

## A Practical Guide for the AFHTO 2026 Power of Primary Care Summit

### *A guide for presenters submitting abstracts to the AFHTO Power of Primary Care Summit*

A strong Summit abstract clearly explains **what you are contributing, why it matters now, and how it advances the overall Summit conversation.**

Use the guidance below to strengthen your submission and improve your chances of selection.

#### Overview

The 2026 AFHTO Power of Primary Care Summit is not a traditional conference. The program is intentionally curated to guide participants through a shared storyline focused on **leading the attachment era together**. As a result, the strongest abstracts make it clear how the proposed session functions as a meaningful “chapter” in that story, rather than a stand-alone presentation. All submissions are reviewed through a peer review process, and selected presenters will work with the AFHTO team and Scientific Planning Committee to refine and align sessions as part of the final Summit design.

#### Writing for a Summit (Not a Traditional Conference)

Summit abstracts are expected to do more than describe an initiative or project. Strong submissions clearly articulate:

- What insight, learning, or perspective is being offered
- Why it matters in the current primary care context
- How it supports dialogue, reflection, or shared learning

Ask yourself:

- What will participants think about, do, or decide differently after this session?

#### What Strong Summit Submissions Have in Common

##### 1. Strategic Fit with the Summit and Alignment with the Studio

Strong submissions clearly demonstrate alignment with the Summit’s overall focus and one identified Summit Studio. Reviewers are looking for clear articulation of why this session belongs at this Summit.

Be explicit about:

- How your session advances learning, dialogue, or reflection for delegates
- Why the topic is timely and relevant in the current primary care context
- Which Summit Studio your session aligns with

Do not assume the connection is obvious, spell it out for the reviewers.

## **2. Transferability**

Strong abstracts show how ideas or lessons can be:

- Adapted by other primary care teams or organizations
- Useful across roles, models, or regions
- Relevant to system-level decision-making, not just local operations

Transferability does not require a “one-size-fits-all” solution, it requires clear articulation of lessons, principles, or questions others can apply.

## **3. Active Engagement and Shared Learning**

This Summit emphasizes dialogue, facilitation, and reflection. Reviewers are looking for clarity on:

- How participants will be engaged
- What they will be doing during the session
- How learning will be generated, debated, or synthesized

## **Turning Your Idea into a Clear, Compelling Submission**

### **1. Start with a Clear, Engaging Title**

Your title is the first thing reviewers and attendees will see.

Strong titles:

- Are concise and specific
- Signal the core issue, insight, or outcome
- Avoid vague language and unnecessary jargon

#### **Example:**

*Improving Access Through Team-Based Same-Day Scheduling in a Rural FHT*

### **2. Learning Objectives**

Learning objectives should clearly describe what participants will gain from the session. These should be concrete and action-oriented, not aspirational.

Strong learning objectives:

- Focus on participant outcomes (not what presenters will describe)
- Use action verbs (e.g., apply, examine, assess, redesign, reflect on)

- Reflect the interactive nature of a Summit session

### **3. Describe the Initiative, Experience, Reflection, or Idea Clearly**

In the body of your abstract:

- Briefly describe the context (team type, setting, population, system role)
- Explain what was done, tested, or explored
- Highlight why this matters now in the attachment era

Avoid:

- Long background sections
- Unexplained acronyms
- Broad assertions without grounding

Focus on why this “chapter” belongs in the Summit story.

### **4. Demonstrate Evidence, Results or Early Learning**

Strong submissions show evidence of value, even if the work is evolving. This can include:

- Data or performance indicators
- Evaluation findings or early results
- Organizational or system learning
- Lived experience (patients, caregivers, communities)
- Reflections on tensions, trade-offs, or shifts in thinking

If results are not finalized, clearly state this and describe:

- What you are seeing so far
- What has shifted in practice, thinking, or approach
- What outcomes you expect to explore or test next

Clarity matters more than polished outcomes.

### **5. Describe the Value for Delegates**

Reviewers are looking for a clear answer to: Why should summit participants attend this session? Be explicit about what delegates will leave with, such as:

- Practical skills or tools
- Frameworks, templates, or resources
- New ways of thinking about common challenges
- Transferable lessons applicable across teams or regions

If your session does not provide tangible tools or materials, indicate N/A and clearly describe the insight, perspective, or learning participants will gain.

Avoid general statements like “this session will be informative” without specifying how.

## **6. Program and Promotional Descriptions**

This description is written for attendees, not reviewers, and will be used in promotional and printed materials.

Effective program descriptions:

- Are plain-language and audience-focused
- Clearly state the topic, relevance, and format
- Avoid technical detail, methodology, or internal acronyms

Think of this as the invitation, not the full explanation.

### **Tips**

#### **Write for a Broad, Peer Review Audience**

Reviewers and participants come from diverse roles and regions. Use plain language and explain ideas so they are accessible beyond your local context.

#### **A Note on Draft Submissions**

It is not necessary to have all elements fully finalized prior to submission. Submissions may be modified before the deadline.

#### **Final Check Before Submitting**

Before submitting, check that your abstract:

- Aligns clearly with one Summit Studio and the Summit’s overall focus
- States clear, action-oriented learning objectives
- Describes the initiative, idea, or experience concisely and with context
- Includes evidence, results, or learning to date (early insights are acceptable)
- Explains the value for delegates, including skills, tools, or insights (or notes N/A)
- Indicates how participants will be actively engaged
- Uses plain, accessible language for a broad peer audience