FROM STATE RECOGNITION TO NATIONAL SUCCESS

Showcase Your Impact

2026 KACAA Poster Session Guide

Kentucky Association of County Agricultural Agents (KACAA)

Why You Should Enter

Get Noticed

Showcase your research or extension education work to peers.

Win Prizes

Compete for **cash prizes** at the state level.

Advance

First-place winners in each category advance to the NACAA National Meeting

The Road to Nationals

Choose Your Competition Track

Applied Research

Requirement: Must include specific research data.
Focus: The investigation and outcomes.

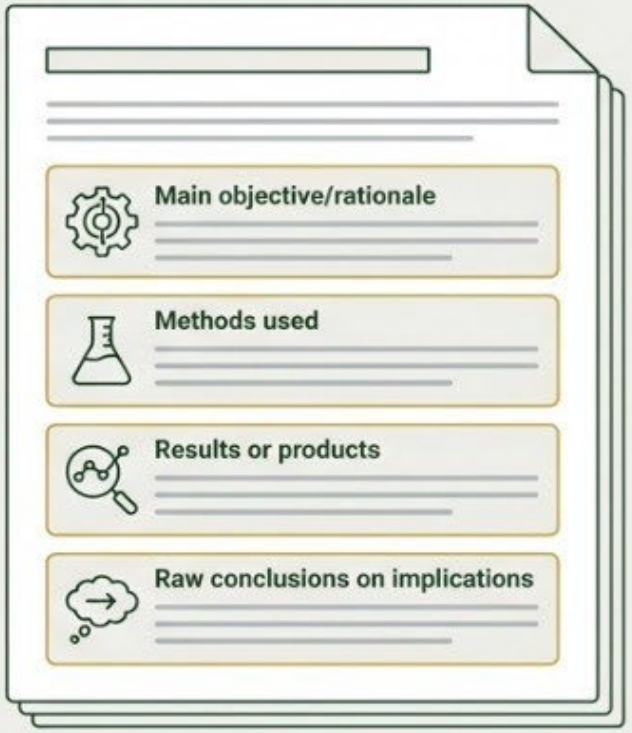
Extension Education

Requirement: Must show program impact.
Focus: Educational needs and goals.

Note: Members can be principal/senior author on only ONE poster per category.

The Entry Ticket: Abstract Requirements

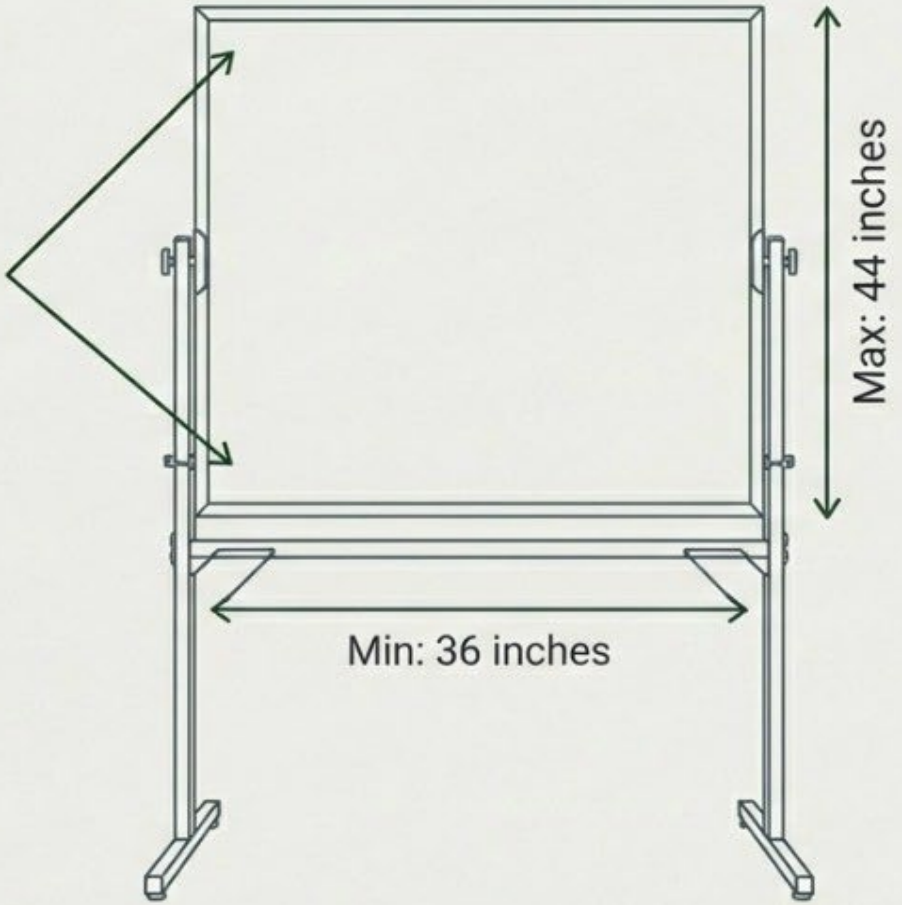
* Length: 150 – 350 words.
- Format: No all-caps. Scientific names (botanical) must be italicized.
- Structure:
  1. Main objective/rationale
  2. Methods used
  3. Results or products
  4. Raw conclusions on implications



Warning: Abstracts are reviewed for conformity; non-compliant entries will not be accepted.

