Changes to the Annual Meeting Invitation Policies

The following updates reflect our commitment to keeping the ACNP Annual Meeting at a capacity that allows for exchange of ideas in a collaborative format. These changes are designed to strategically manage meeting size while expanding access for researchers in alignment with our mission of encouraging new talent.

- **Invited Guest Definition**

  All invited guests must meet one of the following criteria with respect to career stage at the time of invitation request:
  - At least a 2nd year post-doctoral fellow (both MDs and PhDs) or 3rd or 4th year residents on a research track
  - Faculty at an Instructor level (or similar) or above
  - Scientists in Federal government positions (e.g., NIH, NSF, FDA, ARPA-H, VA, DoD) considered to be equivalent to either criteria #1 or criteria #2
  - If industry, demonstrate a level of leadership and/or responsibility

  Attestation of meeting one of these criteria is required at the time of requested invitation. Documentation may also be required.

- **Trainee Definition**
  - A trainee is a person in their 2nd year post-doctoral fellowship (both MDs and PhDs) or 3rd or 4th year residents on a research track at the time the invitation is requested.
  - Trainees have all the rights and privileges of invited guests.
  - Attestation of meeting the criteria is required at the time of requested invitation. Documentation may also be required.

- **General Invitation Bank** – The General Invitation Bank is now closed.

- **Special Invitation Bank**
  - All Special Invitation Bank guests must meet the Invited Guest definition AND two or more of the following criteria:
    - Were or currently are homeless
    - Were or currently are in the foster care system
    - Were eligible for the Federal Free and Reduced Lunch Program for two or more years
    - Have/had no parents or legal guardians who completed a bachelor's degree
    - Were or currently are eligible for Federal Pell grants
    - Received support from the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) as a parent or child
    - Grew up in a rural area or in a low-income country
    - Have/had significant social or physical challenges
    - *International Scientists Only* Were considered from a disadvantaged background from your country (if from or currently reside outside the U.S.)
  - Limited to **150** invitations

- Members, Fellows, and Emeritus members may use **two** invitations from this bank until it reaches the cap of 150.
- Members requesting the invitation will need to verify that the scientist is eligible per meeting two or more of the criteria above AND the invited guest career stage requirements.

ACNP will make every effort to keep this information private but cannot guarantee this information would not be unintentionally released within the College.

REMINDER FOR JANUARY 2027 ANNUAL MEETING: Member invited guest invitations will be limited to **400**. Please review the requirements for the Special Invitation Bank and utilize the bank in lieu of your member invitation, when applicable.

What does this mean?

- Members MUST attend the meeting to extend guest invitations.
- Member guest invitations will be capped at 400 requests. As a reminder, Members, Fellows and Emeritus members have one invited guest invitation. Once the cap is met, member invitation requests will be closed.
- Member guest invitations will be issued on a first come, first served basis.
- In 2025, member invited guest invitations reached the cap of 400 in late August for the January 2026 Annual Meeting in Nassau. In 2024, member invited guest invitations reached the cap of 400 in late September for the 2024 Annual Meeting in Phoenix. *Please request your guest invitation early and utilize the Special Invitation Bank when applicable.*

Reminders

- Only members attending the meeting may request invitations.
- Scientific guests must be 21 years of age or older to attend the meeting in person.
- Associate Members do not have invited guest privileges.
- Associate Members must register by October 7, 2026.
- The General Invitation Bank has a cap of 50 invitations. Once the cap has been reached, this bank will close. *The General Invitation Bank is now closed.*
- The Special Invitation Bank has a cap of 150 invitations. Once the cap has been reached, this bank will close.
- Attendees, including invited guests, must be registered for the conference prior to submitting a poster abstract.
- The poster submission deadline is August 27th.