

- **Security and First Aid**
 - In 2026, the Albuquerque Convention Center has onsite security. First Aid and an AED machine are available at the front desk (staffed 24/7).
- **Interactive Wayfinding Map - Expo FP**
 - <https://ndeoconf2026.expofp.com/>
 - For 2026, NDEO has created an interactive map to help attendees navigate between session rooms. Attendees can also use the map to navigate between their hotel and the convention center. We've also noted several points of interest throughout the city of Albuquerque. This map is accessible via QR code on attendee badges, in the AttendeeHub app, and printed on a sign at the NDEO registration desk.
 - **Screen Reader Compatibility**
 - In order to improve accessibility for everyone, Expo FP has applied ARIA (Accessible Rich Internet Applications) attributes across the platform. This includes tooltips on all navigation buttons for easier orientation. We also have included support for screen readers and keyboard navigation on all main floor plan interface elements.
- **Attendee Hub**
 - Attendees can use Attendee Hub to pre-plan their conference experience. Planning ahead can help reduce overwhelm when navigating a conference with over 200 sessions.
 - All sessions include the time, location and presenter information.
 - In coordination with the Expo FP map attendees can figure out how close one session is from their next.
 - Attendee Hub is compatible with screen readers (such as JAWS and NVDA).
- **On-site Accessibility**
 - Conference venues are selected and vetted in consideration of accessible pathways to sessions.
 - All pathways to and from sessions meet ADA accessibility requirements
 - This year's conference features events/session on multiple floors and the venue has elevator access between floors
 - The elevator at the Albuquerque Convention Center is at the center of the building. When entering at the 2nd Street Entrance attendees can utilize the escalator and elevator to navigate to the lower level (La Sala).
 - Ballrooms, the Kiva Auditorium and San Miguel are located on the 3rd Floor (Upper West)

- Attendees with questions about accessibility on-site can contact NDEO staff in person at the Registration desk (located across from the elevator bank) or use our email or text help line
 - Email: conference@ndeo.org
 - Text Line: (240-619-8519)
- Registration Hours
 - Thursday: 7:30am - 3:30pm and 5:30pm - 8:30pm
 - Friday: 7:30am - 5:00pm
 - Saturday - 7:30am - 1:00pm
 - Sunday - 7:30am - 11:00am
- **Access Accommodations**
 - NDEO attendees are able to submit requests for accommodations when registering for conference. NDEO works directly with individuals on specific requests.
 - Requests for ASL interpretation, food allergies, and any other access-related requests can be made via the registration form by September 1, 2026
- **Getting Around the Conference Host City**
 - NDEO prepares “Know Before You Go” material to provide to all attendees to help attendees get acquainted with the local area. This documentation includes local attractions, restaurants, pharmacies, grocery stores and more.
 - In 2026, Visit Albuquerque will also be tabling at the convention center during our conference to help orient attendees and provide information on local attractions.
- **Allergies/Dietary Restrictions**
 - NDEO takes dietary requests very seriously, asking attendees to indicate any allergies or dietary restrictions on their conference registration. We share these with our venues and work with them on appropriate menus for all food that is served on-site
 - Major allergens (soy, gluten, dairy, nuts) will be clearly labeled by Catering staff on buffets.
- **ASL/Closed Captioning**
 - ASL Interpreters are available upon request via the online registration form- deadline to request is September 1st.
 - Closed Captioning is provided for the Opening Dinner/Keynote presentation and Plenary Session.
 - Captions can be viewed via on-screen projects and/or via your own mobile device. A QR code will be provided for those following the captions on their own device.
 - Captions are provided by Texas Closed Captioning using CART.
- **Audio Visual Access**
 - All session rooms have speakers for playing music
 - Most session have Bluetooth speakers
 - The following sessions will have speakers and microphones provided by Alliance AC

- Acoma/Zuni
- Picuris
- Taos
- Sandia/Santa Ana
- San Miguel
- Ballroom A

- **Session Access**

- All presenters are provided documentation on how to create accessible presentations and resources. Including information about font type and size, amount of readable text on a screen. Alt text on photos and encouragement to caption any videos that are shared
- Many presenters also provide PDF documentation of their presentations in the Attendee Hub App for attendees to view on their own device and to refer back to later
- All attendees are encouraged to go to as many or as few sessions as is accessible to them.
 - NDEO is providing a multi-use space (Networking Lounge) that can be used to decompress, unplug between or instead of sessions.
 - The Convention Center is across the street from a large public outdoor space (Civic Plaza) that attendees can use to get fresh air and take quiet breaks whenever needed.

- **Lactation room**

- NDEO always provides a designated lactation room at conference.
- For 2026, this is located in the Women's Bathroom on the Lower Level of the Convention Center next to Anasazi. This room is fully enclosed with soft seating and a secured private entrance.

- **Children at Conference**

- Parent registrants are welcome to bring their young children to sessions as needed.

- **Gender inclusivity**

- NDEO always works with our venues to provide a gender-neutral bathroom.
- All NDEO attendees are encouraged to use whatever restrooms they are most comfortable with.
- This year's bathroom is located in the Upper West foyer and will be designated as gender neutral.

- **Religious inclusivity**

- NDEO considers major religious holidays in scheduling the national conference and makes every effort to avoid any conflicts with our conference dates.

- **Financial assistance**

- NDEO provides several opportunities for free and reduced conference registration, including our Professional Development Scholarships, Student Conference Scholarships, and Student Conference Volunteer Program.
 - Questions about available financial assistance can be directed to conference@ndeo.org

- Scholarship information can be found by visiting this link:
<https://www.ndeo.org/Membership/Scholarships>

- **Attendee feedback**

- NDEO conference is an ever-changing event! We take attendee feedback very seriously and make refinements to our conference every year based on feedback and requests. If you have anything you'd like to share, please be sure to complete the post-conference survey or email conference@ndeo.org.

COVID-19 and other airborne transmittable illness precautions:

- NDEO is committed to protecting all our members, especially those most vulnerable and/or those living or working with vulnerable individuals. Our organization strives to provide its members a safe and healthy conference experience.
- **Covid-19 or Flu Diagnosis:** **If you have tested positive for covid-19 or the flu in the week before conference you may NOT attend conference until you receive a negative test result or are cleared by a medical professional.** If you have a known close exposure to covid-19, the flu, or another contagious disease in the week before conference please test and confirm you are not sick before attending conference. If you are experiencing any symptoms of a possible infectious disease, please confirm with a medical professional that you are not contagious before attending the conference. If you are unable to attend the conference due to a contagious disease diagnosis, please contact conference@ndeo.org.
- **Vaccination:** NDEO strongly recommends that all attendees stay up to date on eligible vaccinations, especially those protecting against covid-19 and the seasonal flu.
- **Masking At Conference:** While masking is not required, we do ask that any attendees experiencing any respiratory symptoms wear a high-quality mask while attending conference to help keep the community safe.