

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, 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) 777-2528.

APHA Meeting Properties

APHA's 2019 Annual Meeting and Expo takes place at the Pennsylvania Convention Center (PACC) and the Philadelphia Marriott Downtown Hotel. Twenty additional hotels in the downtown area make up the rest of the official APHA room block.

Getting Around the Pennsylvania Convention Center – 1101 Arch St, Philadelphia, PA 19107

The PACC is located in the heart of downtown Philadelphia and is one of the few convention centers that are uniquely woven into the city's landscape. There are hundreds of accessible restaurants, shops, historical attractions and cultural institutions within walking distance.

The exhibit halls are located on the second level of the PACC and the meeting rooms are on the first and second levels. To access the meeting rooms, entrances are located at street level, with access from the third floor of the Marriott connected to the building. Elevators are located in the building near the Arch Street entrance.

Getting Around the Philadelphia Marriott Downtown Hotel – 1201 Market St, Philadelphia, PA 19107

The Philadelphia Marriott Downtown Hotel is located next to the Pennsylvania Convention Center, connected via sky bridge on the third floor. It connects directly to the Grand Hall, located on the second floor of the PACC. The hotel is ADA compliant with wheelchair access and is TTY/TTD compatible. Staff is trained to accommodate guests with special needs so that everyone has an enjoyable and safe stay.

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

- Bathtub with grab bars
- Roll-in shower
- Wheelchair accessible doors
- TTY/TTD compatible
- Closed captioning on televisions

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) 777-2528.

Access Services Onsite

Accessibility Booth

An accessibility booth will be set up in the Grand Hall of the Pennsylvania Convention Center. 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 Pennsylvania Convention 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 Arch Street and 13th Street entrance by rooms 108 and 109 of the Pennsylvania Convention Center. 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, Lyft, and Uber 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, Lyft or Uber to and from official APHA hotels and the Pennsylvania Convention 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. 2, 2019.**

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

- 215-Get-A-Cab – Call 215-438-2222
- Victory Cab Co. – Call 215-225-5000

For Philadelphia 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=Philadelphia>.

- **Public Transportation**

SEPTA (Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority)

Philadelphia offers low-cost transportation around Philadelphia starting at \$2.50 for a one way trip. Get off at Jefferson Station, Center City Philadelphia Regional Rail Zone. <http://www.septa.org/maps/system/index.html>. Learn more about SEPTA accessibility at <http://www.septa.org/access/>.

- **PHLASH Bus Loop**

Get around the city's many tourist destinations on [Philadelphia PHLASH Downtown Loop](#) (\$2 per ride or \$5 per day) from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily. All PHLASH buses are wheelchair accessible and run every 15 minutes.

- **Parking at the Convention Center**

Accessible parking is not available at the Pennsylvania Convention Center, but is available in parking lots surrounding the convention center, starting from \$25 per day. For additional parking locations in the downtown area, please go to <http://www.philapark.org/locator/>.

- **Non-Emergency Medical Transportation**

Wheelchair accessible transportation is available in Philadelphia and can be scheduled by contacting the companies listed under Non-Emergency Medical Transportation on page 9.

American Sign Language (ASL) Interpreters



Interpreters can be arranged to fit your schedule. You must be registered for the annual meeting before an interpreter can be requested. An ASL Request Form, indicating a preliminary schedule must be submitted to APHA no later than **September 12, 2019**. A final schedule of sessions is due **October 4, 2019**. Download copies of the form from <http://www.apha.org/events-and-meetings/annual/accessibility/hearing-impaired> or contact access@apha.org.

Use the mobile app, mobile or desktop version, 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 so that we can make sure that appropriate coverage is provided 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.**

Hearing Impaired

For registrants who have difficulty hearing, there are two options available: amplification devices and assistive listening devices.

- **Amplification Devices**

A limited number of amplification devices will be available. These compact devices amplify the sound in the room and can be carried from one room to another. For best results you may want to sit near the front of the room to better hear the presentations. To reserve an amplification device ahead of time, contact access@apha.org. Onsite, arrangements can be made through the **Freeman AV Office (Room 307AB)** at the Pennsylvania Convention Center. There will be no charge for the use of these devices, available on a first-come, first-served basis.

