



Registration Opens

March 12, 2024 at 11AM CST

Each year, **thousands** come from around the globe to attend the **National Down Syndrome Congress Convention**. For many, it is to hear from **world-renowned experts**; for others, it's to take a **one-of-a-kind vacation**. But what brings all of us back, year after year, is the feeling of an **international family reunion** found nowhere other than at the NDSC Convention weekend.

"Convention is always a LIFE CHANGING experience."
- Kathleen McDonnell Forney

To learn more about the National Down Syndrome Congress Convention visit www.ndsccenter.org/52nd-annual-convention



WHICH CONFERENCE IS THE RIGHT FIT FOR YOU?

The National Down Syndrome Congress Convention is a **4-day event** designed to provide a meaningful and educational experience for individuals with Down syndrome, their families, parents, siblings, caregivers as well as medical professionals and educators who dedicate their lives to the Down syndrome community. Attendees will select one of the three conferences to attend that run simultaneously during the convention.

The three conferences are the **General Conference**, **Youth & Adults Conference** and **Siblings Conference**. The General Conference is intended for parents, grandparents, adult siblings, and professionals. The Youth & Adults Conference is the **HEART & SOUL** of the NDSC Convention. The Youth & Adults Conference is for individuals with Down syndrome age 15 (by July 25, 2024) and older. The Siblings Conference is for siblings ages 7th grade through 12th grade.

General

Thursday - Sunday

Thursday - GLOBAL Research Roundtable & Sharing Sessions
 Fri - Sun - 7 Workshop cycles with 100+ workshops with topics that cover the lifespan

Youth & Adults

Friday - Sunday

Friday - Kick Off Party
 Saturday - Empowering workshops & inspiring spotlight presentations
 Sunday - Talent Show

Siblings

Friday - Sunday

Friday - Kick Off Party
 Saturday - Special guest speaker, discussion groups & activities.
 Sunday - Offsite Trip

Conference Fees

By April 30

By June 30

July 1 - Onsite

General Conference

\$225

\$300

\$400

Youth & Adults Conference

\$150

\$200

CLOSED

Siblings Conference

\$150

\$200

CLOSED

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Each conference registration includes the following events.



THE ENTIRE CONVENTION EXPERIENCE

The NDSC Convention is truly a unique one-of-a-kind experience. The convention is full of learning opportunities, special events, and activities.

MAKE THE MOST OF CONVENTION

Meet the NDSC staff and learn about all about the 2024 convention activities.

ADVOCACY TRAINING BOOT CAMP

Designed for advocates of all abilities. Hear best practices from advocates & leaders. Learn how to impact change through advocacy. Hear from engaging self-advocates.

FRIDAY NIGHT - 321 DANCE - WILD WEST THEME

Join your fellow convention attendees to dance the night away at the well-known 321 Dance!

GET ACTIVE EVENTS

We will have group exercise activities offered on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Check out the final schedule for details.

COLLEGE FAIR

Explore the College Fair to learn about inclusive postsecondary programs.

SATURDAY NIGHT DANCE - DANCING IN THE DESERT

Join us Saturday evening for our Dancing in Desert Dance.

CONVENTION APP

Use the convention app to chat with other attendees, look up speakers, check the schedule, find meeting rooms and more.

EXHIBIT HALL

The Exhibit Hall is comprised of organizations, companies that provide information, technology, resources, products, and services - some of which are thriving businesses run by self-advocates.

NATIONAL DOWN SYNDROME CONGRESS MEETING

Join us for our NDSC Meeting.

CONVENTION WELCOME SESSION

The Convention Welcome Session is a great opportunity to hear amazing stories. Featuring notable keynote speakers.

FRIDAY NIGHT - 321 DANCE - WILD WEST THEME

Join your fellow convention attendees to dance the night away at the well-known 321 Dance!

