NACC's 50th National Child Welfare Law Conference

NACC at 50: Honoring Progress. Confronting Challenges. Raising the Standard.

August 4-7,2027

Hyatt Regency Denver at Colorado Convention Center

Frequently Asked Questions

Will NACC host an in-person or virtual conference in 2027?
NACC will host the 50th National Child Welfare Conference in-person at the Hyatt Regency Denver at Colorado Convention Center from August 5-7 (pre-conference August 4). **There will NOT be an online conference this year**. However, our training department will offer robust online opportunities this Fall.

Who attends NACC's conference?
Most conference attendees are attorneys and judges who work in child welfare court systems. Many attendees have diverse practices which also include work in the juvenile and criminal legal systems. Attendees also include professionals with lived expertise and from other disciplines including medicine, policy, community advocacy, immigration, education, social services, homelessness, and civil rights, as well as law students and other child welfare stakeholders. NACC encourages submissions that will apply to attorneys who represent children, parents, agencies, and kinship caregivers, as well as judges and multidisciplinary professionals working in child welfare.

What is the deadline to submit an abstract?
Abstracts are due Friday, January 15, 2027; no late submissions will be considered.

How do I submit my abstract?
You must submit your abstract online using the abstract submission form. Abstract submissions received in any other format will not be considered. *Please note: you cannot save your progress when filling out the online submission form. You will need to enter all the required information at one time. Also, be mindful of character limits, as the form will not let you submit answers that are over the limit.*

How many presenters can I include in my abstract?
Abstracts may include a maximum of three presenters for each session. **However, only two conference presenters and presenters with lived expertise receive free conference registration.** All presenters must pay for their own travel and accommodations. NACC *may* consider requests to include additional presenters, but even if approved, **additional presenters must pay full conference registration**.

Does NACC cover any additional expenses for presenters (travel, accommodations, etc.)?
No, NACC only covers the costs of conference registration for presenters. Presenters must pay for their own travel and accommodations. NACC expects lead organizations submitting abstracts including persons with lived experience to cover the hotel and travel expenses of presenters with lived experience and compensate them for their time preparing and presenting at the conference. The

investment in and authentic engagement of persons with lived experience is a shared responsibility. NACC only covers these expenses for members of NACC's National Advisory Council on Children's Legal Representation.

How long will each conference session be?
Plenaries/keynotes are 75 minutes. Breakout sessions are 90 minutes. Pre-conference sessions and the Lunch & Learn session are 60-75 minutes.

Can I present remotely at the onsite conference?
No – all presenters for the onsite conference must commit to attending the Denver conference and presenting live on site. NACC will not broadcast onsite sessions live online. The only way to deliver or witness presentations from the onsite conference is to physically be in Denver.

What do I need to include in my abstract submission?

Presenter Information: for each presenter:

- Name
- Degree/Credentials
- Job title
- Organization
- State, Territory, or Jurisdiction
- Email address
- Lived expertise information
- Race/ethnicity information
- Sexual orientation and gender identity and expression information

Basic Session Information:

- **Title** (no more than 150 characters) (*note: all character counts include spaces*)
- Whether you would like to present **onsite in Denver; virtually; or either/both**
- Whether you are submitting a **plenary** (75 minutes), **breakout** (90 minutes), or Children's Law Office Convening **pre-conference session** (60-75 minutes)
- Main **topic/emphasis**
- Whether the session qualifies for **ethics CLE credit** (must include the Model Rules of Professional Conduct to be cited)

Detailed Session Information:

- **Description** (no more than 800 characters): this is the information that will be included in the conference brochure and advertisements; an attendee should be able to read your session description and understand the issues, areas, and topics the session will cover
- **Learning Objectives** (three, with a 200-character limit for each objective): these are the goals of your session; an attendee should be able to review your learning objectives and understand what they will learn from your session

- **Practical Takeaways** (three, with a 200-character limit for each takeaway): these are the practical tips your session will cover, that an attendee can incorporate into their daily practice
- Description of how the session with address **equity, inclusion, diversity, belonging, antiracism, or marginalized populations** (no more than 500 characters): this should include more than a recognition that disparity exists.
- Description of how the voices and recommendations of individuals with **lived expertise** will inform and be integrated into the session (no more than 500 characters): this may include in the development, preparation, or presentation of the session.
- Description of how your presentation will be **relevant to a national audience** and broad spectrum of conference attendees.
- **Interaction and shared learning** (no more than 350 characters): this is a description of the session's format and structure and how your presentation will create opportunities for engagement**.**

What presentation formats are acceptable?
NACC is open to all styles of presentation from traditional presentations to interactive/ collaborative sessions. We encourage diverse, unique, and engaging session formats that cater to various styles of adult learning. NACC encourages presenters to integrate interactive activities and group discussion into their session.

Can I submit multiple abstract proposals?
Yes, but you must complete a separate abstract submission form for each proposal.

What is expected after an abstract is selected?
NACC will select abstracts and inform lead presenters of NACC's decision around late April. If your proposal is selected, presenters will be required to:

- Fill out a short confirmation form within one week of your acceptance that will help NACC prepare its conference program and materials;
- Provide at least 10 pages of handouts/materials for your presentation (which must include at least one practical tip sheet) by the deadline given if selected for the Denver conference.

You may also be asked to provide specific information regarding ethics credits or other content questions. You will also receive additional information regarding materials and technology.

Who can I contact if I have additional questions about submitting a proposal?
Please feel free to contact Training@NACCchildlaw.org at any time throughout the process. Also check back to these FAQs periodically as we will add new questions to the list as needed.