

**TO: ASA OFFICE OF GOVERNMENTAL AND LEGAL AFFAIRS
1501 M Street, NW #300
WASHINGTON, DC 20005
FAX (202) 371-0384 or e-mail to M.Allen@asawash.org**

Please register the following individual(s) for the April 29- May 1, 2013 ASA Legislative Conference. Enclosed is a check in the amount of \$_____ made payable to the **American Society of Anesthesiologists** as payment of the \$250.00 (\$100 for resident) registration fee for each participant. **Credit card payments will also be accepted, please call the ASA Washington office directly.** ASA accepts American Express, Visa and MasterCard.

Note: No requests for refunds will be accepted after April 15.

1.	Name	<input type="text"/>
	Address	<input type="text"/>
	Phone	<input type="text"/> First time attendee: <input type="checkbox"/>
	E-Mail	<input type="text"/>
2.	Name	<input type="text"/>
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5.	Name	<input type="text"/>
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	Phone	<input type="text"/> First time attendee: <input type="checkbox"/>
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Copy this sheet for use with additional registrants.

Fee includes Monday's "Welcome Reception", Tuesday's breakfast and lunch, and Wednesday's breakfast. A block of rooms has been reserved at the J.W. Marriott hotel in Washington, D.C. **EACH REGISTRANT IS RESPONSIBLE FOR HIS OR HER OWN HOTEL ARRANGEMENTS. Hotel room block closes April 5, 2013.**

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)

What is the Legislative Conference?

The ASA Legislative Conference is the specialty's largest meeting focusing on state and federal legislative, regulatory and political issues impacting ASA and anesthesiology. The purpose of the conference is to prepare ASA members to engage effectively in the legislative, regulatory and political processes on behalf of the specialty.

What Should I Expect?

Attendees of the 2013 Conference can expect to hear from a range of outstanding speakers discussing key developments impacting the specialty including regulatory developments, state issues and Medicare payment issues. Advanced legislative and political training will also be provided to attendees.

What Issues will be Covered?

A significant amount of time at the Conference will be spent briefing attendees on ASA's priority issues. A special *Federal Issues Briefing* will take during the conference.

Registrants are strongly encouraged to attend this briefing. As part of the briefing, conference attendees will be provided information on the status of the key issues, points to be made when speaking with lawmakers and their staff whether in Washington, DC or at home, responses to opponent arguments and other helpful information to assure full preparedness during lobbying meetings. Position papers and supporting documents will also be provided as part of the briefings. Additionally, ASA staff and physician leadership will be available to answer any questions. Strategies, perspectives and approaches to Grassroots Advocacy will also be among program highlights.

How Do I Register?

Registration for the Legislative Conference is conducted through each individual State Component. Interested individuals must contact their State Component President or staff to determine how and when the state selects its delegation to the Legislative Conference. Each state must submit its registration list accompanied by the required registration fee.

There is no limit on the size of any Component's delegation. Components are free to make any type of arrangements they wish with their delegation so long as ASA receives the appropriate registration fee for each Conference registrant be it from the Component or the individual.

How much does it cost to attend?

The registration fee to attend is \$250 (\$100 for Residents). Components do not pay the registration fee for members of their delegation who are also members of the ASA Administrative Council.

What is the Schedule for the Conference?

Conference registration will open in the early afternoon on Monday, April 29. The *Newcomers Session: Advocacy Overview and Capitol Hill Basics*, along with the traditional *State Issues Forum*, will take place shortly after. The *Conference Welcome Reception* will occur from 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Tuesday's program is scheduled begin with a continental breakfast at 8:00 a.m. followed by a program of speakers, lunch at Noon featuring a special guest yet to be determined, and additional speakers and programs until 5:00 p.m. The *ASAPAC Donor Thank You Reception* concludes the day.

Wednesday's program opens with a continental breakfast to be followed by a brief program of speakers. Attendees will then travel to Capitol Hill for visits to Congressional offices.

Note: Due to the new abbreviated 2013 Congressional schedule with its focus on in-district work periods, Member of Congress and Senators will be working in their respective Congressional Districts and States that week. Lawmakers will not be in Washington, DC. Accordingly, lawmakers will not be available for meetings. Only staff will be available for meetings.

More detailed schedules will be posted at <http://www.asahq.org/For-Members/Advocacy/Legislative-Conference.aspx> as speakers and programs are confirmed.

Why isn't Congress in session and what does it mean for the Conference?

Late last year, the House and Senate leadership released its schedule for the 2013 Session of Congress. The schedule reflects the current Congressional leadership's support for more frequent "in-district" work periods or periods in which lawmakers are engaging in Congressional business with their local constituents. Some observers believe this schedule could be a harbinger of future Congressional schedules that include extended and frequent local work periods.

