff. Failure to disclose or a false disclosure may result in removal from the program if you are accepted to present.

Presenters and Affiliations

IMPORTANT: Adhere to the number of allowed presenters. Abstracts that include more than the permitted number of presenters may be forfeited.

Pre-conference - Maximum number of presenters: three, plus one moderator

Workshop - Maximum number of presenters: two, no moderator

Panel - Maximum number of presenters: three, plus one moderator

Poster – Maximum number of presenters: one

Presenter Information*

You **MUST** enter information for ALL presenters here - including moderators and yourself if you are a presenter - in the order you wish them to appear in the printed text. Names omitted here will **NOT** be published in the presenter index or the final program. **PLEASE DO NOT USE PLACEHOLDERS FOR PRESENTER NAMES.**

The moderator may be an additional person responsible for assisting the presenters, facilitating Q&A, and keeping the session on time.

Please follow the number of allowed presenters according to the presentation format of your submission. Abstracts that include more than the permitted number of presenters may be forfeited.

Presenter

Job Title*
 First Name*
 Last Name*

Degree
 Email*

 Phone Number*

Pronouns*

If you selected other, please fill in box below:

☐ Check here if you are a moderator.

☐ Check here if you are a youth presenter (ages 15-22).

If you checked youth presenter, please enter age.

I am qualified to be a moderator, presenter, or panelist on this content because:*

Do you have a financial relationship with an ineligible company regarding your preser..

Affiliation 1

Organization*
 City*
 State*

Press the [+ ADD ANOTHER PRESENTER](#) to enter information for each presenter/moderator.

Review and Submit

Review that all information is accurate and complete the information below:

Type of Relationship with Ineligible Company

If any presenters have a financial relationship with an ineligible company, please select the type of relationship from the list below and list the name(s) of the ineligible company in the text box.

Select Value

+

Ineligible Companies

Please list ALL ineligible companies.

Presenter Approval*

☐ I confirm that this submission has been approved by all presenters.

Presenters Will Attend*

☐ I confirm that presenters will register in full to attend the conference if accepted to present, and youth presenters will register in full to participate in the 'Be the Change' Youth Program.

Permission to Publish*

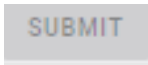
☐ Check this box to give us permission to publish your submission on electronic media and in hardcopy if it is accepted for presentation.

Notice of Photography*

☐ By checking this box you acknowledge that photos may be taken at the National School-Based Health Conference, and you consent to be photographed and to the release, publication, exhibition, or reproduction of any and all photographs of your appearance, voice, and name for any purpose whatsoever in perpetuity in connection with the School-Based Health Alliance and its initiatives, including, but not limited to, use on websites, in social media, news, and advertising.

Thank you for your submission. The peer review process will provide a technical and programmatic evaluation of all abstracts by a panel of professionals considered topic-area experts. Abstract notification status will occur in January 2026.

SUBMIT

Press the  button to submit your abstract submission.

If you need instructions on how to submit an abstract on the Oxford Platform, visit [HERE](#).

Confirmation

- Once you submit the abstract, you will receive a confirmation email of your submission.
- You will also receive a reference number for the submission.
- You must use your Oxford Abstract login to access the abstract submission and to make any edits.
- You have until the Call for Abstracts closing date to make any edits or withdraw your submission.
- Abstract submissions will be reviewed after the Call for Abstracts closing date, and you will be informed in January 2026 whether your abstract has been accepted for presentation.

Questions?

For questions regarding the abstract process or technical/troubleshooting issues with Oxford Abstracts, please email convention@sbh4all.org.

Samples and Tutorials

Writing Measurable Objectives Tutorial

Objectives are statements indicating what the attendee will be able to do or accomplish as a result of the workshop session. By beginning an objective with “The Participant will...” the focus stays on what the attendee is expected to achieve. Objectives always include action verbs that can be measured or evaluated. Verbs such as “assess,” “compare,” and “demonstrate” can be easily observed and measured while verbs such as “understand,” “know,” and “appreciate” are not acceptable because they do not describe an activity that can be observed by others to evaluate an outcome.

Below is a brief list of commonly used objectives specific to different types of activities and levels of accomplishment.

To recall information	To grasp the meaning of (understanding)	To apply/use learned info (application)	To analyze information (relationships)	To organize or create (judgment)
The learner will: Inform Offer Cite	<i>The learner will:</i> Explain Recognize Identify	<i>The learner will:</i> Conduct Demonstrate Develop Exemplify	<i>The learner will:</i> Analyze Examine	<i>The learner will:</i> Compare Assess Evaluate

Example

Incorrect: The participant will be able to appreciate the value of the computer at work.

Correct: The participant will be able to explain two computer uses at work.

Sample Objectives

Objectives
Objective Sample 1: The participant will be able to explain three needs assessment techniques for planning school-based health services.
Objective Sample 2: The participant will be able to analyze the seven SBHC principles used for establishing viable school-based health services.