ATS Pulmonary Circulation

Common Recommendations Across ATS Session Formats

The ATS 2026 International Conference strongly emphasized:

- multidisciplinary collaboration,
- translational and precision science,
- AI and digital medicine,
- practical and interactive learning,
- international engagement,
- and community-building across career stages.

Across all ATS session formats, competitive proposals are typically:

- focused around a clearly defined educational or scientific gap,
- clinically or scientifically actionable,
- interactive and discussion-oriented,
- and designed to stimulate collaboration and audience engagement.

Strongly Recommended Elements

Multidisciplinary and Cross-Assembly Collaboration

Members are strongly encouraged to collaborate with:

- other ATS assemblies,
- multidisciplinary experts,
- and investigators across clinical, translational, computational, and basic science disciplines.

Potential collaborators may include:

- pulmonologists,
- cardiologists,
- intensivists,
- rheumatologists,
- radiologists,
- surgeons,
- translational scientists,
- computational investigators,
- exercise physiologists,
- and clinical trial experts.

International Participation

International collaborators and speakers are strongly encouraged and help strengthen:

- scientific diversity,
- global relevance,
- educational value,
- and cross-disciplinary exchange.

Inclusion Across Career Stages

Competitive proposals often include:

- established leaders,
- emerging faculty,
- early-career investigators,

- and rising scientific or clinical voices.

Prioritize Interaction

The strongest ATS sessions are not simply lecture series.

Successful proposals typically incorporate:

- discussion,
- audience engagement,
- case-based learning,
- debate,
- audience response systems (ARS),
- and opportunities for mentorship and collaboration.

Focused Session Design

Avoid:

- overly broad “updates” proposals,
- excessive numbers of speakers,
- and long uninterrupted lecture blocks.

Focused, cohesive, and discussion-oriented sessions are generally more competitive.

Then each section can become much leaner because you no longer need to repeat:

- international collaboration,
- multidisciplinary perspectives,
- rising faculty,
- interactive learning,
- etc.

That will probably reduce the total document length by 30–40% while making it feel more polished and intentional.

Scientific Symposium

Key Characteristics

- 90-minute didactic session
- Typically 3–6 speakers
- Lecture-based format
- Audience response systems (ARS) available upon request
- Hands-on demonstrations are not permitted

Recommended Structure

- 10–15 minute ***MINIMUM*** focused presentations
- ~20 minutes reserved for moderated discussion, audience questions, debate, and interaction
- Avoid excessive numbers of speakers or overly long talks

Competitive Proposal Features

- Focus on a timely scientific controversy, innovation, or emerging area
- Prioritize scientific exchange and discussion rather than sequential lectures
- Incorporate multidisciplinary and international perspectives
- Include both established and emerging leaders

Particularly Strong Themes

- Precision medicine and omics
- AI and computational medicine
- Translational pulmonary vascular biology
- Emerging therapeutics and clinical trials
- RV failure and pulmonary vascular imaging

Meet the Expert Seminars

Key Characteristics

- 1-hour interactive seminar
- Typically 1 speaker; maximum 2 speakers
- Attendance capped at 30 participants
- Separate registration and fee required

Recommended Structure

- ~20–30 minute focused presentation
- ~30–40 minutes dedicated to audience interaction, mentorship, case discussion, and Q&A
- Strong emphasis on discussion rather than formal lecturing

Competitive Proposal Features

- Real-world clinical or research focus
- Interactive and discussion-oriented format
- Opportunities for mentorship and career guidance
- Speakers who are engaging and approachable

Speaker Recommendations

Speakers may include:

- established experts,
- emerging independent investigators,
- clinician-scientists,
- procedural experts,
- or technology innovators.

Strong proposals often include:

- international perspectives,
- multidisciplinary participation,
- and rising faculty voices.

Pre-Conference PG Courses – Didactic

Key Characteristics

- Half-day (4-hour) or full-day (8-hour) pre-conference course
- Half-day courses: ≤7 presenters
- Full-day courses: ≤12 presenters
- Lecture/classroom format
- Hands-on demonstrations are not permitted
- Separate registration and fee required

Recommended Structure

- Comprehensive educational review rather than "latest updates only"
- Combine didactics with:
    - case discussions,
    - audience polling,
    - breakout discussions,
    - and practical clinical reasoning
- Avoid long uninterrupted lecture blocks

Competitive Proposal Features

- Clearly defined educational gap
- Practical and clinically actionable learning
- Strong multidisciplinary faculty
- Interactive educational design
- Cohesive educational narrative

Particularly Strong Themes

- Advanced hemodynamics
- RV failure and ICU care
- Exercise pulmonary hypertension
- PH in ILD and CTD
- Precision medicine
- AI in pulmonary vascular medicine

Pre-Conference PG Courses – Skills-Based

Key Characteristics

- Full-day (8-hour) pre-conference course only
- 50% of curriculum must involve hands-on learning
- ≤12 faculty recommended
- Separate registration and fee required
- Requires detailed station planning

Required Proposal Components

For each station include:

- station title/topic,
- faculty assignment,
- participant numbers,
- and rotation plan.

Approved courses additionally require:

- equipment/vendor lists,
- floor plans,
- and faculty participation in pre-course orientation.

Recommended Structure

- Short focused didactics paired with hands-on learning
- Small-group procedural stations
- High faculty-to-learner interaction
- Clear station organization and flow

Competitive Proposal Features

- Practical skill acquisition
- Simulation and troubleshooting
- Clinically actionable procedural education
- Multidisciplinary faculty coaching
- Strong logistics and operational planning

Particularly Strong Themes

- Right heart catheterization
- Exercise hemodynamics and invasive CPET
- Pulmonary vascular imaging
- RV mechanical support
- ECMO and ICU pulmonary vascular emergencies
- AI-assisted imaging/hemodynamic interpretation