



SEMC 2025 Registration Frequently Asked Questions

We can't wait to see you in Montgomery! How can we help you?

Deadlines

What are the Registration Deadlines?

We encourage members to take advantage of Early Bird Registration to receive the best registration rates!

Early Bird Member Registration	through August 15, 2025
Regular Member Registration	August 16 - October 10 at 11:59 PM, 2025
Non-Member Registration	through October 10 at 11:59 PM, 2025
Daily Rate (One Day, Includes Evening Events)	October 20-22, 2025
On-site Registration	October 20-22, 2025

Are there other deadlines I should be aware of?

Yes! Submissions for Competitions, Leadership Awards and SEMC Travel Scholarships have summer deadlines.

Applications for Travel Scholarships	June 30, 2025
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Competition Submissions	June 30, 2025
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***The entry fee for SEMC competitions must be received by June 30, 2025, for entries to be considered**

Submissions for Leadership Awards	July 31, 2025
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Conference Rates

What are the Registration options?

To get the best registration price, we encourage members to take advantage of early registration! Not a member? [JOIN HERE](#) and take advantage of member rates.

Early Bird SEMC Member	\$400 (April-August 15, 2025)
Regular SEMC Member	\$475 (August 16-October 10, 2025)
Non-Member	\$525 (April-October 10, 2025)
Student	\$100 (April-October 10, 2025)
*Alabama Museum Association Member	\$375 (April-October 10, 2025)
*Please contact AMA for the registration discount code	
Daily (One Day only, Includes Evening Events)	\$275 (October 20-21, 2025)
On-Site	\$525 (October 19-22, 2025)

How to Register for SEMC2025

How do I register? There are two ways to register:

- Online. If you are an Exhibitor, Sponsor, Scholarship Recipient, Plenary or Keynote speaker, or a confirmed Volunteer, you will receive an email with the appropriate discount code to enter when you register.
- If you need an alternate way to register, please contact Carla Phillips (cphillips@semcdirect.net)

I am a staff member of an Institutional Member. What do I need to register?

Your email needs to be included in the list of staff in your organization's institutional membership to receive membership rates. Please contact Carla Phillips (cphillips@semcdirect.net) with questions.

I need to register someone other than myself for the Annual Meeting. Can I use my username and password to register them?

Yes, you can register colleagues, **HOWEVER**, each registrant must be registered separately, using their email address. You **CANNOT** use one email address to register multiple people.

If you are registering a group and paying by check, please send a list of the registered members with your check payment so we can be sure to credit each registered member to cphillips@semcdirect.net

I forgot my username and password to register.

Visit www.semcdirect.net and click Membership Center in the upper blue header, and click to reset your password.

I have a “complimentary” registration because I am a Corporate Friend member, exhibitor, or scholarship recipient. Can I register online?

Yes, those issued a complimentary registration can register online with the promo code provided.

How do I indicate that I have a dietary restriction?

Our priority is to ensure the safety and comfort of all our conference attendees. You can indicate dietary restrictions in the online registration form. Please note that due to the vast combinations of dietary restrictions and limited catering menus at the host hotel, you may be served the same meal if you attend multiple conference luncheons. Menus for evening events will be published on the PheedLoopGo Conference App.

Can I purchase event tickets or any other paid events onsite?

If space is still available for off-site tours and/or workshops, you can purchase a ticket at the registration desk. ***Luncheon tickets can only be purchased in advance; you cannot purchase luncheon tickets on-site.*** It's always best to purchase your ticket(s) in advance.

If I am wait-listed for an event, when will I know if I can attend?

If an event is at capacity, we will add the overflow guests to a waitlist. If space becomes available, you will receive a confirmation email at least 48 hours before the event date.

I am a speaker and plan to attend only on the day I speak. Do I need to fill out a registration form and pay registration fees?

Yes, everyone who attends the conference needs to register. If you are a speaker and will only attend the session you will present at, you will be given a complimentary registration code. If you plan to attend other conference sessions, you must register and pay the registration fee.

Who is considered a “guest” on the registration form?

A guest is anyone who accompanies you to the Annual Meeting and **will not attend any sessions or workshops**. A “guest” may attend the tours and evening events (please note any registration costs) and will need a name badge for that purpose. Please be sure that you list the name of your guest (limit one) in the “Guest’s name” field on your registration form. If your guest decides to attend the full conference (upon arrival) please see the registration desk.

Payments and Schedule

Can I purchase a ticket to an off-site tour for a guest?

Yes, as long as we have space available, you can purchase tour tickets for a guest. Each guest registrant must be registered separately, using their email address. You CANNOT use your email address to register a guest. There is no fee for a guest to accompany you to an evening event. However, please indicate how many will attend the event and have them wear the conference name badge provided.

Can I pay for my registration with a check?

Yes, please check the “Pay by Check” box on the registration form. Mail your check to:

Southeastern Museums Conference

PO Box 550746

Atlanta, Georgia 30355

When is my registration due if I pay with a credit card?

All credit card payments will generate an invoice with the registration balance. Payment is due at the time of registration. All registration and event fees must be paid before attending the conference. If you have extenuating circumstances, please contact Zinnia Willits (zwillits@semcdirect.net)

Will I receive a list of everything I registered for?

Yes. When you complete your registration, your events/luncheons will be accessible via your SEMC profile, which you can access at any time.

Can I create a personalized schedule of sessions I would like to attend?