While creating some challenges for Washington, D.C. meetings, this new paradigm creates excellent opportunities for ASA members to interact with their lawmakers locally. Without committee hearings or votes to attend while at home, lawmakers tend to be more available to constituents. Whether through formal meetings or political events, opportunities for one-on-one interaction are plentiful. In recognition of these opportunities, this year's Conference will include advanced legislative and political training to help attendees maximize their local interactions with lawmakers.

As organization such as the American Association for Justice (formerly the Association of Trial Lawyers of America) and the American Hospital Association have consistently demonstrated, strong and meaningful local, in-district/in-state legislative and political activity are just as important as effective Capitol Hill advocacy. Building anesthesiology's local capabilities remains a priority for ASA's advocacy team.

Who Should Attend?

Component Society officers, Legislative Chairs, leaders in academic anesthesiology, ASA "Key Contacts," members of the "ASA Grassroots Network," members of Medical Student Components and residents are strongly encouraged to attend. In particular, Components should try to bring ASA "Key Contacts" for the state's U.S. Senators and for lawmakers from their state who serve in the Congressional leadership or on key health-related committees - Senate Finance and Health Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP), and House Ways and Means and Energy and Commerce Committees.

Hotel Accommodations: Where Should I Stay?

A block of hotel rooms has been reserved for conference registrants at the JW Marriott Hotel, 1331 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC. The block is under the name of the American Society of Anesthesiologists (ASA) and covers rooms from Friday, April 26 through Thursday, May 2, 2013. Reservations may be made by calling the hotel directly at 202-393-2000. A special rate of \$334 is available until the **room block closes on April 5, 2013**. Individuals seeking to make their reservation on-line should visit:

https://resweb.passkey.com/Resweb.do?mode=welcome_gi_new&groupID=12570130

Once this block is sold out or closed, rooms at the special negotiated rate are no longer available. Questions or problems with hotel reservation can be directed to Marcia Perzyna of the ASA staff m.perzyna@asahq.org.

When Do I Receive Materials For The Meeting?

ASA will post key information on the Legislative Conference website, <http://www.asahq.org/For-Members/Advocacy/Legislative-Conference.aspx>, including position papers and the Conference agenda. On-site check-in for the Conference at the JW Marriott Hotel will open in the early afternoon on Monday, April 30. A registration packet containing important information will be provided to all registrants at that time.

Appointments for Wednesday's Capitol Hill Visits

Appointments should be made as soon as possible through the Congressional office. Do not wait until arrival in D.C. to attempt to make an appointment with Congressional staff. It is strongly recommended that attendees work with their fellow attendees from the Component to make assignments for individual offices. If an attendee in the Component knows a particular lawmaker's staff or is the ASA "Key Contact" for that office, he or she should make the appointment. Otherwise, attendees should make the appointment for the Member of Congress' office that represents their Congressional District. A State Component leader or appropriate "Key Contact" should be tasked with setting up the meeting with the U.S. Senate offices.

Asking staff to make appointments is strongly discouraged. Allowing State Component administrative personnel or group administrative personnel to make appointments only furthers the perception -- however erroneous -- that physicians are aloof and think of themselves as "above" working with Congressional staff. Individual anesthesiologists should make their own appointments. Attendees should call the scheduler or health aide to request the meeting. They should then perform all the necessary follow-up until the meeting is confirmed.

Can I Make Hill Appointments for Tuesday

Making appointments for visits on days other than Wednesday is strongly discouraged. Past experience tell us that missing important parts of the Tuesday program can adversely impact the quality and effectiveness of the presentations made during the lobbying visits on Wednesday and locally. Important information to use as part of the presentations may be missed. Additionally, when our speakers are invited to appear before our group, they are told that they will be speaking in front of 400 or more anesthesiologists and practice managers. Attending meetings while the Tuesday program is taking place,

leaving the meeting for other reasons, or even lingering in the foyer reduces the size of our audience often upsetting our speakers. *One year, due to attendees leaving during the program, a prominent health care policymaker spoke to less than 150 attendees instead of the promised 400 attendees. The speaker felt misled by ASA staff.*

Conference Agenda Availability

Because a large part of the Conference program consists of speakers from government agencies, and such speakers are not able to confirm their schedules more than 3-4 weeks in advance of the meeting, it will be weeks before a final program is available. A tentative schedule is described above. Future schedules will be posted in the Office of Governmental and Legal Affairs section of the ASA Web Site at:

<http://www.asahq.org/For-Members/Advocacy/Legislative-Conference.aspx>.

The schedule will be updated as speakers are confirmed. Position statements will also be made available at this link.

CME Credits

Certain sessions during this activity have been approved for *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit*[™]. Those sessions will be noted on the agenda when it becomes available.

Additional Information

Additional information is available from Pat Daly in the ASA Washington office at 202-289-2222 or p.daly@asawash.org.