

2026 TnAFCS State Conference *Back to Basics* Call for Proposals

TnAFCS State Conference Friday, June 5, 2026, 9:00-4:00
Carson Newman University: Jefferson City, Tennessee

TnAFCS announces the call for proposals for the following:

- Design Showcase or Poster Presentation
- Make and Take Workshop
- Oral Research Presentation
- Student Projects

For each submission, an abstract and completion of the application form must be submitted.

The abstract is to be submitted as part of the application AND sent to Lesley Williams at lesley.williams@pcsstn.com no later than March 25, 2026. **The application form can be found at:**

<https://forms.gle/izuBTbfFzmmXzMf19>

Be sure to follow the information for the specific submission and the abstract guidelines on the next page.

DESIGN SHOWCASE or POSTER PRESENTATIONS of PROGRAMS

TnAFCS members or teams with at least one person a TnAFCS member, are encouraged to submit a proposal for showcasing programs that exemplify their work. Applicants will be responsible for the materials for their display.

Include the following in a one-page abstract:

- (a) Purpose or objectives,
- (b) Target audience,
- (c) Description of program showcased,
- (d) Implications for further programming,
- (e) Importance to profession,
- (f) Relationship to conference theme (Back to Basics).

MAKE and TAKE WORKSHOP

TnAFCS members or teams with at least one person a TnAFCS member, are encouraged to submit a proposal for a 50-minute Make and Take Workshop. If accepted, presenters will be responsible for the materials used.

Include the following in a one-page abstract:

- Central focus and identification of discipline,
- Target audience,
- Description of workshop,
- Outline of content of workshop,
- Importance to profession,
- Explain the currency, progressiveness, and/or visionary nature of the workshop.

RESEARCH ABSTRACTS for POSTER or ORAL PRESENTATION

TnAFCS members or teams with at least one person a TnAFCS member, are encouraged to submit a proposal for a poster or 50-minute oral presentation of research.

Include the following in a one-page abstract:

- Rationale,
- Purpose, Importance of problem,
- Research design,
- Hypotheses,
- Statistical methods,
- Procedures,
- Results of statistical analyses or other empirical findings,
- Conclusions, and implications for research-based application to programming, theory building, or policy recommendations;
- Relationship to conference theme (Back to Basics).

STUDENT PROJECTS

An invitation is also extended to university students who are members of TnAFCS to submit individual or group exhibits, displays, design presentations, research projects, promotional designs, or teaching ideas. For student projects, follow abstract guidelines pertaining to the type of proposal submitted.

ABSTRACT GUIDELINES: The following guidelines must be met for all abstracts to undergo review:

1. Abstract must be original, and current (no more than 3 years old). Submit and send one original and one copy for blind peer review, i.e., omitting the author's name and affiliation. It is also acceptable to resubmit and/or revise research presented at AAFCS, NEAFCS or elsewhere if the author determines that the material will be new and valuable to Tennessee Family and Consumer Science professionals/students.
2. Abstract must conform to the following format restrictions:
 - a) It must be prepared in black with 1-inch margins. Do not draw a box to enclose the abstract. The abstract must not exceed one page in length. The author is encouraged to use the entire space provided. When preparing the abstract, use a 12-point Times Roman font.
 - b) The title of the research, showcase, or session, in capital letters and centered, should appear on the first line. Center the name of the author on the second line, followed by abbreviation for highest degree held; use an asterisk (*) to designate the presenter. The name(s) of the affiliation or institution(s) should be centered on the third line. No extra lines should appear between the title, author(s), or institution(s).
 - c) Leave the line below the name(s) of institution(s) blank. Begin each paragraph of the text by indenting five spaces. Single-space text, double spacing between paragraphs.
 - d) Special symbols, tables, and graphs may be included; please prepare them neatly in black and ensure that they fit within the margins.
 - e) The abstract must be free of errors and misspellings.
3. Proposal must be submitted via online form and abstracts e-mailed not later than March 25, 2026.
4. Abstracts will be peer-reviewed. (A team of three professionals will evaluate the submissions to determine each meets TnAFCS guidelines and is deserving of inclusion in the Conference.)
5. For proposals accepted, presenter(s) will be required to register for and present at the TnAFCS Conference on June 5, 2026. Note: if team project/research, all team members are encouraged but not required to be present.

For questions, please email Lesley Williams at lesley.williams@pcsstn.com or Melinda Swafford at melindaswafford5@gmail.com