Yes. You can view the SEMC2025 session schedule/descriptions and create a daily schedule for yourself on the conference app, [PheedLoop Go!](#). **The app will be available to SEMC attendees in September 2025.**

The preliminary program will be available in May 2025

I need a receipt for my records.

Send an email to Carla Phillips (cphillips@semcdirect.net) to request a receipt if one is not generated automatically through the registration system. You can also see your receipt by logging into the Membership Center and clicking Events.

What does my registration fee cover?

The Southeastern Museums Conference Annual Meeting is a professional development event for our museum community and a source of operating revenue for SEMC. Our goal is to provide affordable registration; we work with partners and sponsors to achieve conference fundraising goals. Registration rates are determined based on the cost per attendee to produce the conference and take into consideration, staff time to execute the 3-day events, food, and *beverages (*please note all bars/alcohol are covered by separate sponsorship, not registration fees), AV and technology, keynote and plenary speaking fees, bus transportation, and conference supplies. **Local evening event hosts typically provide in-kind event space and fully fund food and beverage costs to help us keep event costs down.** Member rates are truly the best deal possible and reflect the cost to produce the conference per attendee.

Do you have volunteer opportunities?

Yes, **volunteers receive a discounted registration rate.** Volunteers are important members of our conference team. Their contributions help us provide an engaging and enjoyable conference experience. Volunteers must commit to at least one 3-hour shift. For more information about volunteering, please contact Carla Phillips (cphillips@semcdirect.net).

How much should I budget for the Annual Meeting?

The following ranges should help you prepare your budget. Your final fees will depend on your travel expenses, how many ticketed events you attend, and how many days you attend.

- Registration fees: Vary. Full conference registration member rates (early bird) begin at \$400 (including three evening events with light bites, transportation to evening events, all Expo Hall breaks and receptions, and the conference sessions and Keynote Address).
- Optional conference affinity group luncheons: \$45 and up
- Hotel fees: \$189 plus tax per night
- Travel fees: vary depending on your location

- Airport shuttle: [Various companies](#) provide transportation from MGM (Montgomery Regional Airport) to The Renaissance Montgomery which is 8.5 miles from the airport. Rates with UBER and Lyft vary based on the time of day, between \$25 and \$40 from MGM to The Renaissance.

Cancellations

I can no longer attend the conference. Can I transfer my registration to a colleague?

Yes, you can transfer your registration to a colleague. Please note that the registration will transfer as is. If the new registrant wants to attend events/luncheons, they will be responsible for any additional fees.

What is the cancellation policy?

If you need to cancel your registration for the 2025 Annual Meeting, we will refund the registration up to 7 days before the start of the Annual Meeting. Fees for in-person events/tours/luncheons will be fully refunded if the request is received before **September 26, 2025**. SEMC cannot refund pre-paid event/tour/luncheon fees after this date.

Requests received after October 13, 2025, will not be eligible for a refund. *If you pay by check, your refund will be issued after the annual meeting.*

We must receive your refund request in writing, by email, or in a written statement through Wild Apricot, no later than 7 days before the start of the Annual Meeting explaining the need for a refund.

Please contact SEMC staff for questions: zwillits@semcdirect.net

What if I test positive for COVID-19 and cannot attend the conference?

If you test positive for COVID-19 within the 5-day window of the conference start date (October 14, 2025) and present proof of the positive test, we will refund your registration 100%, less a \$30 processing fee. This policy is true for any major medical emergency or health concern preventing your participation in the conference.

Refunds on off-site workshops and tours.

Email your cancellation to Carla Phillips (cphillips@semcdirect.net) with your name, the event, and the reason for cancellation. A refund may be issued if applicable. Please refer to the cancellation policy on the registration page of the website.

Privacy

How do I opt out of my personal information being included in the conference list?

SEMC shares the Annual Meeting attendee list (name and email) with corporate partners and sponsors. **If you do not want your name or contact email published in the attendee list, there is an “opt out” box to check on the online registration form.**

If you miss this option, please contact us directly to opt out. If you have not requested to opt out by September 22, 2025, your name will automatically be added to the list we share with attendees and corporate partners.

What is the photography and video policy?

By registering for and attending the Southeastern Museums Conference, you grant SEMC and its state or regional association conference partner(s) and their authorized representative's permission to film, photograph, or otherwise record your participation in the event. You further agree that such images, photographs, and recordings may be used by SEMC without your prior approval in any form and for any lawful purpose including, without limitation, promoting SEMC. Such use will not entitle you to any credit or compensation. You release SEMC, its officers, and employees from any liability connected with the use of any image, photograph, or recording taken during the conference.

Code of Conduct

Do you have a code of conduct?

Please help us provide a safe, inclusive, and welcoming conference for all. SEMC conferences are safe, inclusive, and welcoming experiences for everyone, regardless of gender, sexual orientation, disability, physical appearance, body size, race, or religion. SEMC does not tolerate discrimination or harassment in any form. The [SEMC Code of Conduct](#) applies to all participants at the conference, including attendees, staff, organizers, volunteers, sponsors, advertisers, and exhibitors. By registering for the conference, you agree to adhere to this Code of Conduct.

Will there be a virtual option for SEMC2025?

SEMC 2025 is designed as an in-person gathering focused on connection and professional growth. SEMC will live-stream the 2025 Keynote Address. We will continue to provide monthly virtual professional development offerings, which are always free to SEMC members.