



How to convince your boss you should attend `posit::conf(2025)`

`Posit::conf(2025)` is an opportunity for Python and R users to sharpen their skills and connect with the data science community over one day of workshops and two days of conference keynotes and talks from September 16-18th in Atlanta, GA.

Step 1: Highlight what you will learn at the conference

Sample your agenda - Review our workshops, conference keynotes, and talks to make a sample agenda for yourself. Use this agenda to highlight what you will learn from attending, but also how this will relate to your current role.

Select your workshop and explain how it will make you more efficient in your role. There are over 15 workshops to pick from, but here are a few examples of how one might present them;

- **R in Production** This workshop covers common principles to improve my code, focusing on the three big differences between running a local script on my computer and putting my code into production. I'll learn how to ensure that code continues to run reliably and clearly reports problems long after writing it, and the challenges around authenticating and debugging production code. I'll bring back to the team methods to ensure our team is working together as effectively as possible, sharing code and best practices, and improving at our jobs over time.
- **Programming with LLM APIs: A Beginner's Guide in R and Python** In this workshop, I'll be introduced to `elmer` (R) and `chatlas` (Python), two user-friendly packages developed by Posit that make calling LLMs from code straightforward and handle the complexities of conversation history, tool calling, vision support, and more, so I can focus on experimentation and creativity. I'll explore system prompt design, token management, tool calling, and structured output, all while building familiarity with the various models and vendors that are shaping the AI landscape today. The workshop includes hands-on experience with guided projects or with the flexibility to explore using our own projects.



- **Branded Websites, Presentations, Dashboards, and PDFs with Quarto**

This immersive workshop explores the versatility of Quarto output formats, and I'll learn how to craft cohesive reports and presentations while refining my workflow with Quarto's latest features to streamline organizational outputs and create polished, professional results. By the end of the session, I'll be equipped to build and deploy Quarto websites, generate professional presentations and PDF reports, create interactive dashboards for data visualization and reporting, and use brand.yml to define and apply consistent theming across all outputs.

The text you craft will obviously depend on the workshop you choose and how that should be framed for your boss, but with so many workshop options this year, there will certainly be a workshop that is both interesting and valuable for you and your team.

Step 2: Consider the main reasons you want to attend

For example:

1. You will learn technical skills needed to increase your impact on "XYZ part" of your business. Posit Conference will feature some of the most thoughtful R + Python practitioners and effective speakers in science, industry, and technology.
2. You'll hear from other companies in your industry and learn from their experiences. Highlight the value of using other attendee's lessons learned (perhaps including the names of those companies) to speed up your own team's path to success.

Step 3: Send an email request to your boss

Include an overview summary of the main reasons you want to attend, details from your research about sessions you'd like to attend, how this will benefit you in your role, and the cost breakdown - including how much you will need for travel & lodging.

If you are unsuccessful: Ask how you can include this in the training & development budget for next year and what additional details your boss may need to agree to this.