- **Assistive Listening Devices**



A limited number of assistive listening devices will be available. This technology involves the installation of "transmitters" in sessions you wish to attend and cannot be moved from room to room. On the form you will need to provide detailed information about each session you plan to attend so that transmitters can be installed in each room. Please note, only a limited number of transmitters are available and will be provided on a first-come, first served basis. Download copies of the form from <http://www.apha.org/events-and-meetings/annual/accessibility/hearing-impaired>. We recommend that you submit the form at least one week in advance of the meeting. If not all transmitters have been reserved in advance, arrangements can be made onsite through the **Freeman AV Office (Room 307AB)** at the Pennsylvania Convention Center. There will be no charge for the use of these devices. Onsite requests **must be made at least 24 hours in advance of the session** in order to provide technicians with sufficient time to install the devices. Headphones can be picked up at the **Freeman AV Office (307AB)** at the Pennsylvania Convention Center.

CART Service

CART Service can be arranged to fit your schedule for deaf attendees who cannot understand American Sign Language. CART Service is only available in meeting rooms with strong internet connection and is unavailable in the exhibit hall. Attendees will need to bring their own computer and any additional requirements from the CART provider. Due to inconsistent internet connectivity, please contact access@apha.org to inquire about the possibility of CART Services.

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.

First Aid Station



A First Aid Station will be staffed at the Pennsylvania Convention Center (just inside of Hall B) 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 Pennsylvania Convention Center, call 215-418-4911.

Information Desks



APHA information desks will be set up at the Pennsylvania Convention Center and Philadelphia Marriott Downtown. 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 service directly at **310-900-9525**.

Meeting Room Set Ups

Specific requests will be made to the APHA meeting hotels and the Pennsylvania Convention 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) 777-2528 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 Pennsylvania Convention Center, electric scooters can be rented from local suppliers (see page 9 for details). Wheelchair charging stations will be available in the Grand Hall at the Accessibility Desk.

All official APHA hotels (except those at Penn's Landing) are within walking distance of the convention center. See page 3 for information about the on-call ADA van service.

Scientific Program and Abstracts

Online Program

The Online Program can be accessed in advance of the meeting and is 508 compliant. Use this tool to plan your time at the Annual Meeting.

Mobile App

The Mobile App can be accessed in mid-August and is 508 compliant. Use the app to plan your schedule in advance and to peruse additional information about the Annual Meeting.

Final Program

The final printed program will be distributed at the Program Pick-Up Counters on-site in the APHA Registration Area (PACC Grand Hall) and should be requested at the time you register for the meeting. This publication will provide session and event titles and locations. For updated locations and additional information, see the mobile app.

Getting To Philadelphia

Philadelphia International Airport (PHL): <http://www.phl.org/>

Before traveling to Philadelphia International Airport, call 855-654-5984 for general information. For more information regarding accessibility, go to: <https://www.phl.org/Pages/Passengerinfo/Accessibility/AccessInfo.aspx>

To/From Airport Transportation

Public Transportation

SEPTA (Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority)

Airport Regional Rail Line to Jefferson Station:

https://www.phl.org/Pages/passengerinfo/transportationservices/cct_connect.aspx

Rail Transportation is available to and from the airport between 4:52 AM to 12:30 AM and run every 30 minutes starting from \$6.75 per person. The stations are located at Terminal A (East), Terminal B, Terminal C/D and Terminal E/F. All stations are wheelchair accessible. For additional SEPTA information, call TTY 215-580-7853. Ticket vending machines are available at all stations or go to shop.SEPTA.org to purchase in advance.

Airport Shuttles

Airport shuttle buses are not available from the airport to APHA official hotels.

Taxi Service

Taxi stands are located at Zone 5 on the Commercial Transportation Roadway. Average fare to the downtown Philadelphia is \$28.50 and the ride is approximately 35 minutes depending on traffic conditions and your destination.

