

The American Public Health Association is committed to making the Annual Meeting accessible to the widest range of people possible. This guide has been designed to provide city-specific information about accessibility at the APHA Annual Meeting (including information about transportation, housing, accessible restaurants, tourist information, access services, and equipment rental, etc.). Please let us know of ways in which we might be able to serve you better. Visit the APHA Annual Meeting website for more information, www.apha.org/annualmeeting.

Become a member of the APHA Disability Section and receive regular updates about new services and issues of interest: www.apha.org/apha-communities/member-sections/disability-section.

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Accessibility Policy

It is the policy of the American Public Health Association to hold events (meetings, conferences and professional gatherings) where physical and communication barriers do not exclude people with disabilities from attending and participating. Anyone requiring accommodations in order to participate in the APHA Annual Meeting is asked to check the appropriate box on the registration and housing forms and attach a written description of your requirements. Specific requests can also be made directly at access@apha.org or by phone at (202) 777-2475.

APHA Meeting Properties

APHA's 2017 Annual Meeting and Expo takes place at the Georgia World Congress Center and the Omni Atlanta Hotel at CNN Center. Nine additional hotels in the downtown area make up the rest of the official APHA room block.

Getting Around the Georgia World Congress Center – 285 Andrew Young International Blvd NW, Atlanta, GA 30313

Atlanta's Georgia World Congress Center, home of the 1996 Summer Olympics, is the third largest convention center in the United States. Located in the heart of downtown Atlanta, the GWCC is located within walking distance of thousands of hotel rooms, hundreds of restaurants, the Georgia Aquarium, the World of Coca-Cola, CNN Studios and the College Football Hall of Fame.

The Georgia World Congress Center is fully accessible. Ramps are available at all entrances and all restrooms are ADA accessible. Elevators are equipped with Braille signage.

Getting Around the Omni Atlanta Hotel at CNN Center – 100 CNN Center, Atlanta, GA 30303

The Omni Atlanta Hotel at CNN Center is connected to the Georgia World Congress Center by skywalk, allowing all guests to easily travel between the two properties without having to step outdoors. The hotel is ADA compliant with wheelchair access, Braille signage and in-room strobe fire alarms. Staff is trained to accommodate guests with special needs so that everyone has an enjoyable and safe stay.

The Omni proudly provides accessible guest rooms which are equipped with the following items:

- Bathtub with grab bars
- Roll-in shower
- Audio/Visual smoke detectors
- Telephone alert device
- Wheelchair accessible doors
- Braille signage
- In-room strobe fire alarms

Hotel Accessibility Surveys

Each year APHA collects detailed accessibility surveys from all official APHA hotels. This information is provided to our members and registrants to assist them in selecting the hotel that best meets their needs. These surveys (completed by the hotels) provide information about accessible entrances, parking and drop-off areas at the hotels and information regarding accessible public areas, guest rooms, meeting rooms, restaurants, hotel amenities and assistive devices. A spreadsheet, comparing the results of these surveys is available as a PDF file on the APHA Access Web page, www.apha.org/meetings/access. Copies of the survey results can also be requested from access@apha.org or by calling (202) 777-2475.

Access Services Onsite

Accessibility Booth

An accessibility booth will be set up in the registration area of the Georgia World Congress Center. APHA continues to provide this service to address the concerns of registrants with accessibility needs. Stop by to find out how to navigate between APHA properties, arrange for the use of assistive listening devices, get information about the complimentary ADA van service and more. The accessibility booth will be open during registration hours.

Accessible Transportation

Limited complimentary wheelchair accessible van service will be provided between the Georgia World Congress Center and official APHA Annual Meeting hotels.

- **On Call Accessible Transportation**

Wheelchair accessible van transportation can be scheduled upon request. Visit or call the ADA Van Service located just inside the main lobby of the Georgia World Congress Center or the APHA accessibility booth in the registration area to make arrangements in advance. The phone number will be printed on shuttle signage, in the Final Program and in the badge-mailing packet. Please provide the shuttle company with advance notice of when and where you will need a pick up. Call 310-900-9525 to schedule accessible van transportation at the Annual Meeting.

