

AMERICAN POLITICAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION

Policy for Siting the Annual Meeting and other Conferences

In siting its meetings and conferences, particularly the Annual Meeting, the American Political Science Association strives to ensure that meeting locations are accessible and welcoming to all APSA members. In making siting decisions, APSA shall consider the following factors:

- 1) Geographically accessible siting: APSA will strive to site meetings in areas that are geographically accessible both to travel to and to travel around.
 - a) Rotation of meeting sites: APSA rotates its meetings within North America to increase regional access.
 - b) National airport accessibility: APSA meetings will be sited in areas that have access to airports with sufficient capacity and accessibility to accommodate a large number of attendees from around the country and the world.
 - c) Accessibility to transportation, hospitality and cultural resources: APSA meetings will be sited in areas with good accessibility to public transportation options as well as hospitality and cultural resources.
 - d) Contiguous properties: APSA selects locations with adequate hotel space within walking distance of meeting rooms.
- 2) Low costs: In determining the siting and timing of meetings APSA will strive to keep attendee costs as low as possible. This increases accessibility for members with relatively fewer resources including graduate students, community college faculty and faculty at non-PhD granting departments.
- 3) Welcoming atmosphere: APSA will make siting decisions such that all members have a reasonable basis for feeling welcome to attend the meeting.
 - a) Non-discrimination and minority rights: Discriminatory settings and policies that abridge any member's rights clearly make a welcoming atmosphere impossible to achieve. APSA will not site meetings or conferences in locations with policies and practices that discriminate against members for their actual or perceived gender, gender identity, race, color, national origin, sexual orientation, physical handicap, disability, or religion.
 - b) Family-friendly setting: Feeling welcome extends to personal relationships as well as to professional ones. APSA endorses "family friendly" policy in professional life and strives to make siting decisions such that members with families feel welcome at APSA meetings and conferences.
 - c) Accessible facilities: APSA works closely with our hotel partners to assure accessibility to facilities at our meeting, including ADA compliance and full accessibility for transgender members. We provide other reasonable accommodation to members notifying us of their needs.
- 4) Organized labor: APSA shall make every effort to give preference to a suitable unionized hotel and/or service provider, cost considerations being otherwise similar.
- 5) Sustainability: APSA is cognizant of the environmental consequences of holding large meetings, and is committed to working closely with the hospitality industry and local visitors bureaus to make the local sites as green as possible, cost considerations and the quality of meeting services otherwise similar.
- 6) Partnership with the convention and hospitality industry: APSA strives to work with local Convention Visitors Bureaus (CVB's), hotel chains, and other vendors in ways that build long-term positive relationships because such relationships are good business and also assure APSA of favorable terms for its meetings in the long-run. APSA also strives to work with minority and/or women owned businesses and contractors where circumstances allow.