

An aerial photograph of the Atlanta skyline at sunset. The sky is a mix of orange, pink, and purple. The city lights are beginning to glow, and the traffic on the highways is visible as a stream of red and white lights. The Georgia State Capitol building is prominent on the left side of the image.

American Probation and Parole Association

www.appa-net.org

2026 Winter Training Institute

Atlanta, GA

In-person: Mar 1-4, 2026 Virtual: Feb 24 - Mar 24, 2026

CALL FOR PRESENTERS

Atlanta

American Probation and Parole Association
2026 Winter Training Institute, March 1 - 4

CALL FOR PRESENTERS

APPA SEEKS SUBMISSIONS FOR:

4-hour Intensive Sessions
60-minute Workshop Sessions
90-minute Workshop Sessions
Virtual Workshop Sessions – 60 or 90 minutes

APPA is pleased to issue a **Call for Presenters**
for our **hybrid 2026 Winter Training Institute!**

We will gather in Atlanta, Georgia from March 1 – 4, 2026, for the in-person event, while the Virtual Training Institute will run from February 24 – March 24, 2026.

APPA's Training Institutes provide practical, high-quality learning experiences designed to help professionals in community corrections build skills and advance their careers.

We're looking for session proposals that are engaging, grounded in evidence, and aimed at improving everyday practice. Strong proposals will include clear learning objectives (ideally using action verbs from Bloom's Taxonomy or S.M.A.R.T. goals), interactive elements, hands-on activities, and content that focuses on real-world skills. We're especially interested in sessions that bring in new research or fresh insights relevant to the field.

Our audience includes a broad mix of professionals—working in pretrial, probation, parole, reentry, treatment and program services, the courts, education, and criminal justice research—so content that speaks to diverse roles is encouraged.

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Important Information for Presenters:

- Presenters are responsible for bringing their own laptops and any necessary materials, such as handouts or USBs. Please note that APPA does not provide on-site printing services.
- Regrettably, APPA is unable to reimburse presenters for expenses associated with participation. This includes travel, lodging, meals, parking, and other incidental costs.
- As part of a recent policy change, APPA now requires a one-day faculty registration fee of \$265 for all presenters, even if they are attending only for their scheduled session. This change supports our work as a nonprofit organization committed to offering high-quality training and resources for the field.

APPA is excited to provide this platform for quality practitioners who are focused on improving core competencies, understanding what works in the field, embracing education and training, and continually developing skills. All are essential to the success of this crucial work, and it all rests firmly on the belief that this profession has a significant impact on public safety. We look forward to creating safer communities together with you!

PRESENTATION PROPOSAL PROCESS:

- 1. Prepare Your Proposal:** Ensure your proposal includes a clear description, measurable learning objectives, and evidence-based data.
- 2. Complete the Application:** Fill out all sections of the application form. Incomplete applications will not be considered. Use the submission portal link below to submit your session proposal.
- 3. Review Process:** APPA's program committee will review all submissions based on [the scoring criteria](#), such as topic relevance, use of evidence-based practices, clear objectives, methods of learner engagement, presenter expertise, and overall impact.

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- 4. Notification of Selection:** All applicants will be notified of their proposal status via email by early December 2025.
- 5. Confirm Session Participation:** If your session is selected – congratulations! Follow the instructions in your acceptance email to confirm your participation. Final session schedules will be shared once all confirmations are received.

Please Note: Corporate members are guaranteed one workshop each calendar year, provided the subject matter is deemed appropriate for the program and aligns well with other presentations. If you have any questions regarding submissions, please contact Joshua Nelsen, APPA Professional Development Manager, via jnelson@csg.org or 859.244.8236.

BENEFITS OF PRESENTING:

Promotion: Presenters will gain visibility through prominent placement on APPA's 2026 Winter Training Institute website and app. Biographies and professional credentials of all session presenters will be featured, giving you valuable exposure before, during, and after the event.

Recognition: APPA and industry peers will recognize presenters for their subject matter expertise and contributions to the profession, reinforcing your credibility and professional standing.

