

**Call for Abstracts for the 21st Annual Duke Center for AIDS Research
(CFAR) Research and Engagement Summit**

*We are excited to share that the Fall Scientific Retreat has a new name: the **Duke CFAR Research & Engagement Summit**. This change reflects our broader goals: to foster interdisciplinary connections, strengthen community engagement, and highlight the innovative, evidence-based research driven by our investigators and supported by the Duke CFAR. While the Summit will continue to highlight rigorous scientific work, we are shifting away from highly technical, discipline-specific presentations. Instead, the focus will be on clear, compelling communication that invites collaboration and dialogue across disciplines and communities working to advance HIV research.*

SUMMIT DATE: Thursday, September 18, 2025; 8:30AM – 4:00PM

ABSTRACT DEADLINE: Monday, August 18, 2025

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION LINK: <https://tinyurl.com/2025Abstract-Upload>

This year, we are excited to pilot a new approach in place of the traditional poster session.

In response to Duke's call for increased fiscal responsibility and practicing different ways of communicating our work, we will be shifting to a **"Flash Talk" format** in lieu of posters.

Flash Talks

Submitted abstracts will be judged competitively. The 15 highest scoring abstracts will be selected to give an in-person, 5-minute Flash Talk at the Summit highlighting their key findings and public health relevance. Support will be provided to help presenters craft a clear takeaway message tailored for a general audience. In addition, all presenters will be asked to prepare a one-page visual research summary geared toward a general audience.

One-Page Research Summaries

Individuals who are not selected for a Flash Talk will be invited to submit a one-page research summary to be published in the event program. Guidance and consultations will be available to help with design and content of these one-page visual summaries, to be written in plain language and designed for a general audience.

Visit the [Fall Summit Resources Page](#) for tips on science communication, guidance on developing a one-pagers, and to schedule a free consultation.

Who can submit an abstract?

All Duke pre- and post-doctoral trainees, and junior faculty conducting research related to HIV/AIDS, or to any human pathogen where the methods, concepts or findings provide novel insights for AIDS-related research, are encouraged to submit an abstract for a research presentation at the CFAR Research and Engagement Summit.

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This is an opportunity to share your research design, progress, and new insights with others in the Duke University community and community members from the CFAR's D3C ([Duke Collaborative Community Council](#)). Final results are not required, and 'works in progress' are welcome.

Submission guidelines

- Abstracts should use the following format: *Background, Methods, Results, Impact, and Conclusion. The abstract with authors' information must fit on one page.*
- Include a 1-2 sentence, plain language take-home message.
- Follow best practices for non-stigmatizing language (see the [CFAR website](#) for guidance)

(See a [copy of the submission form](#))

➤ Best Flash Talk will be awarded in the following HIV/AIDS research categories:

1. Clinical
2. Basic/Translational
3. Social/Behavioral
4. Quantitative
5. Innovations from other fields (*work not directly on HIV but the findings or methods will uniquely advance the HIV field*)

Winners will be announced at the close of the Summit, in the CFAR newsletter, and will earn a permanent spot on the CFAR Website!

Deadlines:

August 18, 2025	Abstracts due at this link: https://tinyurl.com/2025Abstract-Upload <i>You will receive an email confirmation that your file was uploaded successfully.</i>
August 25, 2025	Abstracts selected for Flash Talks will be communicated
September 15, 2025	PDF versions of One-Page Research Summaries due

See the [Duke CFAR Website](#) for more and updated information.

Questions? Contact Kelly Suñé at kelly.sune@duke.edu