



Call for Proposals Guidelines

Completed proposals are to be submitted [here](#).

The deadline to submit a proposal is March 18, 2019 at 7:59 a.m. CST

For the first time in ACUA’s history, we have completely revamped the way we seek session topics, speakers and proposals for our conferences. Our attendees told us they wanted something different. The industry is changing and ACUA has risen to the occasion to meet the needs of our members and stakeholders. As such, you’ll notice we are seeking speakers that can present on specific hot topics and in the format we’ve outlined.

How Were Suggested Topics Determined?

We surveyed our attendees, non-members, and even colleagues who hadn’t attended our fall conference offering for a while. We also reviewed the feedback from previous sessions we’ve hosted to see how those could be changed or expanded. Last, we paid attention to what was happening in the industry and tried to identify topics that address trends. The list below represents a summary of the top rated topics.

Suggested Topics as Outlined by the Program Committee:

Subject Category	Example Topics
IA Leadership & Governance	IA Alignment with Strategic Plans, Effective Board Relationships, Leveraging Resources across Systems, Effective Co-Sourcing, Agile Auditing Techniques and Fluid Audit Plans
IA Core Competencies	Interviewing, Critical Thinking, Report Writing, Project Management Negotiating Skills, Organizational Culture, Conflict Management and Dealing with Difficult People, Building Consensus
IT, Information Security and Emerging Technologies	Cybersecurity, Vulnerability Management Programs, Protection of Personally Identifiable Information (PII), Translating IT for Non-IT Audience, IA Role in System Implementations, Access Controls, Top Higher Ed Risks, Data Loss Prevention, NIST Standards, Audit Approach, Security Awareness Programs, Internet of Things, Blockchain, Artificial Intelligence, Robotic Process Automation, Cloud Security/Privacy

Hot Topics in Compliance	Title IX, GDPR, GLBA, HIPAA, FERPA, Clery Act, Minors on Campus, Financial Aid, ADA, etc.
Hot Topics in Research	Compliance, Misconduct, Human/Animal Subjects, Uniform Guidance, Lab Safety, Export Controls, Data Use
Hot Topics in Athletics	NCAA, Non-NCAA Athletics Risks
Fraud	Hotline Management, Conducting Investigations, Case Studies, Interviewing Techniques, Red Flags
Conflicts of Interest or Commitment	Ethics, Audit Approaches, Case Studies: Fraud, Research, Trustees, Vendors/Procurement, Financial or Organizational Conflicts of Interest
Risk Management & Institutional Compliance	Top Higher Ed Risks & IA Role; Audit, Risk, & Compliance Integration; Advocating for ERM; Implementing an ERM Program
Data Analytics	Fraud, Payroll, Procurement/Accounts Payable, Sponsored Research, Financial Aid, Travel, Tuition and Fees, IT Access Security, Banner, Advanced Excel Skills, etc.
Roundtables	CAE, Small Shop, IT, ERM, Staff-Empowering Change, etc.

How Long Is Each Session?

We received feedback stating the 100-minute sessions were too long for some, but the 50-minute sessions weren't long enough. Therefore we have created a hybrid matrix to include some keynote addresses, some general sessions, some bonus sessions and a variety of session lengths ranging from 60-100 minutes. You'll be asked to request the length of your session. We will do our best to meet all requests but reserve the right to make changes as needed to accommodate our conference schedule.

How Will Speakers Be Selected?

Last year, ACUA posted a call for volunteers to serve on the AuditCon Program Committee. This group of dedicated volunteers range in their tenure and expertise in the industry and together form a well-qualified and cohesive review group which will review speaker submissions.

What If I Want To Propose a New Topic Not Outlined by the Committee?

While we consider the speaker submission process a collaborative one, the topics have been selected after careful consideration. Our members have asked for these topics and we're trying to deliver by pre-setting the topics our attendees need. However, we will consider both "tweaks" to the suggested topics, and other topics not on the list of suggestions, if space permits in the conference schedule.

Do You Have To Be An ACUA Member To Present?

While you do not have to be a member of ACUA to submit a proposal or to present, we are changing the way we select presenters, giving more weight to those that are ACUA members and actively employed in higher education internal audit. You are our experts! If you are a vendor or partner organization who wants to present, preference will be given to those who jointly present with an individual who works in higher education internal audit.

What Benefits Are Offered To Selected Speakers at AuditCon?

1. Connect and grow new relationships in higher education internal audit.
2. Grow and build your reputation as an industry subject-matter expert.
3. Increase your brand and visibility.
4. Receive a \$500 discount off full conference fees. (See below for more information.)

5. See yourself featured on the conference website, in conference materials, on ACUA's social media channels and on the event mobile app.
6. Earn extra CPE as a speaker under NASBA standards (up to three times the CPE credits earned by participants).

Tell me more about the speaker registration discount.

*If you are a single presenter and a member of ACUA, you will receive \$500 off the early bird member registration rate. If you submit your proposal with two presenters, each presenter who is an ACUA member will receive \$250 off the early bird registration rate. If you submit with more than two presenters, no discount is available for the 3rd, 4th or more presenters. If you are not an ACUA member, you will receive a complimentary one-day registration for the day of your presentation.

By submitting a proposal, you are agreeing to the following terms and conditions:

- *ACUA will provide a standard audio-visual set-up, prepared for speakers to plug in their laptops.*
- *Presenters are responsible for all expenses incurred in conjunction with the presentation, including registration, housing and travel. ACUA member speakers will receive a discount of \$500 off the member early bird registration rate (limited to \$500 discount per single presenter session or \$250 per person for a two-presenter session) when selected to present. Speakers that are not ACUA members will receive a one-day complimentary registration for the day of their presentation.*
- *Priority will be given to proposals that have at least one presenter from an ACUA member institution of higher education.*
- *Proposals should not be submitted unless each presenter is available to appear on any day of AuditCon.*
- *Presenters must complete an acceptance form in order to be confirmed for a session.*
- *Presenters must agree to adhere to our code of conduct; this includes no commercial bias on any particular topic, product, service, or company.*
- *Accepted presenters must use the approved AuditCon PowerPoint template.*
- *ACUA reserves the right to revise presentation titles or edit the session description of selected presentations for ACUA promotional and program publications.*