

## **Growing Our Community to Shape the Future**

Reconnect. Recharge. Reimagine.

**DEADLINES** 

Submissions Open: February 4, 2022 Submissions Close: March 17, 2022

The Amputee Coalition's 2022 National Conference, themed "Growing Our Community to Shape the Future," will highlight ways to expand our community in every way. The Amputee Coalition celebrates its diverse community and aims to fully engage all people living with limb loss and limb difference to build a collective voice on critical issues impacting the community and to elevate the organization's mission.

This year's conference will have a special focus on health equity, diversity, equity and inclusion, and youth engagement. The biggest challenges for the limb loss and limb difference community are centered on access, care, and coverage. It is critical amputees receive the care and support they need when they need it. The Amputee Coalition advocates for the Triple A Study Act and other important policies to address these issues. How can people living with limb loss or limb difference make their voice heard with health providers to ensure they receive proper care? How can self-advocacy efforts and uniting forces on local and state levels contribute to advancing health equity issues? How can more deliberate action be taken for preventive screening for patients at high risk for amputation across medical settings? How can we reimagine a collective effort to tackle health disparities that worsen amputations?

We must ensure that all people living with limb loss and limb difference belong to and are represented in our community. We must increase our understanding about the different ways in which people enter our community and the coexisting conditions that people live with. How can we think more critically about diversity and inclusion of amputees with different types of limb loss and limb difference, and that stem from a variety of causes? How can we balance the disproportion of people we currently serve to grow representation of diverse races and ethnicities as well as those living in urban and rural settings with limb loss and limb difference?

We must ensure that programs and services are offered to help people living with limb loss and limb difference experience increased quality of life, in ways that support the type of values that they assert. Enhancing mental, physical, and behavioral health services in a time when people are more isolated than ever is critical now than before. How can we focus our efforts to scale programs that better meet and reach more people who need programs and services to ensure that amputees are not alone? How can we promote patient asserted values to determine what a meaningful quality of life looks like for individuals? In what ways, can we implement common standards for quality living across the nation in every state as limb loss becomes less uncommon every day?

The conference tracks are aligned with the organization's tenets and pillars. AC's tenets are living well with limb loss, limb loss is not uncommon and is becoming less uncommon every day, and no amputee alone. AC's pillars are prevention/education, advocacy, and support.

Proposal submissions are due March 17, 2022.

Conference Tracks	Living Well with Limb Loss	Limb Loss is not uncommon and is becoming less uncommon everyday	No Amputee Alone
Categories	Prevention/Education (preventing/addressingsystemic barriers facedby LL/LD community including the need to prevent unnecessary surgeries and denial of the resources needed to live the life we want)	Advocacy Collective and individual efforts to achieve health equity and engage policy makers in discussions about the needs of our community at the local, state, and federal levels Self-advocacy	Support
Submission Categories and Conference Tracks	Prevention/Education	Advocacy	Power of Peer Support
Associated Activities	Insurance information and financialresources Private andpublic Research &Innovation What's happening inthe field withresearch Surgical interventions New interventions and updates, especially where revisions maybe an option Accessibilitytools  Health & Wellness Physical healthand well-being Exercise andadaptive recreation Rehabilitation,walking, and balance Pain management Management ofco-morbidities Post-acute care Emotional healthand well-being Better sleep Mental health Body Acceptance Social Isolation Relationships and Sexuality  Career Development Employment Resources/ Advice for Youth and Adults  Equity Diversity and Inclusion Exhibit Hall	<ul> <li>Legislative Advocacy</li> <li>Self-Advocacy</li> <li>Health Equity</li> <li>Equity Diversity and Inclusion.</li> </ul>	Hospital Partnerships     Peer Visits     Community support through partnerships and collaborations      Youth Engagement     Sessions developed by youth for youth      Community Building & Living     Community resources     Equity, Inclusion, Belonging  Innovation     Assistive Technology     Especially prosthetic devices     Research & Prevention     What's happening in the field with research     Surgical interventions     New interventions and updates especially where revisions may be an option     Sponsorship and Networking Lounge