



Speaker Guidelines

TEDx Talks are known for their impact and high quality – because of that, all speakers need to agree to the following guidelines.

Speakers will be required to:

- Work with a TEDxRapidCity committee member and the provided speech consultant to prepare the talk and slides.
- Submit a rough draft to TEDxRapidCity by April 30, 2020.
- Submit all final draft and completed slides to TEDxRapidCity by June 13, 2020.
- Be available for speaker rehearsal on June 23, 2020.
- Attend the entire TEDxRapidCity event on June 24, 2020. Any exceptions must be approved in advance. At a minimum, speakers must be available to the audience the break after their talk.
- Sign a speaker release form giving TED and others the right to edit and distribute video of their presentation. All TEDxRapidCity presentations will be uploaded to the TEDx YouTube channel.
- Speakers understand that travel and lodging costs will be the responsibility of the speaker, unless otherwise agreed to in advance.

Presentations must adhere to the following:

- **Be 18 minutes or less.** All TEDxRapidCity presentations are given equal billing; there is no keynote presentation.
- **No commercial agenda.** Speakers should not promote their own products, books, or businesses or those of a company which employs them. The only exception is if they have been invited to give a powerful product demo, or to describe the ideas in your book, and here the focus should still be on the technology and/or the ideas.
- **Avoid pseudoscience.** TED and TEDx are platforms for showcasing and explaining genuine advances in science, and it's important we retain the respect of the scientific community. Speakers should avoid the misuse of scientific language to make unsubstantiated claims.
- **No talks with an inflammatory political or religious agenda, nor for polarizing “us vs them” language.** TEDx seeks to build consensus and provide outside-the-box thinking, not to revisit familiar, unresolvable disputes on these topics.
- **Keep presentation content in compliance with copyright law.** Speakers must inform TEDxRapidCity beforehand of any third-party material that will be used in their presentations and seek written permissions to copyrighted materials when applicable.

TEDxRapidCity will select speakers in March and inform all applicants of our decision.