

Specific Session Type Instructions

Everyone may access their session by logging into the conference platform and navigating to their session in the agenda.

The following is a list of session specific instructions.

Interactive Paper Sessions

Interactive paper sessions are scheduled on Wed., Nov. 9, Thu., Nov. 10, and Fri., Nov. 11 between 10 a.m. Central Time and 3:45 p.m. Central Time. Check the [program schedule](#) for the scheduled time of your session. Navigate to your session 10 minutes early through the conference platform agenda to ensure you are logged in and ready to begin at the start of your session.

Interactive paper sessions will be conducted through Zoom Meetings and include 4-5 presentations. The purpose of this session is for a lively discussion and creation of new knowledge after the presentations.

Prior to the conference, you should have connected with the facilitator and other presenters in your session to decide whether you are pre-recording your session or presenting live. See the **Presenter Instructions 2020 NCFR Virtual Conference** for specifics on how to prepare for your presentation. Regardless of the presentation method, presenters are expected to be available for live Q&A and discussion during their [scheduled session](#).

Each presenter has 7 minutes to present and should focus primarily on key findings or observations, contributions, and methodological rigor. Stay within your allotted time. End your presentation on time to be considerate of the other presenters' times.

A maximum of 7 slides should be prepared in advance (i.e., one minute per slide). The first slide will be the title slide, and the last slide will list two questions for discussion at the end of the session. The remaining time used for questions, discussion, and creating new knowledge.

Set your slides to advance automatically so that your presentation ends in 7 minutes. Your oral remarks must coincide with your visual presentation. Practice and time your presentation.

Instructions for setting PowerPoint slides to advance automatically:

1. First, set up your desired slide transition effects for your presentation. [See this Microsoft Support webpage](#) for assistance with transitions in your version of PowerPoint.
2. Then, in the **Transitions** tab, find the **Timing** group of commands (to the right near the top)
3. Under **Advance Slide**, select the check box "**After**" (rather than "On Mouse Click"), and enter 60 seconds in the timing box.

Send a copy of your presentation and your biographical information to your session facilitator, moderator, or chair by Oct. 15. A reminder notice will be sent to you that lists the email addresses of the people to whom you are to send this information.

Submit your pre-recorded high-quality video (if pre-recording) and any optional handouts of your presentation to NCFR by **Oct. 23, 2020**. *Submission instructions coming soon.*

During the conference

- Be ready to present before the session begins.
- Access your session by logging into the conference platform and navigating to your session through the conference platform agenda.
- The facilitator of your session should already be logged into your session to welcome you before the session. A Zoom support person should also be present in your session.
- Please write your name within Zoom so others know your name. Click on 'participants'. When the dialog box opens, click on 'more' next to your name. Click rename and enter your name.
- Presenters will be allowed to share their screens to share their slides. This will be important for live presentations.
- Be enthusiastic during your live presentation.
- Avoid reading your paper, notes, or handouts. Refer to your notes or prepare an outline from which you present your presentation.
- Relax and enjoy yourself as you present your paper, and your audience will respond accordingly.
- Be calm and have a sense of humor, especially if technical difficulties arise.
- Facilitators (moderators or chairs) will moderate live questions during the session. See the **Presenter Instructions 2020 NCFR Virtual Conference** for additional information.
- All those participating in the session will have video and audio capabilities to be able to engage in lively discussion.
- All attendees should have their names visible.
- Live discussion will take place during your scheduled time through Zoom. Attendees may ask questions verbally by raising their hands or through the chat feature.

- Asynchronous discussion also can occur. Attendees may leave a question for you at any time during the conference week in the platform Q&A or chat features. We recommend that you check for questions often, as time permits.

Increasing Engagement

Interactive sessions allow for more engagement among participants and a more stimulating session. The following are suggestions to increase engagement.

- Using tools for polling, word clouds, quizzes, rankings, et. Mentimeter is one software that can be used. <https://www.youtube.com/user/Mentimeter>. Feel free to use the software with which you are most comfortable.
- Have everyone introduce themselves at the beginning of the session to increase engagement with one another. (Limit this to a total of no more than 3 minutes.)

Preparing Your Presentation

The following is an in-depth list of instructions to assist in preparing slide presentations. Shorter instructions were also found in the **Presenter Instructions 2020 NCFR Virtual Conference**.

Text

- Keep the title as short as possible so others can read it quickly.
- Use upper- and lower-case type throughout the poster. Avoid all upper-case type.
- Serif fonts (such as Times New Roman) are generally easier to read in the body of the text. Sans serif fonts (such as Arial or Calibri) are best used in titles, headings, and captions for emphasis.
- Use bold and bullets for emphasis.
- Font sizes should be at least 24-point for the body, 28-point for headers, and 32-point for titles.
- Keep it simple, clean, and concise. One item per line works best, so use key words rather than complete sentences. The optimum display on a slide is no more than 6 to 8 lines and 30 words per slide.
- Use only two levels of bullet points.
- Double space between each line of text.

Color

- Text should be printed on a contrasting background (dark text on a light background, or light text on a dark background).
- Avoid harsh colors, such as neon, and text/background color combinations that are hard to read (e.g., red and yellow, red and green, red and black, purple and green, yellow and green, or blue and red).
- Choose no more than two colors (in addition to either white or black) for the graphic elements of your poster (such as borders or horizontal rules) to emphasize elements and draw attention to your poster.

Tables and Charts

- Keep graphics as simple as possible. More complex data can be presented in a handout.
- Photographs should be used sparingly.
- Do not use hand drawn images.
- All images should be high-quality and look good on screen.

Accessible Presentations

Design your presentation with accessibility in mind.

- **Color and Contrast.** Colors should be sharp and in strong contrast without being unsettling. Limit the number of colors used on one slide. Do not only use color to distinguish information.
- **Text over images** can be difficult to read.
- **Send your material in advance**, if possible, in case NCFR staff need to provide alternative text (tagged PDF or braille) of your presentation.
- **Check Accessibility.** Assess whether your poster is accessible by clicking on Review and Check Accessibility (in PowerPoint). For instructions see <https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/office/improve-accessibility-with-the-accessibility-checker-a16f6de0-2f39-4a2b-8bd8-5ad801426c7f>

A Note About Providing Handouts at Your Session:

Handouts are recommended, but not required. Handouts or presentation slides can be posted alongside the information about your session.

Handouts can be an executive summary of your main points. Be sure to include implications or practical ideas for one or two areas of policy, practice, or education.

All handouts should be **accessible** and saved as a **PDF**.