# OHBM 2027 Session/Activity Submission Overview

Which session type should I choose?

**Start here before opening the submission form.**

## Key Dates & Attendance

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| **Annual Meeting** | **June 26-30, 2027 \| Toronto, Canada** |
| **Submission deadline** | **Monday, December 14, 2026 at 11:59 p.m. EST, USA (no exceptions)** |
| **Attendance** | **All speakers must attend in person. Organizers must confirm participant availability before submitting.** |

## Choose the Appropriate Session Type

OHBM accepts four session categories. The clearest way to distinguish them is by the primary purpose of the session:

| Session Type | Educational Course | Symposium | Roundtable Discussion | SIG / Chapter / Committee Activity |
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| **Primary purpose** | TEACH | PRESENT | DISCUSS | ENGAGE |
| **Choose this if...** | Attendees should leave with new knowledge or skills they can apply. | Speakers will present current scientific research around one cohesive theme. | The session centers on exchanging perspectives, discussing a question or challenge, and audience/panel interaction. | The proposal is for an official OHBM-affiliated activity that does not fit the Educational Course, Symposium, or Roundtable Discussion formats. This includes mentoring, networking, outreach, community engagement, or other group activities. |
| **Typical structure** | Structured instruction with defined learning objectives and interactive or hands-on elements. | A series of complementary scientific presentations, usually followed by discussion. | Moderated discussion; may include short framing remarks or brief presentations, but discussion is the core of the session. | Format depends on the purpose of the OHBM group and the proposed activity. |
| **Do not choose this if...** | The proposal is mainly a set of research talks. | The primary goal is teaching a method or facilitating open discussion. | Most of the session is a traditional sequence of scientific talks with limited discussion. | The proposal is for an Educational Course, Symposium, or Roundtable Discussion. A SIG, Chapter, or Committee may submit under any of those categories when the proposed session fits that format. |

***Important: Choose the submission type based on the session, not the submitting group.***

OHBM SIGs, Chapters, and Committees may submit proposals for Educational Courses, Symposia, or Roundtable Discussions. If the proposed session fits one of those formats, it should be submitted under that category. The SIG / Chapter / Committee Activity category is intended for other types of official OHBM programming, such as mentoring, networking, outreach, community engagement, Open Science Room activities, Lunch with Mentors, SP-SIG First Day Morning Coffee, or ComCom's Comms Comps.

## Quick Decision Guide

- **Are you teaching attendees how to understand or apply something?** Choose an Educational Course.
- **Are you presenting scientific findings or advances around a focused theme?** Choose a Symposium.
- **Is the primary purpose discussion and exchange of perspectives?** Choose a Roundtable Discussion.
- **Is this an OHBM-affiliated activity that does not fit the Educational Course, Symposium, or Roundtable Discussion formats?** Choose a SIG / Chapter / Committee Activity.

## Eligibility & Participation Limits

OHBM's Program and Education Committees aim to include a broad range of voices, perspectives, and expertise across the Annual Meeting program. To maximize opportunities for participation and promote variety across sessions, the following limits apply:

- **Talairach and Keynote presenters:** Individuals selected as Talairach or Keynote presenters are not eligible to speak at or organize a Symposium or Roundtable Discussion. They may participate in Educational Courses and may serve as mentors. Participation as a moderator or mentor does not count toward the participation limits.
- **Proposal submission limits:** An individual may submit a maximum of one Educational Course proposal and one scientific program proposal—either a Symposium or a Roundtable Discussion. An individual may not submit both a Symposium proposal and a Roundtable Discussion proposal. The same or substantially similar content may not be proposed as both an Educational Course and a scientific program session.
- **Participation limits:** Speakers and organizers may participate in a maximum of one Educational Course and one Symposium, Roundtable Discussion, or SIG / Chapter / Committee Activity, even when the topics or content are different. Participation as a moderator or mentor does not count toward these limits.

**These limits help OHBM provide opportunities to a wider range of community members and ensure greater diversity of presenters, perspectives, topics, and expertise across the Annual Meeting program.**

## Read the Guidelines for Your Session Type

Once you have identified the appropriate category, use the corresponding detailed guideline document. Each document covers format expectations, what must be submitted, review criteria, attendance requirements, and other category-specific policies.

- Educational Courses
- Symposium
- Roundtable Discussion
- SIG / Chapter / Committee Activity

## Universal Expectations

- Organizers must confirm all proposed speakers and participants are available to attend in person before submitting.
- All speakers and participants must attend and participate onsite in Toronto.
- Accepted session content must remain consistent with the proposal that was reviewed and accepted.
- Proposals must consider speaker diversity across intersecting identities.
- Organizers should review registration/reimbursement policies with prospective participants before they agree to participate.

## Questions?

- For help using the submission form, visit the Oxford Abstracts Help Center.
- If you still have a technical issue, email support@conference-compass.com.
- For questions about the submission guidelines, content, or eligibility, contact the OHBM Executive Office at kjohnson@humanbrainmapping.org.