- **Taxi Service for Attendees with Mobility Constraints**

Registrants with mobility issues who are unable to utilize APHA's on call accessible transportation option may utilize cab service to and from official APHA hotels and Georgia World Congress Center. APHA will reimburse for taxi fares between official APHA Annual Meeting properties. Submit all receipts to APHA after the meeting (c/o Conventions Dept., 800 I Street, NW, Washington, DC 20001) **no later than Dec. 1, 2017.**

The following taxi companies in Atlanta currently operate wheelchair accessible vehicles equipped with ramp, wheelchair securement and shoulder and lap belt.

Checker Cab – Call 404-351-1111

Yellow Cab – Call 404-688-8454

For Atlanta taxi fare information, including meter and flat rates as well as a fare calculator, visit the Taxi Fare Finder at <https://www.taxifarefinder.com/main.php?city=Atlanta>.

APHA will also reimburse for Uber or Lyft service for attendees with mobility constraints to and from official APHA meeting properties. Please note we are currently not aware of any Uber or Lyft cars that are wheelchair accessible. However, both Uber and Lyft are currently rolling out accessibility programs.

- **Public Transportation**

Atlanta Streetcar

Atlanta offers low cost transportation around downtown Atlanta at \$1 for a one way trip. Get off at Centennial Olympic Park, one block away from the Georgia World Congress Center.

<http://streetcar.atlantaga.gov/>

- **Parking at the Convention Center**

Accessible parking is available at the Georgia World Congress Center, Red Deck Parking Garage (103 Magnum St) for \$10, daily.

American Sign Language (ASL) Interpreters



Interpreters can be arranged to fit your schedule. An ASL Request Form, indicating a preliminary schedule must be submitted to APHA no later than **September 15, 2017**. A final schedule of sessions is due **October 6, 2017**. Download copies of the form from <http://www.apha.org/events-and-meetings/annual/accessibility/hearing-impaired> or contact access@apha.org.

Use the Online Planner to help you arrange your schedule (available mid-August). Select the sessions you wish to attend, add it to your phone calendar, Outlook calendar or share it with yourself to print out. Attach your schedule to the ASL Request Form to help us prepare the appropriate amount of interpreters for you.

On-site requests for interpreters can be made at the Accessibility Desk in the registration area. However, **APHA cannot guarantee that the sign language provider will be able to accommodate the request without advance notice.**

Assistive Listening Devices



For registrants who are hard of hearing, a limited number of assistive listening devices will be available. To reserve a headset ahead of time, download copies of the form from <http://www.apha.org/events-and-meetings/annual/accessibility/hearing-impaired> or contact access@apha.org to reserve an assistive listening device ahead of time. Onsite, arrangements can be made through the **Freeman AV Office (Room B201)** at the Georgia World Congress Center. There will be no charge for the use of these devices, available on a first-come, first-served basis. Keep in mind however, that this technology involves the installation of "transmitters" in the sessions you wish to attend. **One-day advance notice** is required in order to provide technicians with sufficient time to install the devices. Headphones can be picked up at the **Freeman AV Office (B201)** at the Georgia World Congress Center.

Chemical Sensitivity

The APHA Annual Meeting is a smoke-free event. Smoking is not permitted in any of the meeting rooms used for scientific sessions, business meetings or APHA sponsored social events. Specific requests will be made to the hotels and the convention center that chemicals (including paint and cleaning products) not be used in the meeting room within 4 days of the commencement of our meeting and that only unscented products be used in guest rooms. In addition, APHA requests that its meeting attendees refrain from wearing perfume, cologne, aftershave, and other fragranced, scented, or odorous personal care products such as shampoo, hairspray, and hand lotion, for the health and comfort of meeting participants with chemical sensitivities.

APHA's official decorator, Freeman, installs carpeting just before the Public Health Expo opens. This carpeting is made from 25% recycled materials and is used at least 4 times before recycling or reselling. In some cases when the carpet is new, there may be some off-gassing that could affect people with chemical sensitivity.

Chronic Pain

APHA members with disabilities (including chronic pain) have indicated that in crowded locations and at other times at APHA they experience perhaps unintended pushing or well-intended taps that have caused pain or have caused them to lose their balance. Please be aware of this and be considerate of all registrants.

