2026 Abstract Guidelines and Instructions

Please read the following instructions on how to submit an abstract for the Australian Homelessness Conference 2026 (AHC26).

Your abstract submission is warmly welcomed and will be received as an expression of interest to speak at the conference and as providing information on what you may be able to speak about.

The conference program is carefully curated to ensure it is as engaging and relevant as possible, and to maximise opportunities for the sharing of ideas and perspectives.

Please note: Many speaking roles are offered as panellists rather than as speakers with a presentation, meaning you may be offered a speaking role that varies from your proposed presentation.

Abstracts will be evaluated considering the following:
- relevance and fit with the conference program

- originality of ideas

- relevance and usefulness to the homelessness sector audience and to addressing contemporary issues

- significance of results

- application of existing ideas in ways that provide new insights and progress

- usefulness to the audience, clarity and timeliness.

Abstracts that refer to policy or practice should relate to best practice, case studies or innovative developments relating to homelessness issues. We also welcome abstracts that focus on a program, project or pilot that didn't work, sharing the reasons why and what was learnt. This can inform other organisations who may be heading down a similar path.

We welcome and encourage people with lived experience of homelessness as presenters. If you are a person who has lived experience of homelessness or are including an accompanying speaker with lived experience in your submission, please ensure you have read our Terms and Conditions.

This year, AHC26 will include a dedicated research stream, allowing academics and researchers to present at the conference and hear from their peers working on homelessness research at universities and other research institutions across the country or internationally.

Important:
- Submitting an abstract does not register you as a conference delegate. If your submission is successful, you will be required to confirm your acceptance of the speaking opportunity and will then be provided a special speaker rate.

- All communication in relation to your abstract will be sent to the email address you include in your submission.
- Traditional presentation opportunities are limited, and many speaking roles will be as panellists. The speaking role you are offered may vary from your original submission.

Submitting an abstract

Abstracts are text only and no supporting documents will be accepted. Please read the instructions on the screen carefully and complete the fields in the submission form.

ABSTRACT FOCUS
If your abstract relates to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples or people with lived experience, please tick the appropriate box/es as this will assist with the review of your abstract.

RESEARCH STREAM
For the first time at the Australian Homelessness Conference, we have a dedicated research stream, and you are to tick this box if you would like your abstract to be considered in this stream.

We welcome abstracts on theory, methods, and critical perspectives. Please note that there are a limited number of slots available in the research stream, and the selection committee will ensure a balance of gender, early career / mature researchers.

TITLE
Enter a title for your abstract – maximum of 20 words. The title should be as brief as possible but long enough to indicate clearly the nature of your submission.

SPEAKER
Abstract submissions are for underlined individual presentations only (except where a speaker with lived experience is also included). Please provide the name and organisation the speaker is representing.

If your submission is accepted, you will be required to provide a short bio (no more than 100 words maximum) as well as a headshot that will be used on the conference website and portal/app.

SPEAKER WITH LIVED EXPERIENCE – if accompanying another speaker
If a speaker with lived experience is accompanying another speaker, please include their name and the organisation that will support them in this role.

Please ensure you have read our Terms and Conditions.

ABSTRACT
Please enter your abstract to a maximum of 250 words. References are not required. If you wish to include them, they must be included in the body of your 250-word maximum submission.

Please avoid using special symbols and formatting. Do not use tables or figures. Once your submission is complete, please read your submission in full to ensure the symbols are displayed correctly.

PRIOR PRESENTATION
If your abstract is being presented at another conference(s) before the Australian Homelessness Conference 2026, or if you are submitting it to other conferences and yet to receive confirmation, please advise when and where.

REVIEW
Check all information has been entered before submitting. You must accept the terms and conditions of the abstract submission process.

Draft Submissions

You can save an incomplete submission by clicking **Save** at the bottom of the screen and return to your submission at a later stage by copying the link that will appear on the screen.

If you lose the link, please email events@ahuri.edu.au to request the link to be sent, please do not start a new abstract.

Once you have reviewed your submission, click **Submit** to complete the process.

Submit additional abstracts

To submit additional abstracts, you can either click on the link on the submit completion page or go to this link. You can submit a maximum of five (5) abstracts from one organisation/person.

Withdraw an Abstract

If you wish to withdraw a submission, please contact AHURI in writing via email to events@ahuri.edu.au Withdrawals need to be communicated in writing by the person who originally submitted the abstract, and in doing so, AHURI assumes that the named presenter, if different to the authors has been informed of, and consents to the withdrawal. An exception is that the person who submitted the abstract has left the organisation, if this is the case, please advise in writing the name, email and contact number for the new person.

Important: Once a submission is withdrawn, it may not be reinstated.

Key dates

- Call for abstracts open   **Commencing 15 December 2025**

- Call for abstracts close   **Wednesday 11 February 2026**

- Authors will be notified of outcome via email   **Commencing 23 March 2026**

- Speaker acceptance deadline   **Thursday 9 April 2026**

- Speaker registration closes   **Sunday 19 April 2026**

- Speaker photo and bio submitted   **Friday 24 April 2026**
- Final date for registration payment   **Sunday 3 May 2026**

Review criteria

All abstracts will be subject to review by a panel of reviewers; the review panel may contact authors as part of the review process.

Author Notification

Submitting authors will receive email notification advising outcomes in late March 2026.

Upon receiving notification of acceptance and an invitation to present, authors are required to notify AHURI of their intent to participate in AHC26. If notification is not received by the specified date, the invitation may be withdrawn.

AHURI may allocate speakers into a range of session formats in accordance with the overall program objectives. This may include participation in a panel discussion, a presentation, or combination. The format of the session will be clearly communicated in advance of the conference, and a pre-briefing will be convened with any other co-presenters.

Further information

Please contact AHURI on 03 9660 2309 or email events@ahuri.edu.au