Advocacy Training Boot Camp

FRIDAY, JULY 26, 2024 8:00 AM - 11:30 AM



**7TH ADVOCACY TRAINING BOOT CAMP AT THE NDSC CONVENTION
A THREE-HOUR SESSION DESIGNED TO EMPOWER AND ENABLE
ADVOCATES OF ALL ABILITIES.**

This session is designed for beginner advocates but is also a great opportunity for seasoned advocates to get the training needed to take their advocacy efforts to the next level. The NDSC Advocacy Training Boot Camp features information from self-advocates who are making a difference through their personal advocacy efforts, parent advocates, elected officials, and disability policy experts including the NDSC Policy & Advocacy Team. Advocacy Training Boot Camp is designed to empower you with the skills needed to impact policy change. Whether you are a beginner to advocacy or are an experienced advocate, you will walk away energized and with new advocacy tools.

This session is appropriate for parents, professionals, and of course, self-advocates. While Advocacy Training Boot Camp is free with all General Conference and Youth & Adults Conference registrations, please register for Advocacy Training Boot Camp during convention registration.

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2024 NDSC Convention Convention Add Ons



Add Ons	By April 30	By June 30	July 1 - Onsite
Deep Dives	\$75	\$100	\$100
Saturday Night Banquet	Adult \$69 Child \$29	Adult \$69 Child \$29	CLOSED
Kids Camp (per session)	\$50	\$50	CLOSED
Convention Tshirt	\$20	\$20	CLOSED
321 Dance - Wild West Swag Pack	\$30	\$30	CLOSED



Deep Dive Sessions

These 3 hour sessions are presented by world-renowned speakers offer the most comprehensive learning opportunities of the weekend. They are designed to engage discussion and are intended for those interested in gaining more in-depth knowledge on a particular topic.



Kids Camp

Kids Camp provides a safe, structured, and fun place for the little ones while their parents attend General Conference workshops. Kids Camp is only available to those that have purchased a General Conference registration.

Sat Night Banquet

The banquet is a plated dinner event on Saturday evening where we wine, dine and celebrate another fabulous weekend together as a Down syndrome community.

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2024 NDSC Educators Conference

The NDSC Educators Conference is practical in nature, this conference will engage participants in identifying and implementing strategies applicable to K-12 classrooms. The Educators Conference is specially created and focused on providing tools for educators.

Our Educators Conferences offer hands-on, research-based strategies that general education and special education teachers can implement immediately to best support their students with Down syndrome and intellectual disability. Attendees will leave equipped with ideas, tips, strategies, tools, and solutions that they can implement in the classroom.



Key Conference Takeaway Items:

- Addressing **BEHAVIOR** through effective strategies
- Proven practices for **INCLUSION**
- Strategies for **ACCESS** for all
- Literacy strategies to facilitate **READING DEVELOPMENT**
- **TRANSITIONING** the ages & stages
- Planning and designing **CURRICULUM**
- **MEDICAL** implications for the classroom

Registration Information:

\$150 registration includes:

- Materials
- Continental Breakfast
- Lunch
- Certificate for CEU submission.

****For Educator Conference attendees ONLY - Receive \$50 off a NDSC General Conference registration. Early rate is \$225, discounted rate is \$175. If interested in the discounted rate please contact Kim Owens at kim@ndscenter.org for a discount code.**

2024 NDSC Convention Location

JW Marriott Phoenix Desert Ridge Resort & Spa | 5350 E Marriott Drive | Phoenix, Arizona
www.jwdesertridge.com