Networking Opportunities: Presenters will have meaningful opportunities to connect with colleagues, thought leaders, and key decision makers both in person and online. This setting supports professional growth, idea exchange, and future collaboration.

Virtual Flexibility: Virtual presentations offer the flexibility to participate without travel and the opportunity to share your expertise with a wider audience through APPA's on-demand conference platform. Your session recording will remain accessible to attendees beyond the live event, extending your reach and impact.

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WEDNESDAY DEEP DIVES – SPECIAL FACULTY OPPORTUNITY

APPA is piloting a new program feature at the 2026 Winter Training Institute in Atlanta: Wednesday Deep Dives.

On Wednesday, March 4, 2026, six topic tracks will run in three back-to-back sessions (8:00–9:00 AM, 9:15–10:15 AM, 10:30–11:30 AM). These tracks give attendees the chance to stay with one subject across the morning and explore it in greater depth.

Deep Dive Topics:

- Supervision and Marijuana
- Artificial Intelligence in Community Corrections
- Women's Empowerment
- Georgia DCS's Evidence-Based Practices: Weapon Carrying
- Smart Supervision
- Management 101

What This Means for Faculty:

- On the Call for Presenters survey, select a 60-minute session format and choose one of the Wednesday Deep Dive topics.
- Selected sessions will be scheduled on Wednesday morning as part of this signature program element.
- Sessions may be stand-alone or connected with other presenters in the track.
- Faculty chosen for Deep Dives will be spotlighted as part of a focused, high-visibility block of programming.

We encourage you to submit a proposal for a Deep Dive topic if your expertise aligns with one of the topics above.

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TRAINING INSTITUTE PRESENTATIONS SHOULD RELATE TO **TWO OR MORE** OF THE FOLLOWING TOPICS:

- 1. Artificial Intelligence in Community Corrections (Wednesday Deep Dive):** Examine the potential applications, benefits, and ethical considerations of AI in supervision and decision-making.
- 2. Community Collaboration:** Ancillary programming and success stories demonstrating the power of partnerships and coordinated support focusing on reintegration.
- 3. Georgia DCS's Evidence-Based Practices: Weapon Carrying (Wednesday Deep Dive):** Learn how Georgia DCS applies evidence-based practices to guide policies, training, and decision-making regarding officers carrying firearms.
- 4. International:** Community corrections issues including but not limited to advancing practices, administrative/policy innovations, juvenile and family justice innovations, restorative justice, and behavioral health from an international standpoint.
- 5. Judicial:** Best practices working collaboratively within a court system, including the policies and procedures related to courts.
- 6. Juvenile Justice:** Issues, programs, and policies dealing with individuals under the jurisdiction of the juvenile court.
- 7. Leadership and Management:** Professional development for executive and middle management.
- 8. Management 101 (Wednesday Deep Dive):** Gain foundational management skills, including communication, staff development, and accountability, tailored for community corrections leaders.

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- 9. Mental/Physical Health and Wellness:** Learning new ways to maintain physical and mental health and wellness. This includes stress and vicarious trauma management for professionals while working in the office and doing field work.
- 10. Officer Safety:** Safety strategies and training for community supervision professionals that address field- and office-related safety concerns.
- 11. Pretrial:** Agency operations and/or the supervision of defendants prior to trial or court adjudication or in diversion programs.
- 12. Prevention:** Addresses supervising and/or working with individuals with various gender identities including multicultural and multigenerational workforces.
- 13. Reentry:** Planning and programming related to individuals released from prisons, jails, or residential placement, aimed at recognizing reentry barriers and focusing on strategies to overcome barriers.
- 14. Reform:** The reduction of recidivism through structural change to the community corrections field. This includes proven efforts to lower recidivism, programs to prevent crime and lessen re-offending and restorative justice.
- 15. Research/Evidence-based Practices:** Presentation of data collection and analysis supporting evidence-based practices and programs that result in positive outcomes.
- 16. Smart Supervision (Wednesday Deep Dive):** Review practical tools and strategies that enhance caseload management, accountability, and effectiveness in supervision.
- 17. Substance Use Disorder:** Providing content related to substance use disorder and/or current drug trends.
- 18. Supervision and Marijuana (Wednesday Deep Dive):** Explore the implications of evolving marijuana laws on supervision practices, compliance, and treatment within community corrections.