The Canvas: Physical Specifications

Mounting: Pushpins required. Author must provide 10–12 pins.



Note

Do not prepare as a manuscript. Use tables and figures; limit verbiage.

Typography & Readability Stats

60 Point Font ← Minimum for TITLE (Sans Serif: Arial, Calibri)

48 Point Font

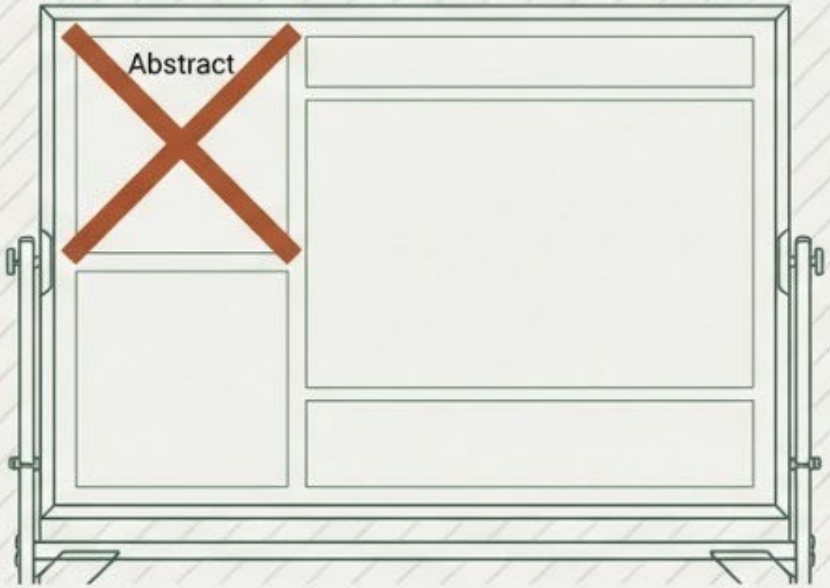
24 Point Font

} Range for BODY TEXT & ILLUSTRATIONS

Rule of Thumb:

No more than two different typefaces. Ensure they are easy to read.

CRITICAL RULE CHANGE



The abstract is NO LONGER included on the physical poster display.

The abstract is for application and publication only. Do not print it on your board.

What Replaces the Abstract?

Include a Hypothesis

Describe/illustrate the reason behind the investigation and expected outcomes.

Applied Research

Extension Education

Include a Need/Goal Statement

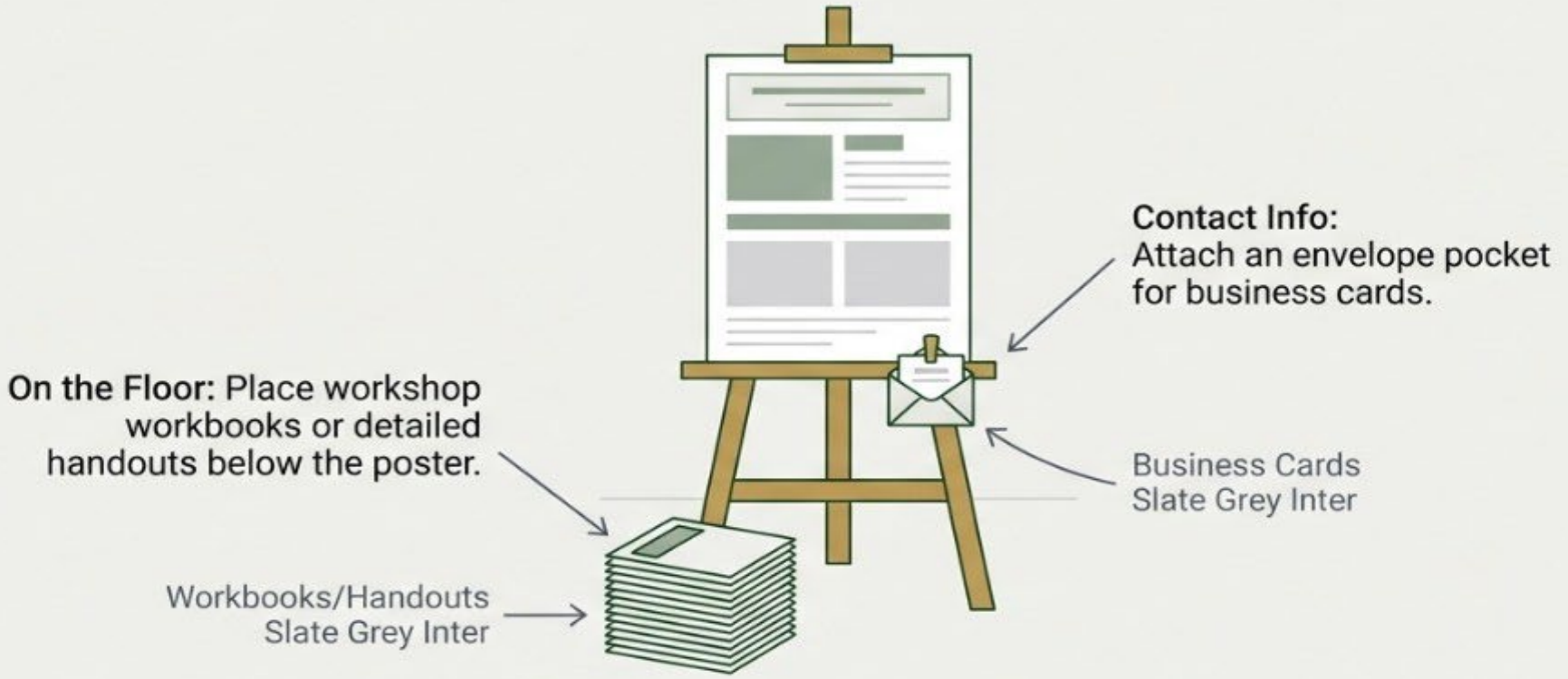
Describe/illustrate the reason for the program and desired impacts.

