



**SAN ANTONIO MILITARY  
HEALTH AND UNIVERSITIES  
RESEARCH FORUM**

# **SURF 2025 CALL FOR ABSTRACTS**

**Online Abstract Submission Deadline: Friday, March 21, 2025  
at 11:59 P.M. CST**

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## Overview

San Antonio Texas is a unique city, serving as a leader in government and civilian healthcare research through organizations including the San Antonio Military Health System (SAMHS), The University of Texas Health San Antonio (UTHSA), The University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA), Texas Biomedical Research Foundation and the Veterans Administration (VA). These institutions invite you to the eleventh annual SAMHS and Universities Research Forum (SURF), a conference that attracts presenters from around the nation to showcase the work of students, trainees, faculty, and staff. The forum will be hosted on June 16-17, 2025, at The Henry B Gonzalez Convention Center in downtown San Antonio.

This year's SURF conference will again be held in conjunction with the AIM Health R&D Summit bringing together **(A)**cademia, **(I)**ndustry, and **(M)**ilitary researchers. The AIM Health R&D Summit will be co-sponsored by SURF, Velocity Texas, the City of San Antonio, and Bexar County. This meeting will maintain the original mission of the SURF conference which was to advance research collaborations among academic, military, and industry partners to improve health outcomes and military readiness. Most importantly, with the 2-day expanded meeting format, everyone will be able to present and share scientific, clinical practice, and health policy research results; and connect not only with scholars and practitioners from the SAMHS, academic institutions, but now with other public, government, and private organizations, small business and industry partners.

The SURF Committee invites you to join the AIM Health R&D Summit, and present your research, results and perspectives across a spectrum of themes, from battlefield health and trauma to precision medicine and emerging technologies.

Submit your abstract by Friday March 21, 2025, and be a driving force for change. Let's redefine research, clinical practice, and healthcare, together.

## General Abstract Submission Guidelines

We invite abstracts that propose original research, policy, and practice interventions as podium and poster presentations. Submit abstracts through the [SURF 2025 Call for Abstract Submission Portal](#) by Friday, **March 21, 2025 at 11:59 P.M. CST.**

SURF registration is free. After submission of your abstracts, **participants must register** to attend SURF via the [AIM Health R&D Summit 2025 registration site](#).

### Themes

Research, practice, and policy interventions will be presented in paper and poster sessions, panel discussions, and symposia according to the themes below. Abstracts submitted in the “Other” category will be grouped by the abstract reviewers into panels of related papers or posters.

1. Aging/Healthy Aging
2. Clinical Investigations
3. Dental Research
4. Emergency Medicine
5. Emerging Technologies
6. Health Systems Research
7. Human Performance
8. Infectious Diseases
9. Mental Health/Sleep
10. Neuroscience
11. Nursing Research
12. Pain Research
13. Precision Medicine
14. Regenerative Medicine and Biomaterials
15. Space Sciences and Technology
16. Trauma Research
17. Traumatic Brain Injury
18. Wound Healing

### Abstract Types

There are two types of presentations for which we are soliciting abstracts: 1) Podium and 2) Poster. Please follow the instructions below to submit your abstract in response to your preferred presentation type. If you submit for consideration as a podium presenter but are not selected, you will automatically be considered for a poster presentation.

#### Podium Presentations

An abstract for consideration of a podium presentation should share the results of a quantitative, qualitative, or other analytical methods study. These studies are based on original data collection or secondary data analysis. Research paper abstracts should be mature both conceptually and methodologically, ideally with some preliminary data analysis.

## Poster Presentations

Poster presentations provide a forum for scholars to engage in active discussion with other event participants about a completed research project or about a project in developing stages. Poster presenters will have the opportunity to display their posters on large frames (provided) during a networking and poster session.

## Abstract Preparation Instructions

All podium and poster abstracts must be submitted online via the [SURF 2025 Call for Abstracts Submission Portal](#).

