

Visa, Travel and Hotel Reservations

Visa Information

International attendees who wish to enter the United States may need to first obtain a visa. Typically, those attending the Conference will need to obtain a nonimmigrant visa for a temporary stay. The visitor visa is a nonimmigrant visa for persons desiring to enter the United States for business or pleasure. Please visit the United States Department of State website for more information.

The Visa Waiver Program (VWP) enables citizens of certain countries to travel to the United States for tourism or business for 90 days or less without obtaining a visa. These countries include: Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brunei, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Monaco, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, San Marino, Singapore, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and United Kingdom.

A letter of invitation does NOT guarantee the issuance of a visa. The decision to issue a visa is within the sole judgment of your local Embassy or Consulate. However, if you submit the following documents to the Embassy/Consulate, it would very likely facilitate the issuance of a visa:

1. An invitation letter issued by our conference
2. A notice from the hotel that you have reserved hotel rooms (If the Visa is not granted, you can cancel the reservation without charges)
3. A notice from our conference that you have paid the registration fee (If the Visa is not granted, you can cancel the registration and receive a refund. Please check the important dates listed in other related documents)
4. A notice from a travel agency that you have booked two-way tickets (Please check to be sure that if the Visa is not granted, you may cancel the tickets without penalty.)

Travel

Most people coming to Houston arrive through the George Bush Intercontinental Airport Houston (IAH). The George Bush Intercontinental Airport Houston (IAH) is not far from the Hilton Houston North Hotel, the conference headquarters. It is about 7.5 miles (12 KM) from the airport to the hotel located at 12400 Greenspoint Drive, Houston, Texas 77060, USA. The hotel provides complimentary shuttles to and from George Bush Intercontinental Airport based upon availability. Shuttles pick up from all Terminals, except D. If arriving from D, please locate the next closest terminal for pickup. To locate Hotel shuttle, follow the airport signs for "ground transportation/baggage claim" for your terminal (except D). Once in the baggage claim/ground transportation area, there will be signs announcing the location of "hotel shuttles". All Hilton Hotel shuttles will feature both the logos of the Hilton and the Marriott Greenspoint Hotel, as we share pickups with this hotel. *Airport shuttles leave the hotel every half-hour on the hour, beginning at 5:30am and ending with the last shuttle departing hotel at 10:30pm.* Taxi is also available between the airport and the hotel.

Hotel Reservations

You can reserve rooms at the Hilton Houston North Hotel, the Conference headquarters, at the reduced group rate of \$95/night/room (single or double beds). To reserve a room at the Hilton Hotel, call the Hilton's Global Reservations Center at 1-866-933-STAY (toll-free) or 1-281-875-2222. To qualify for the group rate, mention that you are attending the "International Environmental Conference." Attendees can access the website at <http://www.wyndham.com/groupevents/343AASCI/main.wnt> and follow the instructions to make an online reservation. There is no need to type in a "group code", the group code for our 2012 conference will already be typed in for you when you get to this reservation page. A direct link to the reservations has been set up at our conference website (<http://www.aasoci.org/conference/env/2012/hotel.html>). US Government attendees will have to call the hotel to receive the government per diem rates. If you have any questions on the reservations, please send email to reservations@Wyndhamhouston.com or contact us at env-conference@aasoci.org.

Location of the Conference Headquarters

Hilton Houston North Hotel
12400 Greenspoint Drive
Houston, Texas 77060, USA
Toll-free phone: 1-866-933-7829
Phone: 1-281-875-2222