

We're excited to showcase the incredible work being done by our graduate students! The poster session is a great opportunity to share your research, connect with peers, and celebrate your accomplishments. Here we share everything you need to know to get started.

Posters will be displayed on foam boards with tri-pod easels, which will be supplied at the venue. Presenters have two options for printing:

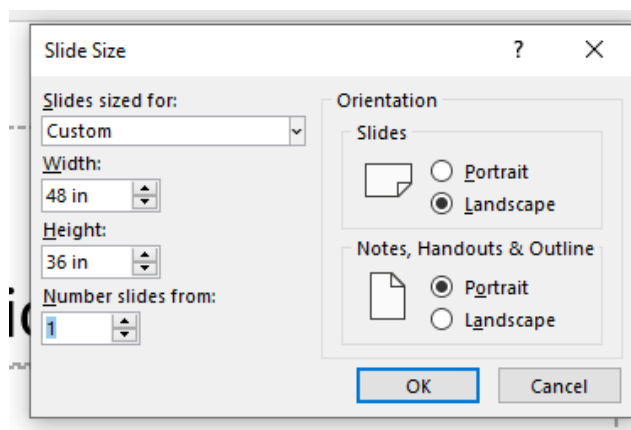
- The Appalachian Lab prints your poster to the correct dimensions, attaches it to the foam board, and delivers it to the venue for the poster session at **no cost** to you.
- The presenter locates a printing service, prints the poster to the correct dimensions, transports their poster to Frostburg, and attaches it to a foam board with materials provided at the venue.

If you opt for the option of having AL print your poster for you, it must be submitted by no later than **midnight** on **Wednesday, October 22nd**.

Poster Size

All posters should be printed to 48" wide by 36" high. You can prepare your poster through the program of your choice as long as it allows you to generate a **print-quality** pdf. We can also accept native files from Microsoft PowerPoint, Microsoft Publisher, Adobe Photoshop, and Adobe Illustrator. For your convenience, we have set up [template files of the correct dimensions in the folder linked here](#).

If you don't use the provided templates, it is very important that you set up your file with the correct dimensions for your poster **BEFORE** you add any content. Otherwise, you run the risk of a low quality print because raster graphics, like photos and figures, will lose quality when you try to scale them up in size. To do that in PowerPoint, create a blank presentation and immediately go to Design > Slide Size > Custom Slide Size. Then, set the width to 48 inches and the height to 36 inches as shown below:



If you're new to creating posters for scientific conferences, [we provide some tips for you here](#). [There is additional advice for exporting a print-quality pdf at this other link](#). You can ignore the UMCES branding guidelines and instructions on these pages.

Poster Organization

- Please be sure to include the following on your poster: title, author name(s), and your institutional affiliation
- You may set up your poster traditionally with an Abstract, Introduction, Materials and Methods, Results, Discussion, Literature Cited, and Acknowledgements or you may consider adopting the [#betterposter format](#).

Poster Session

The poster session will be held on Friday, October 24th beginning at 5:15 PM. If AL printed your poster for you, it will be installed at Frostburg State University's Lane Center prior to the start of the poster session. If you print your poster on your own, you will need to attach your poster to the foam board no later than 4:00 PM (preferably at registration). A foam board and Velcro will be provided.

Poster Submission

[When your poster is ready for printing by AL, please submit the final version to the form linked here by no later than midnight on Wednesday, October 22nd.](#)

Creating something meant to be printed at a large size on a small screen can be a challenge. Before submitting, please take one more moment to carefully review your final submission file for any typos, misaligned text, difficult to read captions or figure labels, low quality images, etc. Use the zoom feature to your advantage to get a better idea of how each component will look printed at 100%.

For posters printed by AL, we will review your poster to ensure that it is of sufficient file quality to print and will only contact you if there are issues related to the quality of your submitted file. We will not be troubleshooting typos, misaligned text, mis-sized text, low-quality photos and figures, or any other issues of that type, so be sure you have carefully reviewed your submitted file. AL will then print your poster on our wide-format printer, temporarily mount it to a foam board for the poster session, and deliver it to FSU's Lane Center for you.

Poster Session Breakdown

At the conclusion of the poster session, presenters may remove their paper posters from the foam board by releasing the velcro and take their poster back with them. Please leave the foam boards and easels (property of FSU) for re-use.

Poster Advice

If we can provide you with one piece of advice, it would be that posters often take much longer to prepare than you initially expect. Get started as soon as possible and allow yourself plenty of time in advance of the deadline to share it with your advisor and/or peers for feedback.

If we missed anything with these instructions and/or if you have any questions or problems, please contact Katie Kline at kkline@umces.edu or Kyle Rufo at kyle.rufo@umces.edu.