PWX Education Session Formats

Please review the options below for the type and length of format you may select. APWA offers seven different formats to ensure dynamic education sessions.

1. Education Session: (50 or 75 minutes)

50 or 75 minute education sessions may be delivered by a single speaker or a panel consisting of 2-3 speakers. The content includes best practices, how to's, case studies, insightful stories, emerging trends and technologies, new perspectives, etc.

2. Innovation Trends Presentations: (20 minutes each presenter)

Innovation Trends presentations will be done in the manner of Ted Talks. We'll set aside a room where a series of speakers will share information about innovative solutions, technologies, and trends. Each speaker will get no more than 20 minutes, then you must move along for the next speaker to set up. We'll allow you to use slides, but keep them at a minimum and don't rely on slides to tell your story.

3. Jam Session: (50 minutes)

APWA's version of the Jam session format begins with a facilitated discussion where you first set the stage by posing questions to get the audience thinking about key concepts. Then like jazz, you let the discussion go off on the tangents that audience members want to explore. Depending on the size of the audience, you can keep the whole group together or if it is a large group, you can break participants into smaller groups that can follow the tangents into whichever direction the conversation leads. You will be asked on the Call for Presentations form to indicate what topic you'd like to pursue and provide a brief description of why that topic is suitable for a jam session.

4. Lightning Round: (75 minutes - three 20-minute presentations, 15 minutes for Q&A.)

APWA's version of Lightning Round format consists of three-20 minute presentations scheduled within a 75 minute timeframe. The remaining 15 minutes may be devoted to audience Q&A. You will be asked on the Call for Presentations form to indicate if (1) you intend to plan the whole Lightning Round yourself including finding the 3 speakers or (2) you are willing to allow your presentation to be assigned as a 20 minute presentation within a Lightning Round even though you do not know the other speakers by choosing the
"Adaptable Session Type"

5. Thought Leader Presentations: (20 minutes each presenter)

Thought Leader presentations will be done in the manner of Ted Talks. We'll set aside a room where a series of speakers will share an inspiring story or an insight into emerging trends, or a leadership perspective. Each speaker will get no more than 20 minutes, then you must move along for the next speaker to set up. We'll allow you to use slides, but keep them at a minimum and don't rely on slides to tell your story.

6. Workshop: (120 minutes)

The workshop format is for topics that need a deeper dive than a shorter timeframe can provide. They usually delve into a particular concept or teach a specific skill. They may include demos or provide exercises so participants may practice what they are learning. Workshops are usually approximate 2 hours (120 minutes) in length, depending of the timeframes available during the overall conference.