

How ASHI Selects Annual Meeting Locations

ASHI's Annual Meeting location is chosen through a multi-year evaluation process designed to balance educational quality, accessibility, and responsible financial stewardship. While the ASHI Board of Directors makes the final decision, the selection involves research, review, and objective criteria well before the Board vote.

Long-Range Planning

Meeting locations are typically evaluated 3 to 5 years in advance. Planning early allows ASHI to secure appropriate meeting space, attain reasonable hotel rates, and negotiate significant benefits for attendees and the Society.

How Meeting Size Shapes Site Selection

ASHI requires a venue large enough to support concurrent scientific sessions, exhibits, and networking space, yet small enough to remain financially responsible and maintain a cohesive attendee experience. As a result, the balance between meeting length and venue capacity significantly limits the number of cities and dates that can realistically accommodate the meeting.

Research and Proposal Review

ASHI staff work with professional conference services to identify cities and venues capable of supporting the meeting's scientific, educational, and networking needs. Potential locations must accommodate:

- Educational session rooms and workshops
- Poster and exhibit space
- Accessibility for attendees and exhibitors
- Adequate hotel availability
- Reliable transportation options

Evaluation Criteria

Each potential location is reviewed using consistent considerations, including:

- a. Cost & Financial Responsibility
 - Hotel room rates
 - Meeting space rental and service costs
 - Overall value to the Society
- b. Accessibility for Members
 - Air travel availability and typical flight costs
 - Geographic rotation across regions when feasible
 - Transportation from airport to venue
 - ADA accessibility
- c. Educational Environment
 - Quality and size of meeting facilities
 - Poster and exhibit hall suitability
 - Space for workshops and small group sessions
- d. Member Experience
 - Safety and walkability
 - Dining and networking opportunities
 - Ability to support attendance across career stages

Review and Board Approval

After evaluation, recommended locations are presented to the ASHI Board of Directors. The Board reviews the information and votes on the site that best supports the Society's educational mission and financial responsibility to members.

Our Goal

The site selection process is intended to provide:

- High-quality educational programming

- Predictable and reasonable meeting costs
- Accessible attendance for the greatest number of members

ASHI strives to make decisions that support the long-term sustainability of the Annual Meeting while delivering value to the membership.