



DIGITAL MEDIA AND DEVELOPING MINDS

INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC CONGRESS

 JULY 13-16 2025 | WASHINGTON★DC | #MediaAndMinds25 

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

Submission Deadline: December 1, 2025, 11:59 pm ET

Please submit abstracts in PDF format to congress@childrenandscreens.org.

[Sample Abstract](#)

Children and Screens: Institute of Digital Media and Child Development invites submissions for the 2025 *Digital Media and Developing Minds* International Scientific Congress, to be held July 13-16, 2025 in Washington, DC.

The Congress will bring together a diverse mix of global interdisciplinary experts -- researchers, clinicians, educators, government agency representatives, and others with expertise in psychology, psychiatry, neuroscience, pediatrics, communications, social work, public health, and education -- to explore how digital media use impacts the social, psychological, cognitive, behavioral, and physical development of children. Conference sessions will cover the latest empirical research and solutions, and feature interdisciplinary panel discussions, keynote presentations, new research symposia, poster sessions, networking opportunities, hands-on demonstrations, and a Tools and Methodologies Exposition.

Visit the [Congress website](#) for more information.

Questions?

E-mail : congress@childrenandscreens.org



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Submissions

Children and Screens invites submissions across all fields of study and topics concerning the relationships between digital media use/exposure and child development from birth through adolescence. Domains of interest include cognitive, psychological, social-emotional, and physical health and development, as well as impacts of uses across educational, social, and entertainment contexts. *(Abstract submissions are expected to represent new research findings. If you are an expert interested in speaking at the Congress but do not have new research to share, please email congress@childrenandscreens.org. Have a new tool or method you want to share with other attendees? Consider reserving a table in the Tools and Methodologies Exposition for more time and visibility. Email tools_expo@childrenandscreens.org for more information.)*

Presenting Roles

1. Poster Only
2. Poster and Flash Talk
3. Original Research Symposia Presenter

Poster Session

- There will be 2 poster sessions during the conference on the afternoons of Monday, July 14th and Tuesday, July 15th. Refreshments will be served during both sessions, free to attendees.
- Presenters are expected to remain with their poster for the duration of their scheduled session.
- A digital poster repository will be shared with conference attendees in advance of the Congress. Poster presenters will have the choice to opt-in to this repository with the submission of a digital poster file.
- Additional details regarding the poster session, including poster size requirements and digital submissions, will be provided upon poster acceptance.

“Brief and Brilliant” Flash Talks

- Up to 12 accepted poster abstracts will be given the opportunity to present flash talks during “Brief and Brilliant” sessions in advance of their poster session. “Brief and Brilliant” talks may be scheduled on Sunday, July 13th, Monday, July 14th, or Tuesday, July 15th, but each individual flash talk will always be scheduled ahead of its scheduled poster session.



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- “Brief and Brilliant” Flash Talks will be 3 minutes each, and will serve as an exciting preview of the poster presentation. Additional guidance for flash talks will be provided upon invitation.

Original Research Symposia

- Highly rated individual submissions will be considered for presentation during one of four Original Research Symposia. The symposia will feature cohesive clusters of research presentations aligned along either conceptual or methodological issues, and will draw exclusively from abstract submissions. (*Note: Submissions should include an individual presentation, not an entire symposium. Symposia will be constructed by the Congress organizers.*)
- Symposia will be scheduled for Monday, July 14th and Tuesday, July 15th. Each symposium will be 50 minutes in length and include up to 4 unique presentations. Additional guidance for presentations will be provided upon invitation.

Abstract Guidelines

- All proposals must be submitted in the form of a research abstract. If you don’t have new research to share but are interested in being considered for other speaking roles at the Congress, please email congress@childrenandscreens.org.
- Submissions must present sufficient data—coded and analyzed, even if not yet complete—to provide a basis for reviewer evaluation. Full data analysis should be completed before the conference to include the results and conclusion in the presentation.
- Abstracts should not include any graphics, tables, or figures.
- Formatting guidelines ([sample](#)):
 - Title should be typed out in standard title case (capitalize major words and words of more than 4 letters, while leaving minor words lowercase).
 - All authors should be listed out with first and last names, with the presenting author underlined.
 - Affiliations should be listed below the authors, using footnotes.
 - Abstract body text should be written in paragraph form according to the following sections, and should not exceed 450 words (not including section headers).
 - Background (including research question and hypothesis)
 - Methods
 - Results
 - Implications (optional)



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- Please be sure to indicate, below your abstract text:
 - Any funding or other conflicts of interest, including but not limited to, current employment, consulting fees, financial contributions or gifts, and any affiliated products or services that could produce a conflict.
 - A conflict of interest will *not* necessarily preclude acceptance.
 - Your preference for possible presenting roles. It is possible to indicate a general interest in all presenting roles.
- There is no limit to the number of non-presenting authors for a submission.
- There is no limit to the number of submissions a single presenting author can complete, but each abstract should be submitted as a separate PDF.
- All abstracts should be submitted as a PDF by email to congress@childrenandscreens.org by Sunday, December 1st at 11:59 pm ET. Submission emails should be sent by, or include via CC, the presenting/corresponding author. Notification of acceptance will be sent in January 2025.
- If selected, the presenting author will be expected to attend the 2025 Congress in-person.

Review Process and Criteria for All Submissions

Submissions will undergo a review process by an interdisciplinary review committee and be rated according to the following criteria:

- a. Clarity of formulation/conceptualization
- b. Adequacy of methods for stated goals
- c. Appropriateness of interpretations
- d. Importance of topic and alignment to Congress focus
- e. Novelty of research question, methods, or findings

Presentation and Abstract Publication

All selected abstracts will be presented in-person at the 2025 Congress. The 2025 Congress planning team will determine presentation time for all accepted submissions, based on the topic and relationship to other programming. Attendees are strongly encouraged to plan to participate in the entire duration of the Congress, to maximize impact.

All presenters will be required to submit a conflict of interest form if accepted, and disclosures may be published in the final program. Each presenting author is expected to disclose to the audience all potential conflict(s) of interest that may have a direct bearing on the presentation subject matter. This



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pertains to financial interest or other affiliation with any organization(s) that could be perceived as a real or apparent conflict relative to the subject matter. As stated above, conflicts of interest will *not* prohibit the inclusion or participation of any individual, but transparency is expected. Oral presenters are expected to disclose at the beginning of their presentations, and poster presenters should include disclosure information on their posted materials.

Additional guidelines for presentations will be provided to presenting authors of accepted abstracts at the time of notification.

Please direct any questions to congress@childrenandscreens.org.

2025 *Digital Media and Developing Minds* Congress Planning Committee

Dimitri Christakis, MD, MPH, Seattle Children's Hospital, JAMA Pediatrics, Children and Screens

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