



# Society for Epidemiologic Research

## SER Opportunities

The Society for Epidemiologic Research (SER) is committed to providing opportunities for all interested individuals to both present and participate in SER organized activities. SER provides programming in **virtual** and **in-person** formats throughout the year, and has been expanding these opportunities in recent years. New in 2023, we have introduced a virtual presentation option at the Mid-Year Meeting in March, and a virtual participation option for the Annual Meeting in June. Please see below for more details.

- **Pre-Conference Workshops** (held throughout the year)
  - Participation: options available in both **in-person** and **virtual** formats
  - Presentations: options available in both **in-person** and **virtual** formats
  - Membership: options available for both members and non-members
  - Cost – fee charged based on registration level and membership status
- **Webinars** (held throughout the year, typically on Wednesdays)
  - Participation: **virtual** format
  - Presentations: **virtual** format
  - Membership: open to members and non-members
  - Cost: free to members and non-members
- **Mid-Year Meeting** (held in March)
  - Participation: options available in both **in-person** and **virtual** formats
  - Presentations: options available in both **in-person** and **virtual** formats
  - Membership: reserved for SER members
  - Cost: free to members
- **Annual Meeting** (held in June)
  - Participation: options available in both **in-person** and **virtual** formats
  - Presentations: **in-person** format
  - Membership: options available for both members and non-members
  - Cost: fee charged based on registration level and membership status

We understand that not all individuals are able to travel to the annual meeting and attend in person for a variety of reasons. For this purpose, we have created the following opportunities:

### **PARTICIPATION:**

- If you are unable to attend the Annual Meeting in person, you can purchase the **virtual access registration package** which gives you live access to all sessions being held in the two main ballrooms at the annual meeting. This includes all plenary sessions and concurrent sessions held in those two rooms throughout the conference. Individuals will be able to view the sessions and submit questions via the chat to be considered during the Q&A portion of each session. Access to all recorded sessions is also available to individuals who purchase this package.
- Members and non-members of SER are invited to participate in our Webinars. Webinars are held on Wednesdays, throughout the year, **free of charge!** Webinars, as the name suggests, are in the **virtual** format.
- Attend the Mid-Year Meeting. The meeting offers a variety of options from student networking sessions, symposium, Mid-Year Meeting main event aired live from our host institutions, all of which are **free of charge** to current SER members. New in 2023, we will offer a US-based Mid-Year Meeting and International Mid-Year Meeting live streamed from Mexico in the Spanish language!
- Pre-Conference Workshops options are offered in both **virtual** and **in-person formats**. Review the website for full details on each format type.

#### **PRESENTATION:**

- The Mid-Year Meeting will include a **virtual** poster session for your presentation. Submit your abstract (abstracts due the same as the annual meeting abstracts). The poster session will be open for a full week for SER members to view during the Mid-Year Meeting week. Individuals wishing to present, must be current members of SER.
- Oral presentations are available through our Webinar program. This can include symposium, professional development, and networking sessions. If you have an idea for a presentation, contact Sue Bevan ([sbevan@epiresearch.org](mailto:sbevan@epiresearch.org)).
- SERdigital is organized by the Student and PostDoc Committee. Oral and **virtual** poster presentations are invited for inclusion in this **virtual** meeting.

We hope you will take advantage of all the options made available both in **virtual** and an **in-person** format and participate in the format and opportunities that best suit your individual circumstances. We considered the practicalities of what was feasible financially and logistically, in generating a wide variety of opportunities that will allow everyone to participate in SER events throughout the year in the format best for each individual.

# FAQs

## **Q. Is there a charge for the Mid-Year Meeting?**

A. The Mid-Year Meeting main event (March 2, 2023) is free of charge if you are a current SER member. If you are not a member, join SER to be eligible to receive access to the meeting. Some events associated with the mid-year meeting may have a fee (pre-conference workshops), but sessions held throughout the week are typically free of charge if you are a current SER member. Review the website for complete details.

## **Q. How do I submit for a presentation at the Mid-Year Meeting?**

A. Click [here](#) to learn more, including submitting your abstract.

## **Q. Can I submit my abstract for both the Mid-Year Meeting and Annual Meeting?**

A. SER's abstract policy states that abstracts derived from papers already published, either in print or in an online format, are not eligible for consideration to present at the Annual Meeting. The SER Mid-Year Meeting is an 'online format' which results in abstracts being presented at the Mid-Year Meeting NOT eligible to also present at the Annual Meeting.

## **Q. Can I present virtually at the Annual Meeting in June?**

A. Virtual presentation is not allowed at the annual meeting. If you are unable to attend the annual meeting in person, please consider submitting to the Mid-Year Meeting through the call for symposium, call for workshops, call for abstracts, or through the SER webinar program.

## **Q. Why doesn't SER make the Annual Meeting fully available virtually?**

A. There are two main reasons why SER does not make the annual meeting fully available virtually. Cost and Contracts. The cost to execute a simultaneous virtual and in person conference is prohibitively high and would compromise the financial stability of SER. Additionally, SER hotel contracts require that we commit to a total number of sleeping rooms occupied, food and beverage purchased, and audio-visual needs. SER is able to obtain the space needed to hold the annual meeting by committing to these contracts. If a full virtual option were to be offered, even if we could afford it, SER runs the risk of not being able to fulfill our hotel obligations which would result in large financial penalties and severely limit our ability to

negotiate with future hotel meeting sites. To ensure the financial stability of SER, and our ability to offer all the opportunities that members value, the Mid-Year Meeting has added a virtual presentation option to ensure an equitable opportunity to participate and present for all our members, throughout the year.

**Q. What is the cost for the virtual access registration package at the Annual Meeting?**

A. The cost of the virtual access registration package is the same rate as attending the annual meeting. This package also includes full access to all sessions recorded at the annual meeting.