**Benefits of Presenting a Poster at the Annual Meeting**

Poster sessions are a way to communicate research or program findings to enhance practice and professionals’ knowledge. There are many benefits that come with presenting a poster:

- It demonstrates your initiative & commitment to dietetics practice.
- Poster sessions provide a learning experience for you & others. As you discuss your methods and findings with other professionals, knowledge is exchanged.
- Your poster presentation adds CPEU hours to educational sessions.
- Posters that deal with unique practice settings or programs provide mentoring to students and professionals about employment opportunities.
- The poster displays your scholarly work and provides recognition of research efforts and experiences.
- Presenting gives you the opportunity to enhance your written & oral communication skills.
- The peer review process is a valuable tool for constructive learning.
- Presenting is a valuable addition to your curriculum vitae or resume.
- By participating in the poster session and attending ODA/WSDA Annual Meeting and Exhibition, you are afforded networking opportunities with other students and dietetic professionals at your poster session and throughout the meeting.

**What are the Requirements?**

The Call for Abstracts for the 2012 educational conference closes March 12, 2012. Abstracts on research and project or program reports will be presented on Monday, April 23rd between 11:15 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.

**ABSTRACTS**

An abstract is a brief, written summary (no more than 250 words) of the specific ideas or concepts to be presented, and a statement of their relevance to practice or research. The following two types of abstracts are presented:

- **Research abstracts** include a brief description of the author’s original research methodology, including design, subject characteristics and procedures, major findings, and conclusions or implications for dietetics practice.

- **Project or program report abstracts** contain information about the need or purpose for such a program, project, or tool development; the theory or previous research upon which it is based, or setting for its use, if appropriate; the unique characteristics of the project, program, or tool; the characteristics of subjects or target audience involved; and the type of evaluation or proposed use for the tool or instrument development.
REVIEW PROCESS AND RULES FOR SUBMISSION

All "blind" abstracts are peer-reviewed by a panel of three dietetics professionals with specific experience in appropriate practice areas. Reviewers may not score/evaluate any abstract with which they have affiliation, prior knowledge, or personal commitment.

BASIS FOR REVIEW

Abstracts are reviewed on the basis of the following criteria.

Research Abstracts

- Research Outcome: Focus, clarity, clear statement of purpose of research
- Methods: Adequacy of research design and analysis to meet objectives
- Results: Summary of data, results and evidence included and is consistent with research objectives, and
- Conclusions: Scientifically sound, valid interpretation of the results.

Program or Project Report Abstracts

- Relevance: Clear purpose stated, appropriateness, timeliness, audience intrigue
- Priority: Recognized precedent; cutting-edge concern
- Originality: Uniqueness of topic or format, and
- Synthesis: Evaluation of report results, findings or applications.

The Washington and Oregon Poster Committee will summarize peer review results and make all final abstract selection decisions. Only presenting authors receive correspondence. This correspondence includes a final status notification on or before March 23, 2012. It is the presenting author’s responsibility to notify all coauthors of the abstract status.

RULES FOR SUBMISSION

Read all the following information before accessing the abstract submission site:

- Complete and submit all required fields in the online form including the FUNDING SOURCE.
- Students submitting abstracts must provide the name, e-mail and phone number of their faculty advisor.
- Abstracts must be original material although they may have been previously published, printed or presented.
- Research results and/or conclusions must be completed at the time of submission.
- Proofread your abstract carefully. Do NOT rely on computer spellcheck software only. Any abstracts that have significant typographical or grammatical errors, particularly any in the title, may be disqualified.
- The learning need codes and type of abstract must be indicated. Please indicate the appropriate codes and type of abstract.
- Submissions must be made by 11:59 p.m. (Pacific) on March 12, 2012. NO e-mailed or faxed abstracts will be accepted. Abstracts that do not comply with these instructions will not be reviewed. Link to submit: http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/WMN92YP
For additional information on abstract writing and poster session displays, refer to the article "Getting Your Abstract Accepted," from the December 2001 *Journal of the American Dietetic Association* by Melinda Manore. (http://www.adajournal.org/article/S0002-8223(01)00339-X/fulltext)

Travel and expenses associated with the poster (along with convention registration) are the responsibility of the applicant.

**Presenting on the day of the Poster Session**

The poster sessions will be on display Monday, April 23 from 11:15 am to 1:30 pm and you will be asked to be in attendance with your poster from 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm. The meeting will be held at the Hilton Vancouver.

**References**

http://www.eatright.org/fnce-abstracts/