MEA
Midwest Economics Association

Abstract Submission Guidelines

To submit a paper for consideration at the 2026 MEA Annual Meetings, complete the Abstract Submission Form on the MEA website. There are separate forms for Graduate Students and Professionals. **Members may submit and present more than one paper if the second submission is substantially different from the first.** There is a different form for a second submission. There is a separate submission process for undergraduates. Please see the footnote below for more information about undergraduate submissions.

MEA membership is required for abstract submissions. To successfully submit your abstract, you must pay a fee that combines the abstract submission fee ($35 for graduate students; $40 for professionals) and the annual MEA membership fee ($30 for graduate students; $40 for professionals). If selected for the conference program, you will also be required to pay a Conference Registration Fee. (A schedule of fees is provided on the Forms and Guidelines page.)

The paper abstract should be limited to one page. **Include your name and the title of your paper on your abstract.** The Abstract Submission Form requests that you upload a copy of your abstract as a PDF file. Use the following format to name your file: "lastname-firstname-abstract.pdf" (e.g., "Smith-John-abstract).

Include the following information on your abstract:

1. Your name & affiliation(s)
2. Title of the research paper
3. Co-author's name(s) & affiliation(s)
4. Two (2) Journal of Economic Literature (JEL) subject classification codes in which the work can be classified.

The text should include:

1. A statement of your research questions and main findings
2. Any or all the following, where appropriate:
   - Indication of your paper's economic model or new method with references to prior work (author, year of publication) on which you build
   - Research strategies used to evaluate your model prediction's congruence with the real world (e.g., estimation, stimulation, experimental evidence)
   - Any improvements of the proposed method over existing methods
   - Research resources and data sources critical to your project's completion
   - Project limitations and areas for further work

Undergraduate Participation

The MEA conference offers special sessions for presentations by undergraduate students. If an undergraduate student has independent research they would like to share, see the MEA website for the Undergraduate Proposal Guidelines. The deadline for undergraduate proposals is December 1, 2025.

Joint or co-authored papers between a faculty member and an undergraduate student are not eligible for consideration in the undergraduate paper sessions. Joint work should be submitted to the regular general pool. If selected for the program, please note that the work must be presented by the faculty member. The undergraduate may share in the presentation, but it is required that the faculty member serve as the primary presenter.