2027 EPSCoR Annual Summit
Washington, DC
March 18-20, 2027

FAQ

About the Event

- **Where is the summit?**

This year's summit will be held at the Hyatt Regency Washington on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C. from March 18-20, 2027.

- **When will an agenda be released?**

An agenda-at-a-glance will be released this fall. A more detailed agenda with session titles and abstracts will be available in February 2027.

- **What meals will be provided?**

The following sessions will include food service:

  - Thursday, March 28: Dinner
  - Friday, March 29: Breakfast and Lunch for all attendees. An optional dinner (reservations only) is available for undergraduate students, graduate students, and postdoctoral researchers.
  - Saturday, March 20: Breakfast

- **Will I be able to meet with my National Science Foundation program officer?**

Further information about NSF participation will be shared as soon as it is available.

Registration for PIs and PAs

- **I am a PI, Co-PI, or a PA on an EPSCoR award. How do I register?**

If you are a PI, Co-PI, or a PA that has designated funds in your EPSCoR grant for travel, lodging, and incidentals for the Annual Summit, registration will become available this fall. Registration instructions will be made available on the AAAS-EPSCoR website at that time and notifications will be sent to all PI, Co-PIs and PAs on our distribution list [SIGN-UP HERE]. **The deadline for registration is February 12, 2027.**

- **Is there a hotel room block?**

The Annual Summit has a hotel block with a nightly rate of $329.00. Please note that there is limited capacity, so consider reserving your room early. The deadline to do so is February 15, 2027. If there are no more rooms available at the hotel, you may book any hotel in the area. Hotel booking information will become available when registration is announced.

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Registration for PIs and PAs (Continued)

- **Is there a registration fee?**

The registration fee for the meeting is $150. Registration closes on February 12, 2027.

- **Am I eligible for a stipend card?**

Only participants with approved travel awards are eligible for a stipend.
PIs, Co-PIs, and any project personnel who are traveling through their designated grant funds are not eligible for stipend cards. The funds in your EPSCoR grant should be used to cover meals not provided at the meeting and incidentals.

Registration for Travel Awards

- **I do not have funding on an existing EPSCoR grant to attend the Annual Summit. How do I register?**

Please contact your jurisdiction office. Each jurisdiction office has a limited number of travel awards available to distribute to project personnel, researchers, staff, students, community partners, and other individuals not otherwise covered by an EPSCoR award. If you did not receive a travel award from your jurisdiction, you can contact EPSCoR@aaas.org to be placed on a waitlist. Registration will open in mid-October, 2026 and travel awardees must complete their registration and travel booking by **December 11, 2026**.

- **What do Travel Awards cover?**

Financial support for travel (airfare), lodging, and incidentals are available for travel awardees:

  - Travel – Travel awardees will receive instructions for booking their travel through a designated travel agent after registering for the EPSCoR Summit. Any travel booked outside of this travel service will not be reimbursed. If you are considering driving, please see the section on driving below.
  - Hotel – AAAS staff will book your hotel room on your behalf using the information provided during registration. You will receive your hotel booking confirmation from the Hyatt Regency Washington on Capitol Hill. You will be notified of your hotel booking by January 11th at the latest. Any hotel booking made in addition to the hotel reservation provided by AAAS will not be reimbursed.
  - Incidentals – AAAS will provide a stipend card onsite at the Summit to provide funds to facilitate travel to and from the airport and meals not available during the summit programming. Travel awardees will only be provided stipend cards for incidentals and will not receive reimbursements for additional expenses.

Registration for Travel Awards (Continued)

- **When can I pick up the stipend card and what does it cover?**

Travel awardees will be able to pick up their stipend card onsite at the Summit. Travel awardees must pick up their stipend card by March 19 at 5:00 p.m. Please see the section on stipend cards below for more information.

- **I plan on driving to the Annual Summit. What should I do about reimbursement for mileage?**

Those wishing to drive must receive approval in advance for reimbursement. Travel awardees driving from outside of a 50-mile radius of the Hyatt Regency Washington on Capitol Hill should send an email to EPSCoR@aaas.org. **Driving means you will not be eligible for a stipend card.**

Stipend Cards and Travel Reimbursement

- **What is the stipend card for?**

This card represents the average amount of reimbursement an attendee might spend for per diem (meals not provided at the Annual Summit) and ground transportation.

- **Who is eligible for a travel stipend card?**

Travel awardees who booked their flight through AAAS's approved travel agent are eligible for a stipend card.

- **What amount will my stipend card be worth?**

The stipend card amount will be determined by a number of factors including location of origin and number of travel days. The amounts will be based on the GSA per diem rates and they will factor in meals that were provided at the Annual Summit.

Stipend Cards and Travel Reimbursement (Continued)

- **What if I already spent some of my money getting to the meeting?**

The stipend card total accounts for the cost of meals based on GSA per diem rates and ground transportation costs that may be incurred before receiving your stipend card. Please plan accordingly.

- **Can I still use the card after the meeting ends?**

Yes, you can typically use the card for up to one year after the meeting. You can find the expiration date on the front of the card.

- **I attempted to use the card at XYZ location, and it was declined. Is there something wrong with my card?**

Please try again at a different location. These cards are unregistered (meaning the owner is not required to make an account to use the card). Some locations (online or in-person) may not accept unregistered cards, but most do.

- **I lost my card. Are you able to replace it?**

AAAS cannot replace a lost card but can provide the customer care number for you to start that process with the card company.

- **Is the stipend card considered taxable income? Is that why you need my W-9?**

Yes, the travel stipend is considered taxable because you are receiving funds and aren't required to provide receipts. You will receive a 1099 and report it to the IRS if the amount you receive from AAAS in a calendar year exceeds $600. Note that travel stipend cards are usually for much less than $600. The only reason that may occur is if someone is also receiving an honorarium.

AAAS also collects W-9 forms (or W-8 BENs as applicable) so that card recipients can be verified.

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Submitting a Session or Posters

- **Who can submit sessions and posters?**

All attendees are strongly encouraged to submit a session proposal or poster. Notably, researchers are encouraged to propose sessions to involve their students and postdoctoral researchers to submit posters. Information about how to submit will be on the AAAS-EPSCoR website. Proposals for sessions and posters are due on **December 11, 2026.**

- **When will I hear if my session or poster has been accepted?**

Session leaders and poster presenters will be notified of their acceptance status by the end of January 2027.

- **I am a student or postdoctoral researcher. Will there be programming for me?**

Yes. In addition to general sessions such as plenary talks and poster sessions, there will be dedicated programming specifically for early career participants indicated on the agenda.

- **I have another question not answered here.**

Please contact EPSCoR@aaas.org with your question, and we will try to respond as soon as possible. If your situation is urgent, please call Layne Scherer, Program Director, at (248) 207-5862.