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

215-Get-A-Cab – Call 215-438-2222

Victory Cab Co. – Call 215-225-5000

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

For General Philadelphia Information:

- Philadelphia’s visitor’s site: <https://www.visitphilly.com/>
- City of Philadelphia, PA Website: <https://www.phila.gov/>

For more information about accessible resources:

- Mayor’s Office for People with Disabilities: <https://www.phila.gov/departments/mayors-office-for-people-with-disabilities/>

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 (not the aide). 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, a 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); **(571) 549-4524** (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 Map



- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| 1. Aloft Hotel Convention Center
101 N. Broad St.
\$234/\$234
1 block | 9. Hilton Philadelphia Penn's Landing
201 S. Christopher Columbus Blvd.
\$237/\$237
14 blocks | 17. Residence Inn by Marriott
1 E. Penn Square
\$237/\$237
1 block |
| 2. The Bellevue Hotel
200 S. Broad Street
\$237/\$237
4 blocks | 10. Holiday Inn Express Phila East
100 N. Christopher Columbus Blvd.
\$224/\$224
13 blocks | 18. Ritz-Carlton Hotel, Philadelphia
10 Broad St.
\$269/\$269
3 blocks |
| 3. Best Western Plus Conv. Center
1225 Vine St.
\$219/\$219
2 blocks | 11. Holiday Inn Express Midtown
1305 Walnut St.
\$199/\$199
4 blocks | 19. Sheraton Philadelphia Society Hill
1 Dock St.
\$229/\$229
12 blocks |
| 4. Courtyard by Marriott Philadelphia
21 N. Juniper St.
\$232/\$232
3 blocks | 12. Home2Suites Philadelphia
1200 Arch St.
\$239/\$249
1 block | 20. The Warwick Hotel Rittenhouse Sq
220 S. 17th St.
\$237/\$237
8 blocks |
| 5. Doubletree by Hilton Hotel Phila
237 S. Broad St.
\$237/\$237
5 blocks | 13. Le Meridien Philadelphia
1421 Arch St.
\$235/\$235
2 blocks | 21. The Westin Philadelphia Hotel
99 S. 17th St. at Liberty Place
\$259/\$259
5 blocks |
| 6. Embassy Suites Hotel Center City
1776 Benjamin Franklin Pkwy
\$214/\$214
4 blocks | 14. Loews Philadelphia Hotel
1200 Market St.
\$239/\$239
1 block | 22. The Windsor Suites
1700 Benjamin Franklin Pkwy
\$219/\$219
4 blocks |
| 7. Hampton Inn Convention Center
1301 Race St.
\$232/\$232
2 blocks | 15. Philadelphia 201 Hotel
201 N. 17th St.
\$237/\$237
2 blocks | 23. Wyndham Phila Historic District
400 Arch St.
\$199/\$199
7 blocks |
| 8. Hilton Garden Inn Philadelphia
1100 Arch St.
\$245/\$245
1 block | 16. Philadelphia Marriott
1201 Market St.
\$237/\$237
1 block | |

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	
Access Bus and Van Sales 717-932-6060 http://www.accessbusandvan.com/	Mobility Works 1-877-275-4907 https://www.mobilityworks.com/mobilityworks-locations/philadelphia-pa.php
Wheelers Accessible Van Rentals 1-800-456-1371 http://wheelersvanrentals.com/	
Durable Medical Equipment	
AllCare Medical Equipment 215-745-4010 https://www.tryallcare.com/	Marx Medical Equipment 215-426-9242 https://www.marxmedicalequipment.com/hospital-bed-wheelchair-rentals-philadelphia/
Scooter/Wheelchair Rentals	
ScootAround Inc. (rentals available in 73 cities in US & Canada) 888-441-7575 http://www.scootaround.com/	Marx Medical Equipment 215-426-9242 https://www.marxmedicalequipment.com/hospital-bed-wheelchair-rentals-philadelphia/
Mobility on Wheels 215-883-4106 https://mobilityonwheels.com/metro-philadelphia-mobility-scooters	
Non-Emergency Medical Transportation	
Clarion Medical Transport 310-783-1122 http://www.clarionambulance.com/medical-transportation	Keystone Quality Transport 610-566-2200 x 1 http://www.keystonequalitytransport.com/
LifeMed Ambulance 215-990-2568 https://www.lifemedpa.com/home/	Romed Ambulance 1-888-676-4911 http://www.romedambulance.com/