First Aid Station



A First Aid Station will be staffed at the Georgia World Congress Center (Room B410) during annual meeting hours. If you feel ill or need a place to lie down, go to the First Aid Station. In case of a medical emergency in the Georgia World Congress Center, call (404) 223-4911 or dial 911 from any red house telephone.

Information Desks



APHA information desks will be set up at the Georgia World Congress Center and Omni Atlanta Hotel at CNN Center. These desks will be staffed by temporary personnel who are knowledgeable about the hotel/convention center properties. They will also be able to provide information about the ADA van service, the APHA Program, session locations, etc. Registrants who need to request a wheelchair accessible van pick up should call the shuttle desk at the Georgia World Congress Center and can do so from the information desk or the Accessibility desk.

Meeting Room Set Ups

Specific requests will be made to the APHA meeting hotels and the Georgia World Congress Center regarding adequate aisle space and cut-outs for wheel chair users in all meeting rooms. Please note the standard head table set up provides a podium and podium microphone. If you are presenting a paper, and require a tabletop or lavalier microphone, please notify APHA in writing at least **3 weeks in advance** of the meeting. Every effort will be made to set meeting rooms to accommodate people with disabilities both as speakers and in the audience, please contact us at access@apha.org or by phone at (202) 777-2475 with any accessibility requests.

Mobility Constraints



Due to the large size of the APHA Annual Meeting, sessions are sometimes spread out and distances between sessions can be considerable. If you are a regular wheelchair user, you should bring your chair with you. If you can get along without a wheelchair but feel that you may need one to navigate the distances at the Colorado Convention Center, electric scooters can be rented from local suppliers (see page 9 for details). Wheelchair charging stations will be available in the registration area behind the Accessibility Desk.

All official APHA hotels are within walking distance of the convention center. See page 3 for information about the on-call ADA van service.

Scientific Program and Abstracts

Presenter Resources

Presenters should make every effort to make sure their presentations are accessible to attendees with disabilities.

- Guidelines for creating accessible oral presentations: <http://bit.ly/APHAGuidelinesOral>
- Guidelines for creating an accessible poster presentation: <http://bit.ly/APHAGuidelinesPoster>

Online Program

The **Online Program** and the **Online Planner** can be accessed in advance of the meeting and are 508 compliant. Use these tools to plan your time at the Annual Meeting.

Digital Program

The printed final program will also be available in digital format. Check the APHA website after October 13.

Final Program

The final printed Program will be distributed at the Program Pick-Up Counters on-site in the APHA Registration Area at the Georgia World Congress Center. This publication will provide final session and event information and locations. For updated locations, see the mobile app.

Getting To Atlanta

Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport: <http://www.atl.com/>

Before traveling to Hartfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport, call (855) 787-2227 for general information. You can also contact TSA at 711 or email TSA-ContactCenter@tsa.dhs.gov.

For more information regarding accessibility, go to: <http://www.atl.com/ADA/#PassengerInformation>

To/From Airport Transportation

Public Transportation

Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority (MARTA) – Gold or Red Line - <http://www.itsmarta.com/getting-to-airport.aspx>
Rail transportation is available from Hartfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport to downtown Atlanta from \$2.50 per person. Service from the airport is available on a continuous basis with trains departing every 10-15 minutes. The platform is located at the Domestic Terminal located in the middle of the airport’s North and South baggage claims on by West Economy Parking.

Airport Shuttles

Airport shuttle buses provide service from the airport to the hotels from \$16.50 per person one-way. Service from the airport is available on a continuous basis. Reservations are **highly recommended** during peak dates of the Annual Meeting. To make a reservation, go to <http://apps.atl.com/Passenger/GroundTransportation/Default.aspx> and email any of the shared-ride shuttle providers or call the number listed. Shuttle pickup is located in stalls 3 through 10 in the Domestic Terminal.

If Wheelchair-Accessible Service is needed, please indicate it on the reservation online or call for assistance. Please call no later than 24 hours prior to your flight. Your advance reservation will ensure your timely departure to the airport.

Taxi Service

Taxi stands are located in the Yellow Bus aisle inside the Domestic Terminal in between the North and South baggage claims. Average fare to downtown Atlanta is \$30 and the ride is approximately 30 minutes depending on traffic conditions and your destination.

