

Brief Guidelines for Preparing a Scientific Poster

Overview

- A scientific poster is an opportunity to highlight the most important ideas you studied and your most interesting results. You typically don't have time to explain everything, so you need to prioritize what to include.
- You typically will be standing at your poster during a poster session, so people interested in your study can ask you questions about your research – this is an opportunity to elaborate or explain aspects of your study that you were unable to include on your poster.
- It's very helpful to draft and edit all of your text in MS Word (or Google Docs, or something similar) BEFORE you paste it into your poster. Formatting of posters gets finicky; the less adjusting of words you need to do as your finalizing your poster, the better!
- See [this template](#) to get started (clicking the link should download the template to your computer). The word limits for each section are guidelines to shoot for, but every poster is different. You may also find other templates online.
- Allow plenty of time to edit and finalize your poster – making sure it is error free and that the layout is pleasing is a lot of work, but will pay off and make your poster look professional.
- You will find that you need to zoom in and out a lot while working with your file – be patient and allow plenty of time!
- Good luck!

[Link Back to Part IV. Share— write up or present your findings](#)