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- 19. Supervision Strategies:** Agency operations and supervision strategies for those who are on probation- or parole-related case planning, assessments, reporting requirements, and interventions.
- 20. Technology:** Tools used to improve client supervision, monitoring, and drug/alcohol testing.
- 21. Tribal Issues:** Addresses issues related to planning for home reentry programs and barriers for tribal probation officers in Indian country.
- 22. Veterans' Issues:** Issues related to veterans who have become involved in the criminal justice system including mental health issues, substance use disorder, PTSD, and how supervision and treatment should be specialized for this population.
- 23. Victim Issues:** Addressing victims, restitution, offenders as victims, Prison Rape Elimination Act, Human Trafficking Prevention Act, and Violence Against Women Act.
- 24. Women's Empowerment (Wednesday Deep Dive):** Discuss strategies to support justice-involved women and strengthen leadership opportunities for women in community corrections.

HYBRID SESSION SUBMISSION GUIDELINES:

Individuals interested in submitting a session proposal for consideration must provide the following information, which is required to comply with APPA training accreditation requirements and to apply for permission to grant credit for contact hours in various professions (e.g., social workers, substance abuse counselors, continuing legal education).

Please note: APPA reserves the right to move this training institute to a digital setting based on safety and health needs. If such a change occurs, presenters will be informed throughout the process as the situation demands.

Length: Sunday, March 1st (Intensive Sessions): 4 hours

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, or Virtual (Workshop Sessions): 90 minutes

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, or Virtual (Workshop Sessions): 60 minutes

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Modality: The Training Institute in Atlanta, GA will be a hybrid event, allowing presentation teams to choose a preference of in-person, virtual, or both. Virtual sessions will be pre-recorded by the APPA team or independently by the presentation team and hosted on the official app for on-demand viewing by our virtual audience. You can confirm your modality preference when filling out the application.

Session Title: Choose a title that captures participants’ attention and clearly identifies the primary focus of the session. Please note that APPA reserves the right to change or adjust the session title.

Session Description: Provide a clear, concise, and accurate description of the session as it will appear in the program (maximum: 150 words). Please be aware that APPA reserves the right to modify the session description.

Training Objectives: Please list at least three clear, measurable learning objectives for your session. These should describe what participants will be able to do, know, or apply by the end of the training.

Strong objectives should:

- Use action-oriented verbs from Bloom’s Taxonomy (e.g., identify, analyze, apply, create)
- Follow the S.M.A.R.T. framework—Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Time-bound

For example: “By the end of the session, participants will be able to identify five out of ten risk factors for suicide.”

Please note: Well-crafted learning objectives are not only essential for designing an effective session—they are also required for the session to be considered for continuing education accreditation.

If your proposal is accepted, these objectives will appear in promotional materials and help participants understand what they can expect to gain from attending.

Activity (optional): Describe any activities that will be used in the presentation. While activities will not be listed in the program, they will assist with presentation selection.

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Preference will be given to skill-based presentations that involve participant engagement (e.g., group activities to discuss potential steps for implementing the described program at their home agency) or present new research relevant to the field of community corrections.

Faculty Information: Provide the name, title, agency, address, phone number, and email for all proposed presenters and moderators. Submissions that lack any of this information will not be considered.

Faculty Biography: Include a brief biography for each faculty member describing relative experience and credentials (maximum: 200 words).

Primary Contact: Provide the name and complete contact information (including email address) of the person submitting the session proposal if they are not listed as a presenter or moderator.

PRESENTERS:

To be considered, submit your workshop proposal here:

SUBMIT

Submission Deadline:
Friday, October 17th, 2025

PLEASE NOTE: APPA will reach out to all session presenters in early December to communicate the outcome of their proposal submission(s) for the training institute. If you have any questions regarding submissions, please direct them to **Joshua Nelsen**, APPA Professional Development Manager, via jnelsen@csg.org or 859-244-8236