**Guestrooms
\$169 ++ per night**



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Convention At-A-Glance



• Schedule subject to change

THURSDAY

11:30 AM – 8:30 PM
REGISTRATION OPEN

12:30 PM – 4:30 PM
**GLOBAL RESEARCH
& MEDICAL CARE
ROUNDTABLE
(RSVP REQUIRED)**

1:00 PM – 9:00 PM
**HUMAN TRISOME
PROJECT**

3:00 PM – 8:00 PM
EXHIBIT HALL OPEN

5:15 PM – 5:45 PM
**MAKE THE MOST OUT OF
CONVENTION
(ENGLISH & SPANISH)**

5:45 PM – 6:45 PM
**AFRICAN AMERICAN
RECEPTION**

5:45 PM – 6:45 PM
HISPANIC RECEPTION

7:00 PM – 8:30 PM
SHARING SESSIONS

7:00 PM – 10:00 PM
**DEEP DIVE SESSIONS
(SEPARATE FEE REQUIRED)**



FRIDAY

7:00 AM – 5:00 PM
REGISTRATION OPEN

7:00 AM – 8:00 AM
EXERCISE ACTIVITY

7:30 AM – 3:00 PM
EDUCATORS CONFERENCE

7:30 AM – 11:30 AM
**KIDS CAMP & KIDS
CAMP PLUS | SESSION #1**

8:00 AM – 8:00 PM
HUMAN TRISOME PROJECT

8:00 AM – 11:30 AM
**ADVOCACY TRAINING
BOOT CAMP**

8:00 AM – 11:00 AM
**DEEP DIVE SESSIONS
(SEPARATE FEE REQUIRED)**

9:00 AM – 5:00 PM
EXHIBIT HALL OPEN

11:30 AM – 1:00 PM
**SELF-ADVOCATE BOARD
CAMPAIGNING**

11:30 AM – 1:00 PM
**SELF-ADVOCATE COUNCIL
LUNCH**

12:30 PM – 5:30 PM
**KIDS CAMP & KIDS
CAMP PLUS | SESSION #2**

1:00 PM – 3:00 PM
**YOUTH & ADULTS
KICKOFF PARTY**

1:00 PM – 3:00 PM
SIBLINGS KICKOFF PARTY

1:15 PM – 2:45 PM
**GENERAL WORKSHOP
CYCLE #1**

3:15 PM – 4:45 PM
**GENERAL WORKSHOP
CYCLE #2**

5:00 PM – 5:30 PM
**NDSC MEMBERSHIP
MEETING**

7:00 PM – 8:30 PM
WELCOME SESSION

8:30 PM – 10:30 PM
321 DANCE - Wild West

SATURDAY

7:30 AM – 2:00 PM
REGISTRATION OPEN

7:00 AM – 8:00 AM
321 RUN

8:00 AM – 9:00 AM
**NDAC TOWN HALL
MEETING**

8:00 AM – 8:00 PM
**HUMAN TRISOME
PROJECT**

8:30 AM – 11:15 AM
**KIDS CAMP & KIDS
CAMP PLUS | SESSION #3**

8:30 AM – 5:00 PM
EXHIBIT HALL OPEN

9:00 AM – 11:00 AM
**YOUTH & ADULTS
CONFERENCE MORNING
SESSION**

9:00 AM – 5:15 PM
SIBLINGS CONFERENCE

9:15 AM – 10:45 AM
**GENERAL WORKSHOP
CYCLE #2**

10:30 AM – 1:30 PM
COLLEGE FAIR

1:00 PM – 5:00 PM
**YOUTH & ADULTS
CONFERENCE
AFTERNOON SESSION**

1:00 PM – 5:15 PM
**KIDS CAMP & KIDS
CAMP PLUS | SESSION #4**

1:30 PM – 3:00 PM
**GENERAL WORKSHOP
CYCLE #3**

3:30 PM – 5:00 PM
WORKSHOP CYCLE #4

6:30 PM – 8:30 PM
**AWARDS BANQUET
(TICKETED EVENT)**

8:30 PM – 10:30 PM
**SATURDAY NIGHT DANCE
DANCING IN THE DESERT**

SUNDAY

7:00 AM – 8:00 AM
EXERCISE ACTIVITY

8:00 AM – 12:00 PM
**HUMAN TRISOME
PROJECT**

8:15 AM – 12:15 PM
**YOUTH & ADULT TALENT
SHOW**

8:15 AM – 12:15 PM
SIBLINGS OFFSITE TRIP

8:15 AM – 12:15 PM
**KIDS CAMP & KIDS
CAMP PLUS | SESSION #5**

8:30 AM – 10:00 AM
**GENERAL WORKSHOP
CYCLE #5**

10:30 AM – 12:00 PM
**GENERAL WORKSHOP
CYCLE #6**



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