

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

Illinois Chapter of the American College of Surgeons Founders' Competition

at the

7th Annual Illinois Surgical Conference
April 10-11, 2026

The Illinois Chapter of the ACS is now accepting abstracts from residents of training programs throughout Illinois for consideration of presentation at the 7th Annual Illinois Surgical Conference. This meeting is a joint meeting with the Illinois Chapter of the ACS, the Metropolitan Chicago Chapter of the ACS, the Illinois Surgical Society and the Chicago Surgical Society. The meeting will be held on April 10th and 11th, 2026. The Founders' Competition for resident research will occur **Saturday April 11th at the Union League Club**. Podium presentations will be 5-7 minutes long and will be allotted an additional 2-3 minutes for questions. Presentations will be evaluated by conference attendees based on: Originality, Importance of Topic, Project Design, Data/Results, Analysis & Conclusion, and Presentation/Response to Questions. Some submissions will be accepted for poster presentations.

Residents of all surgical specialties are invited to present scientific papers. Trainees in a fellowship program and medical students are not candidates for this competition. Presentations must be made by a participating resident. Conference attendance will be free for the presenting resident.

A committee will review submitted abstracts and choose those that will be presented at the Founders' Competition. Abstract submission guidelines are included below. Accepted presenters will be required to submit their presentation slides in advance and be available during the meeting session to questions.

Abstract Submission guidelines:

- Do not reference Authors or Institution Names on the Abstract page to assure anonymity in the selection process. Please submit a Title page listing all authors as a separate document.
- Submit the Abstract as a PDF
- Limit of 250 words and one page, do not include tables or figures
- Abstracts should include the Title (in all caps) and the following subheadings (in Bold): Introduction, Methods, Results, Conclusions

Abstracts for the Resident Competition may be sent to Maria Tsoraides at acsilchapter@gmail.com. We can only accept one abstract per resident, so residents should choose their strongest abstract to send to us. We cannot accept case presentations of one patient. The deadline for submission of abstracts is **February 15th 2026**.

Cash prizes will be awarded for best presentations in the Founders' Competition. Awards will be announced before the close of the meeting.

