2026 START National Training Institute (SNTI)
Call for Proposals

Thank you for your interest in presenting at the 2026 Virtual SNTI.
All completed proposals are due Friday, November 7th at 6:00pm ET / 3:00pm PT

Proposals will be selected to ensure the 2026 SNTI features a **comprehensive**, **relevant**, and **diverse** program. Priority will be given to proposals that clearly describe innovative and creative work, and those that integrate the voices and perspectives of people with lived experience of IDD-MH. We believe collaborative knowledge-sharing builds capacity at the highest level.

Through presentations, discussions, and collaborative learning, we will explore innovative strategies, evidence-informed practices, and stories of transformation that demonstrate how our shared values are applied in real-world settings. Sessions are expected to demonstrate advanced expertise, foster innovation, and incorporate diverse perspectives while remaining grounded in START's guiding principles of collaboration, positive psychology, and person-centered practice.

Need help or have questions? Contact the SNTI Planning Team at: ncss.training.iod@unh.edu

General Submission Guidelines:
- All proposals must be received by the indicated deadline. Late submissions may be considered after timely submissions have been reviewed.
- Submit one proposal form per presentation team
- Group presentations will require the identification of a lead presenter who will be the primary recipient of SNTI communications
- **Content Level:** Applicants will be asked to specify the level of knowledge or experience attendees should have before joining their session
- **Engagement:** All proposals must describe planned interactive elements (e.g., demonstrations, vignette examples, role-play, participant activities, etc.). Consider how you will engage the virtual audience
- **Lived Experience:** Sessions that include the voice and perspective of people with lived experience and/or their families will receive priority consideration
- **Expertise Requirement:** Proposals must include a brief summary of the training, experience, and/or expertise that qualifies presenters to cover the proposed content

START Programs Only:
- START program proposals must be reviewed/approved by the team's Clinical and/or Program Director

Select the category that best describes you from the options below:

○ START Team Member - Actively serving on a START program.
Please provide the START program you are affiliated with.

_____

○ START Network Partner - Affiliated with the National Center for START Services or a local START program through committees, research, training, professional development, or other involvement

○ Another Category - I do not believe I have an affiliation with the National Center for START Services or a local START program

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If you indicated you are a START Team Member - Actively serving on a START program.
Please provide the START program you are affiliated with.

START Program submissions: Please check the box below for confirmation.

○ I confirm this proposal has been reviewed and approved for submission by my Clinical Director and/or Program Director. This confirmation includes an acknowledgement that if selected, presenters will be responsible for SNTI registration at the START team member rate. (1)

If you indicated you are a START Network Partner - Affiliated with the National Center for START Services or a local START program through committees, research, training, professional development, or other involvement:

Please briefly describe your START Network affiliation

_____

_____

_____

If you indicated you are a Another Category - I do not believe I have an affiliation with the National Center for START Services or a local START program:

You selected "Another Category." How did you hear about this event?

_____

_____

_____

Your First Name:

_____

Your Last Name:

_____

Your E-mail address:

_____

Do you plan to have co-presenter(s)?

○ Yes

○ No

If you indicated you plan to have co-presenter(s):

Please provide the following information for each of your co-presenter(s):
1. First and Last Name
2. Title
3. Affiliation (START Program Member, START Network Member, etc.)
4. E-mail Address

_____

_____

_____

Please Note: The text entered in the following sections will be printed on the SNTI website exactly as it is entered in this form. Please proofread accordingly.

Identify the applicable level of knowledge or experience for your session content, based on APA programming level guidelines.

○ **Introductory**: Ideal for learners who may have little to no background in a specialized skill or content area. The learner can become acquainted with the theoretical underpinnings, principles, methods, and perspectives of a content area. Although it can be used as a foundation for more advanced learning, a program may simply focus on breadth, enrichment or general knowledge. (1)

○ **Intermediate**: Builds upon the learner's foundational knowledge, familiarity with the literature and/or experience in a content area. Programming at this level includes more depth than at a beginning level program. It could also serve as a refresher course for individuals who have a background in a content area and are interested in learning more contemporary applications. (2)

○ **Advanced**: Builds upon established experience, knowledge and skills in the content area. This may include more diverse applications to specific populations or a novel application of the skill presented. Advanced level programming tends to be more specialized in nature, and allows the learner to integrate and enhance knowledge and skills into practice or other professional domains. (3)

Session/Presentation Title (20 word maximum)

_____

_____

_____

Provide 3 learning objectives (see APA Behavioral Objectives guidelines) for your proposed presentation. Drag each into the respective box.

Place Learning Objective #1 here:	Place Learning Objective #2 here:	Place Learning Objective #3 here:
_____ Learning Objective #1	_____ Learning Objective #2	_____ Learning Objective #3

Session/Presentation Description (100 word maximum)

_____

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Provide 3 full Session/Presentation References.
Please note: *These will be considered your "primary resources" but are not the only sources you can/will utilize to develop your presentation.*

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Are there any additional considerations the review committee should be aware of?

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_____

University of New Hampshire

Below is some information on next steps, and the proposal review process. This information can also be found on the SNTI Proposal FAQ.

By Friday, November 21, 2025, presenters will receive an email with their proposal status. The lead presenter for group presentation submissions is responsible for notifying their co-presenters.

By Friday December 12th, 2025, accepted proposals must confirm their intent to present. Details will be provided in subsequent communication.

Proposal status notifications include:
1. **Accepted** – The proposal is approved as submitted.
2. **Accepted with Feedback** – The proposal is approved with input provided to help refine or adapt the session.
3. Not Accepted at This Time – The proposal is not moving forward this year, though we encourage resubmission in the future.

**If Accepted, each presenter will be asked to provide their current CV or resume, in compliance with our continuing education (CE) application requirements.

If accepted, the presenter will be connected to an NCSS content coach. Your NCSS Content Coach will:
- Honor your subject matter expertise
- Offer feedback & insight based on NCSS/SNTI training standards
- Provide timely reminders as submission deadlines draw near
- Serve as a resource for any questions that arise

The NCSS Content Coach is not a co-presenter.

End of Survey

Thank you for completing the 2026 SNTI Call for Proposals Form. We look forward to reviewing your proposal, and will be in touch according to the timeline above.

Should you have any questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to reach out. Our SNTI Planning Team can be reached at: ncss.training.iod@unh.edu