

2026 Celebration of Research

Timeline

February 13, 2026: Students who will be presenting at the Celebration should indicate their interest using [this online form](#). At this point in the process, we only need to know title of project, faculty mentor, and participants.

March 23, 2026: Abstract and poster **must** be submitted for each research project at the [Celebration of Research site](#).

April 1, 2026: Final faculty review and approval of abstracts and posters.

April 16, 2026: Celebration of Research in the DeWitt Learning Commons from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Preparing your Submission

Before submitting your projects online, be sure to read through the following information:

Abstracts

Abstracts must be submitted online as part of the registration process. Review your abstract with your faculty mentor before submitting it via the online form. The abstract will be included in the Celebration of Research schedule information, plus the online site showcasing the work.

Poster Presentations

Once you have completed your research, putting a poster together and getting ready for the two-hour event takes considerable planning.

We've created [an online guide](#) where you learn more about how to design an effective poster. Please use this resource. One thing that you must remember is to size your poster correctly; it should be **48" wide and 36" tall**.

When you upload the finished poster, upload it as a PowerPoint file (.pptx). We will want a large format file to ensure a quality print.

We will review the poster for both content and presentation. If changes are needed, you will be contacted with further instructions.

Submitting Your Materials

After completing your abstract and poster, submit your project online. You will first need to [make an account](#), which is a quick and simple process. Then fill out the form as instructed. Be sure to submit everything by **March 23, 2026**.

Presenting at the Celebration of Research

Materials

We will have tables set up for your poster. You should pick up your poster, board, and double-sided tape at the circulation desk in DeWitt Learning Commons between April 14 and 16; you'll receive an email when it's ready. The Academic Affairs office will cover the cost of printing your poster, provided you submit it before March 23, 2026.

Location

You will be assigned a location to present your poster. We will communicate this information with you closer to the date.

Dress

Please dress in business casual attire. For men we suggest dress pants and a shirt with a collar. For women we suggest dress pants or a skirt and blouse. Jeans and athletic clothing are not appropriate. Please wear comfortable shoes, as you will be standing by your poster for the majority of the two hours. You will be representing Northwestern College to prospective students, parents, donors, trustees, and the community.

Set-up

You can set up your table on **Thursday, April 16, from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.** All posters must be set up by 11 a.m.

You will also need to stop by the registration table to pick up your name tags. Program booklets will be provided as well and will include abstracts of all presentations plus a map of poster locations.

During the Celebration

As people walk through the poster exhibits, feel free to discuss your research projects with them. Be prepared to answer questions they may have.

If multiple people are presenting, rotate among yourselves so the poster is staffed at all times. Single presenters should be mindful to be near their posters as much as possible. You can take a couple of short (5-10 minute) breaks to view other presentations.

Questions?

If you have any questions, please contact Greta Grond (ggrond@nwcsiowa.edu, 712.707.7248).