

Guidelines for Establishing an IADMS Special Interest Group (SIG)

Broadly speaking, IADMS Special Interest Groups (SIGs) aim to provide a forum and place of connection for individuals with shared interests within the dance medicine and science community. This initiative aligns with the IADMS vision “to build a global community that provides accessible and applicable evidence-based research, resources, and programming that improves the health of dancers and the use of dance to improve health.”

Requirements of SIGs are intended to be flexible to allow a structure as works for the individual group. However, as a minimum, all IADMS SIGs are expected to host two meetings per year: one membership roundtable (for active IADMS members only) and one international outreach meeting (for members and non-members). It is expected for these meetings to have an average attendance of at least 30 participants; however, exceptions to this can be made on a case-by-case basis and will be reviewed by the board. In addition, the SIG chair and vice-chair are expected to report to the IADMS leadership and contribute to two Multispecialty Open Viewpoint Events (MOVE) per year: one with the IADMS leadership and one open to all IADMS members.

All submitted proposals for SIGs will be reviewed by the IADMS Board of Directors. Amendments to the proposal may be suggested before approval is granted. A proposal to establish a SIG will be given due consideration, provided it meets the following minimum criteria.

1) Name and Purpose

- The name of the SIG should be easily recognizable as either a membership demographic and/or a discipline within dance medicine and science.
- A statement of purpose that is consistent with the IADMS mission, vision, and strategic priorities.
- A statement of uniqueness from other existing SIGs.

2) Leadership

- A proposed Chair who is an IADMS member in good standing, with:
 - 1) At least three years of continuous membership - required,
 - 2) Attendance at at least two of the last five annual conferences (in-person or virtual) - required,
 - 3) Previous volunteer service to IADMS within the last five years (e.g. on an operational committee, work group, or task force) - preferred/highly encouraged,
- A proposed Vice-Chair who is an IADMS member in good standing.

- Both the proposed Chair and Vice-Chair should provide evidence of their qualifications and/or professional experience in the discipline/field as related to the proposed SIG.

Note: it is not permitted for an individual to serve on the Leadership of more than one SIG. Any potential conflict of interest should be declared in the proposal.

3) Convenors/Allies

- Include the name and contact email of 10 IADMS members in good standing who have agreed to act as convenors of the SIG. Exceptions to this number can be made on a case-by-case basis and will be reviewed by the Board.
- These individuals will not hold any leadership responsibility within the SIG and will likely take the role of 'participant' once the proposal is approved.

IADMS does not impose criteria for participation in a SIG and this is to be set by each individual SIG as relevant to their statement of purpose (for example, open or restricted participation). Within the application, the proposed SIG is required to set out their desired criteria for participation (if any), for example based upon qualifications or professional experience. These should be agreed by all convenors of the group.

Upon approval, all SIGs are required to write a SIG Charter, which acts as the policy governing the SIG (templates and support are provided by the Board Ad Hoc Governance Committee). It is important to note that the final approval of any terms included within the Charter (for example relating to participation criteria as outlined above) lies with the Board.

Once established, IADMS SIGs will be reviewed by the Board on a two-yearly basis.

To submit your proposal, complete this form: [IADMS Special Interest Group \(SIG\) Proposal Form](#)
For advice on your proposal or for any questions, contact SIG@iadms.org

This document was approved by the board on 02 June 2024. It was amended by the board on 02 February 2025.