The following taxi companies in Atlanta currently operate wheelchair accessible vehicles equipped with ramp, wheelchair securement and should and lap belt.

Checker Cab – Call 404-351-1111

Yellow Cab – Call 404-688-8454

For Atlanta taxi fare information, including meter and flat rates as well as a fare calculator, visit the Taxi Fare Finder at <https://www.taxifarefinder.com/main.php?city=Atlanta>.

Non-Emergency Medical Transportation

Wheelchair accessible transportation is available in Atlanta and can be scheduled by contacting the following companies:

Non-Emergency Medical Transportation	
Advanced Care Transportation Express, Inc. 800-691-3131 http://www.actexpinc.com/	Complete Medical Transportation 770-987-2798 http://www.completemedtrans.com/
Tyler Medical Transportation, LLC 678-887-4873 http://www.tylermedicaltrans.com/	Metro Atlanta Ambulance Service 770-693-8480 https://www.maas911.com/

For General Atlanta Information:

- Atlanta’s visitor’s site: <http://www.atlanta.net/>
- City of Atlanta, GA Website: <http://www.atlantaga.gov/>

For more information about accessible resources:

- Atlanta’s Office of Disability Rights: <https://ada.georgia.gov/>

Registration Services

The registration system provides attendees with the opportunity to indicate specific needs. Be sure to complete the information and you will be contacted by an APHA staff member to follow up on your needs. Register online at www.apha.org/meeting-registration.

Personal Aide

Should you require an aide or personal assistant to help navigate the Annual Meeting, APHA will register your aide as a complimentary guest. Email us at access@apha.org to register your personal aide (name, city and state are required for the badge). The badge for the personal aide will be mailed to the attendee. Personal aides may attend sessions and access the exhibit hall, but are not eligible to earn CE credits. If you need APHA to arrange for an aide to help you navigate the meeting, request must be submitted in advance outlining the specific type of assistance required to access@apha.org.

Housing/Hotel Reservations

Reservations

All reservations for housing at the APHA Annual Meeting must be made through the official APHA Housing Service, Spargo, Inc. Registration and Housing are integrated. Complete your registration form first and you will be linked to a pre-populated housing form.

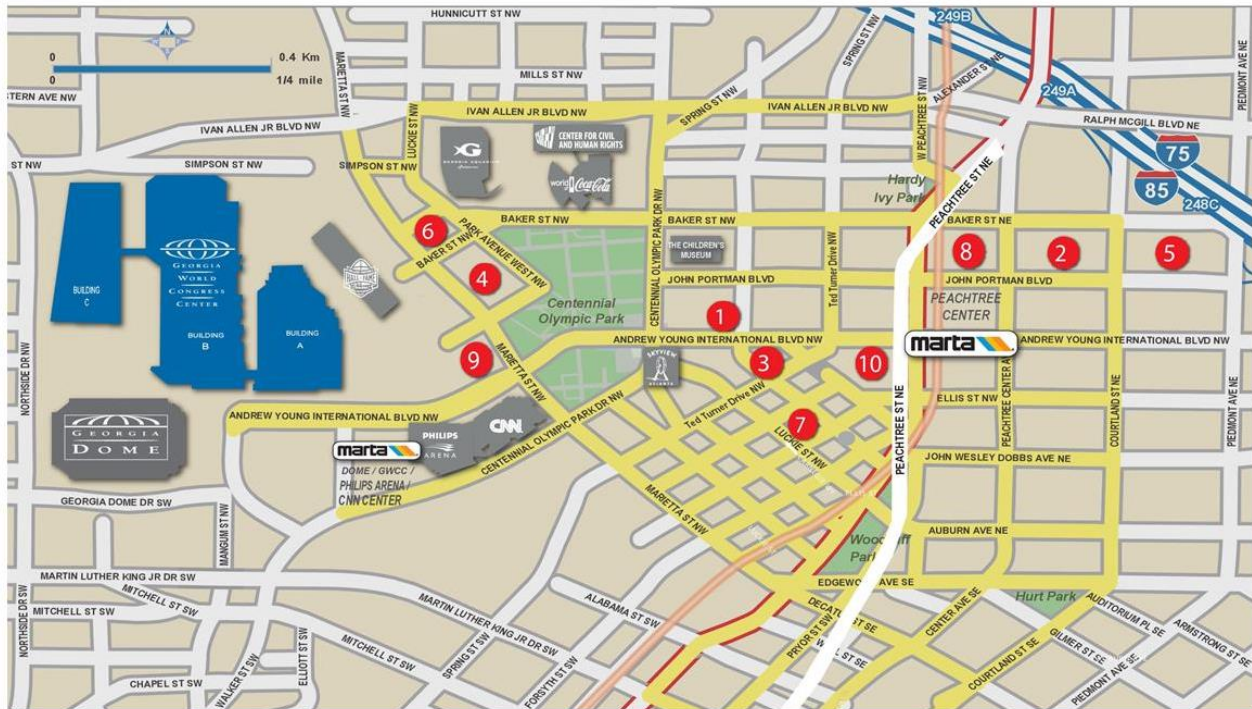
- **Internet:** Book your reservation online at www.apha.org/meeting-housing and receive instant confirmation!
- **Fax:** Send a completed form, one copy per room, to **(703) 631-6288**. Forms can be downloaded from the website referenced above
- **Mail:** Send a completed form with check to **APHA Housing Services, c/o Spargo, Inc., 11208 Waples Mill Rd. Suite 112, Fairfax, VA 22030**.
- **Telephone:** APHA Housing Services [Spargo, Inc.], 8:30 am-5 pm ET, Monday-Friday, closed government holidays at: **(866) 871-5085** (toll free); **(703) 449-6418** (international).