Header & Layout Requirements

Placement:
Must appear at the very top.

Style:
Simple sans serif typeface.

Handling Supplemental Materials



"Details can be shared on a handout. Successful posters do not crowd the information."

How You Will Be Judged

1

The 10-Second Rule

Initial impression is key. Message must be simple and clear.

2

The 3-Foot Rule

Text and figures must be legible from three feet away.

3

Center of Interest

Is there a clear focal point to introduce the message?

4

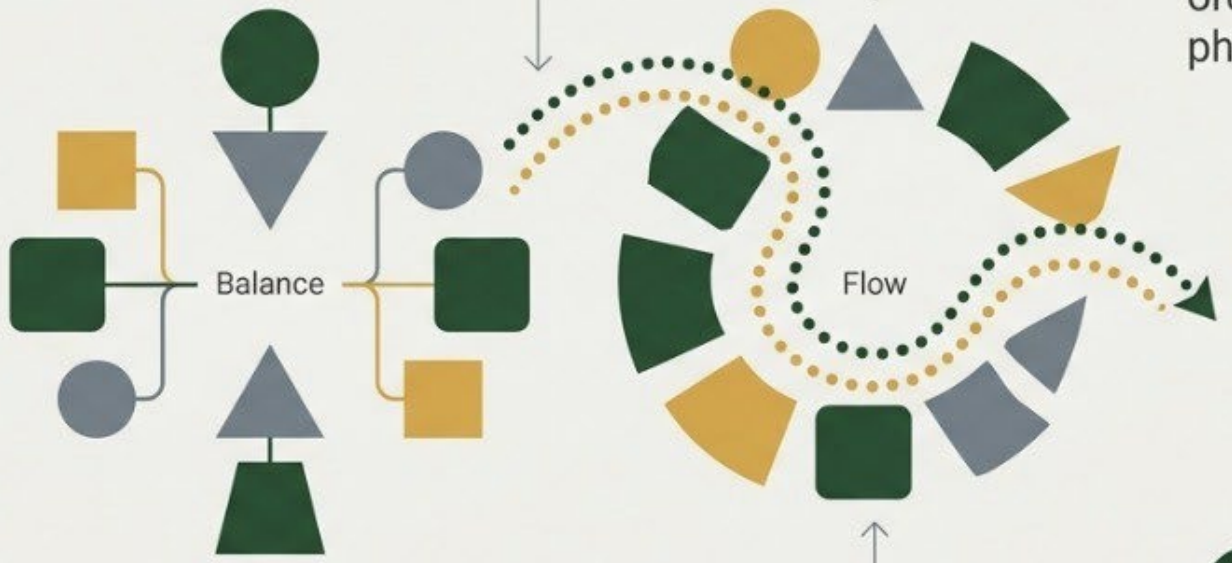
Retention

Can the viewer retain 1 to 3 main themes?

Visual Strategy for High Scores

Flow: Use contrasting colors to lead the viewer's eye.

Balance: Logical order with figures and photos integrated.



Media: Use photographs, illustrations, charts, or graphs.

Attraction: Does the poster visually attract the reader?

Avoid Disqualification

Double Dipping

Lead authors submitting more than one poster in the SAME category will have all posters disqualified.

Recycling

No poster or abstract presented at any previous NACAA AM/PIC is allowed.

Abstract Errors

Rejection by the Professional Excellence Committee based on title/abstract evaluation is final.

Poster Guidelines & Scorecard

https://www.nacaa.com/guidelines

Questions?

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