



Frequently Asked Questions - 2017 National Congress on Science Education

Theme: *Transitioning to Successful Science Instruction for ALL*
Dates: Wednesday, July 19 through Saturday, July 22, 2017
Location: Hyatt Regency Buffalo Hotel and Conference Center
Two Fountain Plaza
Buffalo, New York, 14202

1. What is the purpose of the National Congress on Science Education (NCSE) meeting?

The National Congress on Science Education (formerly known as Summer Congress) is an annual meeting comprised of attendees representing science education associations throughout North America. Attendees represent the chapters or associated groups recognized by the National Science Teachers Association. These leaders discuss important issues relevant to the science education profession and they develop leadership and organizational management skills to manage more effective organizations. This event is uniquely designed for current and emerging leaders to enhance the knowledge and skills to shape the future of the science education profession.

2. Where is the meeting located?

This year's meeting will take place in the Hyatt Regency Buffalo Hotel and Conference Center in Buffalo, NY. Referenced below is contact information for the meeting venue:

Hyatt Regency Buffalo Hotel and Conference Center

Two Fountain Plaza, Buffalo, NY 14202

<https://buffalo.regency.hyatt.com/en/hotel/home.html>

716 856 1234

For attendees planning to travel to the meeting by plane, the closest airport is Buffalo-Niagara International Airport (9 miles from the Hyatt).

3. Are there any special housing discounts with the headquarters hotel?

NSTA has established a negotiated the reduced rate of \$149 per night for NCSE attendees. Rooms must be booked by June 19, 2017. NSTA does not have discount rates with other area hotels.

a. Is there wifi (internet) available in the Hyatt?

Yes, wifi will be available both in-room and as part of this "Green" meeting.

4. How do I register or declare myself as a delegate or alternate for my chapter or associated group?

Registration for the 2017 NCSE Meeting is available now — visit [NCSE Registration](#). All attendees MUST select a 2017 NCSE Registration option (all *Chapter and Associated Group leaders/representatives* should select “2017 NCSE Chapter/Associated Group Registration”; *NSTA leaders* should select “2017 NSTA Leader Registration” and *Robert Yager Award Recipients* should select “2017 NCSE Yager Award Recipient Registration.” Attendees who will represent a chapter or associated group as a delegate or alternate will also need to select the "P-D" (for delegate) or "P-A" (for alternate) registration types. Only **one** delegate and **one** alternate are allowed per organization. **The deadline to declare a delegate and alternate is June 19.** If you have any questions about the registration process, please e-mail chapters@nsta.org.

- ***Chapter or Associated Group Delegate or Alternate: Voting Delegate/Alternate representing interest of a Chapter or Associated Group.*** By selecting the registration type of Chapter or Associated Group Delegate, you hereby agree that: (1) You are a member in good standing of the Chapter or Associated Group you are representing. (2) By completion of this online form no fewer than thirty (30) days prior to the next scheduled meeting of the NCSE, NSTA has provided to your Chapter or Associated group documentation for the purpose of declaring its voting delegate and alternate voting delegate to the NCSE. (3) If neither the delegate nor alternate delegate completes this online form as official documentation to the NCSE Credentials Committee, the Chapter or Associated Group shall forfeit voting rights at that meeting of the NCSE. (4) You are not currently a member of the NSTA Council or Board of Directors, since, other than the President, they are not allowed to be declared a voting member of the NCSE. (5) You agree to vote on behalf of the Chapter or Associated group you are representing in the manner proscribed by the NCSE. (6) Upon arrival and registration at the NCSE, you will sign an official credentialing roster verifying all of the above.

Special note: If a chapter or associated group needs to select a different representative to serve as delegate or alternate, email us at chapters@nsta.org as soon as possible.

5. What is the schedule for the meeting?

The NCSE Planning Committee continues to finalize the meeting schedule. The most up-to-date schedule will be posted on the [NCSE webpage](#). Chapter/Associated Group leaders and attendees will be sent the final, full schedule in June.

This year’s meeting will feature more workshops (organization and leadership sessions focused on strengthening your organization) and deep dive sessions where attendees will begin projects on-site.

6. Will printed materials be available onsite and at registration?

The NCSE meeting will be a completely green meeting again this year.

- General materials will be accessible through the [NCSE webpage](#)

- Discussion/Issue Forum information and workshop presentations will be accessible through the [2017 NCSE Google Drive Folder](#)

(All attendees will be added to the Google Drive to access and view documents. Issue forum leaders, facilitators, recorders and individuals will be given access to edit and upload documents. If you have any problems accessing documents, please email the NSTA staff at chapters@nsta.org or see Azi Abrishami while onsite.)

7. What are “No Host Dinners”?

While in Buffalo, NSTA leaders (board and council members) may coordinate “No Host dinners.” These dinners will be at the expense of the attendees, but will allow you to network with other science educators over dinner. Leaders may contact you in advance to sign-up.

8. What is the dress code for this meeting?

The dress code for the NCSE meeting is business casual. Ties, suit jackets or blazers are not required.

9. Other activities, dinners, etc.

The NSTA Board, Council, and Alliance of Affiliate meetings will be held in conjunction with the NCSE meeting. The NCSE Planning Committee has scheduled an evening activity at the Niagara Power Vista featuring dinner and a visit to the Niagara Falls.