

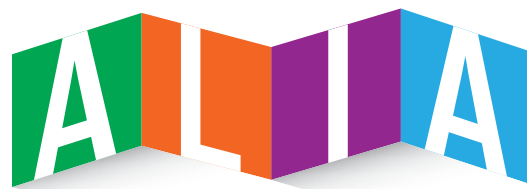
CALL FOR PROPOSALS

We invite you to submit a proposal for the ALIA National 2026 Conference - an opportunity to share your ideas, research, and experiences with peers across the library and information sector.

For 2026, we're stepping away from a set theme to allow for broader conversations and deeper exploration. This open approach encourages proposals across all areas of practice and interest, reflecting the rich diversity and evolving priorities of our profession.

Whether you're advancing digital inclusion, leading innovative programs, advocating for access, or reshaping services in your community, we want to hear how your work is making an impact. Proposals may focus on practical outcomes, provoke critical reflection, or offer fresh perspectives on the challenges and opportunities facing the sector today.

Help us build a program that showcases the strength, creativity, and shared purpose of the LIS community.



NATIONAL 2026 CONFERENCE

Monday 11 to Thursday 14 May 2026
Rosehill Gardens, Sydney, NSW



Submission guidelines

Proposal types

Attending a conference is about more than seeing papers presented. It's about connecting with your peers, participating in discussion, and being exposed to a myriad of ideas from within the sector and beyond. With this in mind, there are a broad variety of proposal types for the 2026 conference to encourage submissions that will allow you to actively engage in the conference experience. You are also welcome to submit ideas for a different session type.

You can submit a proposal for any of the following:

- **Presentations** on research studies, case studies, evaluations, or projects. Presentations may also be more exploratory, highlighting a key challenge, opportunity or possibility. Presentations will be 25 minutes in length including question time.
- **Lightning talks** that provide a very short overview of a project, showcase a technology or implementation, or highlight a key issue. Lightning talks are an ideal space to float ideas or gain speaking experience. Lightning talks will be 8 minutes in length.
- **Workshops** are intended to be "hands on" learning experiences generally focusing on a specific area or learning outcome. Workshops can be 90-minutes, half-day or full day.
- **Panels** on hot topics. Panel sessions bring together a variety of speakers on a single topic. Panels will be for no more than 55 minutes in length (including question time) with a recommended 3 - 4 panel members speaking to the topic.
- **Posters** on topics of interest to the sector, including research studies, case studies, evaluations, or projects. Posters may also be more exploratory, highlighting a key problem, opportunity, or possibility. Poster presenters will be provided with a board and an allocated set time during the conference where you will be able to display your poster and discuss with delegates. Posters should be A1 size.
- **Other** – have a great idea for another presentation type? Tell us your idea.

Workshops will be held on Monday 11 May 2026 and will be setup in classroom style. Please keep in mind that all session rooms will be set up in theatre style for the maximum capacity attendees.

Who can submit?



We invite proposals from anyone working in or connected to the library and information sector - essentially anyone with a passion and commitment to the important role that libraries play in our society.

What to submit



Submissions should include:

- an abstract (no more than 500 words)
- a biography for each presenter including an outline of relevant speaking experience and content expertise

Plus an overview of:

- how your presentation will be engaging to delegates
- what attendees will get out of your session

How to submit

Proposals should be submitted using the submission form:

form.jotform.com/251887747715877

Submission guidelines

Review

All proposals will be reviewed by the program committee, and all authors will be notified as to whether their application has been successful or unsuccessful.

Final decisions on acceptances, publication and presentation formats are the responsibility of the program committee.

The program committee reserves the right to ask applicants to make small adjustments to the shape of their presentations to support the needs of the program.

ALIA will not be requesting papers or offering peer review on papers for this conference.

Copyright Guidelines

All abstracts submitted must be original work and not previously presented in any form at other conferences (unless agreed to in writing by the conference organisers).

Authors/employers retain copyright in the submissions and presentations, subject to granting a perpetual, irrevocable, worldwide, royalty-free, non-exclusive Creative Commons attribution.

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By submitting your abstract, you acknowledge that all submissions (abstracts and presentations) may be published on ALIA websites, smartphone application and conference handbook. You also acknowledge and grant permission to have your presentation live web-streamed, video and or audio recorded and for those recordings to be published via the Australian Library and Information Association website.

Please note, accepted abstracts will be published on the conference website as per your original submission. Please ensure that your abstract has been proofread before submitting and does not include any personal or contact details that you do not wish to be published.

Need more information?

Enquiries regarding submissions can be directed to ALIA at events@alia.org.au.

Key Dates

<u>Call for proposals close</u>	<u>12 October 2025</u>
<u>Presenter notification</u>	<u>14 November 2025</u>
<u>Program published</u>	<u>19 November 2025</u>
<u>Conference registrations open</u>	<u>24 September 2025</u>
<u>ALIA National 2026 Conference</u>	<u>11 – 14 May 2026</u>

We are unable to offer financial assistance for presenters. All presenters must present in person. **All presenters will receive reduced registration fees to the full conference. We ask that you seek the support of your employer prior to submitting your proposal.**