

FNCE 2024 | Learning Lounge Guide

What is a Learning Lounge Talk?

The Learning Lounge is designed to provide a quick look at trending health topics through quick 15-minute (~12-minute presentation with 3 minutes of Q&A) microlearning sessions. The shorter format of the Learning Lounge provides participants with the opportunity to explore a wide variety of topics and hear about success stories involving new approaches to patient support, research, special interest areas, and more. These sessions take place on a small stage with open seating. Topics should be evidence-based, relevant to the nutrition care industry, and focus on food and nutrition topics.

What kinds of topics are suitable?

We aim for...

...big ideas. What are the topics that affect dietitians across specialties or settings? Examples of past topics include avoiding perfectionism, ethical approaches to sponsorship, and understanding gender privilege.

...emerging trends. What should be on a dietitian's radar? Examples include long COVID, the sober-curious lifestyle, and bigorexia.

...how-to instructions. What are simple steps a listener can take? Previous examples include community gardening, zero-waste cooking, or starting a side hustle.

We try to avoid...

...complex topics that are heavy on science and research. These are difficult to absorb in 15 minutes.

...content requiring visual aids. If you cannot explain your topic without charts, graphs, or other visual data, it probably does not suit the Learning Lounge.

...promotion. The Learning Lounge is not a forum for new products or services.

Past Learning Lounge Talks

1. Nutrition Never Ends – Taking Care of the Long COVID Patient
2. Bigorexia – When Being Bigger Does Not Make You Feel Better
3. My Plate is My Garden – Starting and Maintaining a Community Garden
4. Navigating the Media and Brands Landscape – Insights From a Dietitian
5. Does Diet Matter in Adult Acne?
6. Brewing Up Health with Fermented Foods

What are we looking for?

No matter your job title or practice area, we welcome your unique perspective and expertise! Share your success stories, innovative approaches, and practical applications. We are eager for individuals who are passionate about their subject area to submit a proposal on innovative approaches to work, results of research, or a general or special topic of interest. Proposals should highlight **one specific topic** related to the dietetics and nutrition industry and be evidence-based. Speakers should be lively, engaging, and comfortable speaking without notes and visual aids.

The Learning Lounge is not a forum for new products or services. Any submission that falls within promotion of a product or service will be removed from consideration.

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Learning Lounge Grading Criteria

The following criteria will be used to assess Learning Lounge proposals. They will be graded on a five point scale.

- Relevance of topic to nutrition and dietetics professionals
- Applicable to practice or the profession
- **One** clear and measurable learning objective
- Supporting high-quality evidence for session; Learning Lounge proposals should include one to three references. References must be within the last three years.
 - Established topics: should include an advanced level of content science and/or evidenced-based information with recent and relevant reference(s).
 - Emerging science topics: required recent and relevant substantiation.
 - Experiential topics: should present information that advances professional skills and describing outcomes with a clear source of evidence (example: unpublished primary research, such as a quality improvement project in the workplace).
- Facilitator outline:
 - Related to session learning objective
 - Highlights new/significant/emerging topic
 - Logical organization/ proper grammar, syntax
 - Outline describes a presentation that can be facilitated and completed in the time limit (15 minutes)
- Facilitator is an established and recognized professional expert in the field with experience consistent with topic. Video sample is encouraged but not required.

What type of visual aids are available?

None! Speakers will use a wireless microphone, but no visual aids are included—no handouts, no slides. A digital clock helps you keep time.

Why only 15 minutes?

These talks are designed to inspire curiosity, provide simple steps to take action and to gain an understanding of new and innovative ideas. Adult learners are good at focusing on one subject at a time in relatively short chunks. But remember—shorter doesn't mean lesser! We are looking for presenters who are engaging and creative.

Do these talks offer CPE?

No—these are informational only.

Do speakers receive an honorarium?

Speakers receive a 50% discount on the early registration rate.

What will I need to submit?

Be prepared to submit some demographic and contact information, such as Academy member number, title and organization, and email address; an overall topic with suggested title, description, and outline; and references. Submitters are required and limited to submitting one learning outcome. Optional: a brief (no more than one minute) example video of the speaker presenting in-person.