The online housing form provides detailed information about each hotel, including specific accessibility information. Please advise housing service reservation staff of any accessibility accommodations needed. Make your reservation as early as possible, as there are a limited number of accessible rooms available at each property. All ADA rooms are guaranteed.

Hotel Access Training

To further enhance the experiences of our attendees with disabilities, APHA offers free accessibility training to the staff at the meeting hotels, convention center and the vendors. This training is designed to heighten awareness and educate hotel and convention center staff on disability and accessibility issues prior to the arrival of APHA attendees.

Hotel Map



Hotel	Address	Rate (single/double)
1. AC Hotel Atlanta	101 Andrew Young International Boulevard	\$175/\$175
2. Atlanta Marriott Marquis	265 Peachtree Center Ave. NE	\$215/\$215
3. Doubletree Downtown Atlanta	160 Spring Street, NW	\$196/\$196
4. Embassy Suites by Hilton Atlanta	267 Marietta Street	\$215/\$215
5. Hilton Atlanta	255 Courtland St., NE	\$199/\$199
6. Hilton Garden Inn Atlanta	275 Baker Street	\$185/\$185
7. Holiday Inn Express & Suites Atlanta	111 Cone Street, NW	\$151/\$151
8. Hyatt Regency Atlanta*	265 Peachtree St., NW	\$213/\$213
9. Omni Atlanta Hotel at CNN Center	100 CNN Center NW	\$220/\$220
10. Westin Peachtree Plaza	210 Peachtree St. NW	\$208/\$208
*Union Property		

Access Services and Equipment

Please note: These references are provided for information purposes only and are not endorsed by APHA. Meeting participants are required to arrange for and cover costs associated with the renting of mobility aids (such as scooters) or access services. APHA does not reimburse for costs incurred by attendees for this equipment or access services.

Accessible Van Rentals	
Wheelers Accessible Van Rentals 1-800-456-1371 http://wheelersvanrentals.com/	R&R Mobility 866-405-6807 http://www.rrvan.com/
AMS Vans 855-390-8826 http://www.amsvans.com/wheelchair-van-rentals/	
Durable Medical Equipment/Wheelchair & Scooter Rental	
Medi-Source 770-528-9559 http://www.medisourcehme.com/rentals.htm	ADA Medical Supply 678-398-0505 http://www.adamedicalsupply.com/
Scooter/Wheelchair Rentals	
ScotAround Inc. (rentals available in 73 cities in US & Canada) 888-441-7575 http://www.scootaround.com/	Atlanta Scooter Rentals 770-309-3699 http://atlantascooterrentals.net/
Scooter-Plus Rentals 1-866-474-4356 https://lenoxmedicalsupply.com/rentals.html	Power Wheelchair Services 404-478-7148 http://www.powerwheelchairservices.com/