Abstract content:

1. Title (up to 225 characters).
2. Abstract (no more than 500 words) must contain the following sections: Background, Objective, Methods, Results, and Discussion/Conclusion.
3. Abstracts without results or case reports will not be accepted.
4. Do not include pictures or tables in the abstract.
5. All Air Force Investigators must submit a Form 3039 and a copy of their abstract to the Clinical Research Division (CRD) at [usaf.jbsa.59-mdw.mbx.wing-crd-publications-and-presentations@mail.mil](mailto:usaf.jbsa.59-mdw.mbx.wing-crd-publications-and-presentations@mail.mil) no later than 30 days before final clearance is required to present your materials. Form 3039 is located at: <http://static.e-publishing.af.mil/production/1/59mdw/form/59mdw3039/59mdw3039.pdf>.
6. Army and Navy investigators are similarly required to clear their presentation materials through their respective Public Affairs offices prior to presentation at AIM 2025.

## Online Abstract Submission Instructions

All podium and poster abstracts must be submitted online via the SURF 2025 Call for Abstracts [Submission Portal](#). On the submission page, you must provide:

- **Thematic area of abstract**
- **Author Information:** First and last name, email, organization (list department and institutional affiliations), and designate the corresponding author(s). Be certain to enter name, affiliations, and contact information (including email addresses) for all coauthors as well.
- **Title:** No more than 225 characters.
- **Abstract:** No more than 500 words. NOTE: Reviewers will not review abstracts greater than 500 words.
- **Keywords:** Include key phrases or key terms associated with your work.
- **Theme:** Designate the appropriate theme(s).
- **Submission Categories:** Indicate whether you are proposing a podium paper or poster presentation.

## Abstract Formatting Instructions (for PDF Document Files)

The uploaded PDF document file for paper (podium) and poster abstracts should be formatted as follows:

- **Title:** Arial font, 12-point, centered, boldface, and all caps.
- **Author(s):** Use Arial font, 12-point, centered, and boldfaced with presenter(s) name first. Provide first and last names, credentials, department, college/school (if applicable), and institutional affiliations (e.g., Jill Hernandez, Ph.D., Biomedical Engineering, College of Sciences, The University of Texas at San Antonio).
- **Abstract Body:** Arial font, 12-point, use 1" page margins on all sides. Indent the first line of each paragraph by half an inch. Use both left and right justification. Superscripts and subscripts sized at 9-point.
- Please include acknowledgements and funding support. NOTE: If this information limits the size of abstract body, please extend the text to an additional page.

## Abstract Submission Timeline

Tuesday, January 21, 2025	Online abstract submission opens
Friday, March 21, 2025, 11:59 pm CT	Deadline to submit abstracts
Monday, April 7, 2025	Abstract review notification
Monday, April 21, 2025	Deadline to accept/decline invitations to present
Monday & Tuesday, June 16-17, 2025	AIM-Health R&D Summit

## Evaluation Criteria for Abstracts

Each podium and poster abstract will be evaluated based on the criteria below. Each criterion will be scored from 0-5, with 5 being excellent. Each abstract must demonstrate:

- **Originality:** How original is the concept presented in this abstract? Or, how original is the new approach to an old problem?
- **Logic:** Are the ideas presented in this abstract well-reasoned?
- **Quality:** contains a clearly stated hypothesis or issue and contains a background, methods, results, and discussion/conclusions section. Free of significant grammatical errors.
- **Significance:** originality, impact on the understanding of the topic of study
- **Validity:** How valid is the research design for the stated objectives, and how appropriate are any statistical techniques applied? For abstracts describing research studies, please include enough information to understand the experimental design/approach followed.
- **Synergy:** Is there potential for significant collaboration in the research?

## **Additional SURF Information**

### **SURF 2025 Website Links**

[SURF Website](#)

[2025 SURF Call for Abstract Submission Portal](#)

[SURF Facebook Page](#)

### **Contact Information**

Have questions? Please email [surf@utsa.edu](mailto:surf@utsa.edu). Thank you.

### **Accommodations Notice**

The AIM Health R&D Summit team is committed to providing universal access to all of our events. Please contact the SURF Program Manager at [surf@utsa.edu](mailto:surf@utsa.edu) to request disability accommodations. Advance notice is necessary to arrange for some accessibility needs.