THE ATLANTA ADVANTAGE

EDUCATION

Learn about procedures and pathologies from innovative surgeons who are leading their fields.

Understand the national issues facing surgical technologists.

Earn additional CEs and try new equipment and supplies in the Exhibit Hall.

INFORMATION

Talk to professional experts who are pioneering technologies for the operating room.

Meet AST’s Board of Directors and candidates for national office—and learn more about their priorities for the profession.

Satisfaction

Receive 16 CEs toward recertification.

Renew your sense of accomplishment and pride in your profession.

Go home with new ideas and knowledge to use and share.

RECOGNITION

Hear about the successes of your peers and local AST State Assemblies.

Watch the 2020 AST Fellows take the FAST pledge and earn their pins. You could be among the Fellows honored—find the criteria and application at ast.org!

GIVE BACK

Bring a new stuffed animal of any size (with tag, but no noise or choking hazards) to benefit kids through Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta.
The Westin Peachtree Plaza Hotel
210 Peachtree Street NW, Atlanta, GA 30303

The Westin Peachtree Plaza’s cylindrical glass design is an icon of Atlanta’s skyline. Towering over downtown, the Westin Peachtree Plaza is walking distance from Atlanta’s top attractions, including Centennial Olympic Park, the World of Coca-Cola, the Georgia Aquarium and dozens of shops and restaurants.

Hotel rooms feature floor to ceiling windows. Negotiated rates do not include taxes or fees: Single/Double $199*, Triple $219*, Quadruple $239*. Cancellations must occur 72 hours prior to the reservation date for a refund or credit. A credit card with a first night’s room deposit is required to make a reservation. If paying by debit card, please call the hotel for their policy on how much they take out for incidentals.

Reserve by phone 888-627-7087 and ask for AST 2020 rates or reserve online at https://book.passkey.com/go/2020AST

The Westin Peachtree Plaza is approximately 11 miles north of the Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport (ATL). If taking the MARTA subway from the airport (red line), get off at the Peachtree Center Station, one block from the hotel. Approximate costs: $2.50 (one way) for MARTA, $35 (one way) for taxi service.

*Reservation cut-off is May 1, 2020 or earlier if the room block sells out. Book your room(s) early to take advantage of the negotiated rate. Reservation requests after May 1 will be accommodated on the hotel’s availability. Hotel rates include the daily resort fee. AST’s negotiated room rates exclude taxes/fees (subject to change without notice) and parking. Contact the Westin for the most current parking rates.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 27
State Assembly Leadership Forum
SA Board Members Only: $50 (6 CEs)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:15 – 7:45 AM</td>
<td>Continental Breakfast for SALF Registrants Sponsored by NBSTSA</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:45 – 8:50 AM</td>
<td>Welcome and Introductions</td>
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<td>Holly Falcon, CST, FAST, AST President</td>
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<td>8:50 – 9 AM</td>
<td>Take This Job and LOVE It</td>
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<td>Holly Falcon, CST, FAST, AST President</td>
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<td>9 – 9:50 AM</td>
<td>Conflict Management</td>
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<td>Grant Wilson, CST, FAST, NBSTSA President</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:50 – 10 AM</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>10 – 11:50 AM</td>
<td>Optimizing Policies/Enriching Development</td>
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<td>State Assembly Leadership Committee</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Annual State Report—A Handy Reference Tool</td>
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<td>Financials—Making Sense of It All</td>
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<td>5-Year Renewal Agreement—the Terms in Action</td>
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<td>Your State’s Website—Achieving Results</td>
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<tr>
<td>Noon – 12:50 PM</td>
<td>Lunch (provided)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 – 3 PM</td>
<td>One-to-One Connections/Empowering Relationships</td>
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<td>State Assembly Leadership Committee</td>
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ARC/STSA Accreditation Fundamentals for Educators (AFE)
$250 per person | Capacity: 100 Registrants (8 CEs)

8 AM – 4 PM The AFE Workshop will guide you through CAAHEP Standards and clarify the Standards Interpretive Guides. Separate registration is required. Contact info@arcstsa.org or register at arcstsa.org.

Register at ast.org
## 2020 Conference Overview

### Wednesday, May 27
- **7 AM**
  - State Assembly Leadership Forum
- **8 AM**
  - ARC/STSA Accreditation Fundamentals (AFE)

### Thursday, May 28
- **7 AM**
  - Opening Ceremony/Keynote
- **10 AM**
  - AST Bus 1
  - Keith L. Obstein, MD, MPH, FASGE, FACG, AGAF
- **11 AM**
  - FS101
  - Helen Crouch, RN, MPH, CIC, FAPIC
- **1 PM**
  - Exhibits
  - Keith L. Obstein, MD, MPH, FASGE, FACG, AGAF

### Friday, May 29
- **7 AM**
  - Candidates Forum
- **10 AM**
  - Meet AST Candidates
- **1 PM**
  - ASTSA Student Forum
  - Erica Clark, DO, RPVI

### Saturday, May 30
- **7 AM**
  - AST Voting (ends at 8:45)
- **10 AM**
  - AST Bus 2
  - Daniel Refai, MD
- **11 AM**
  - FS301
  - Sylvia Garcia-Houchins, MBA, RN, CIC
- **1 PM**
  - FS302
  - David Whiteman, MD, FRCS
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<td>9 AM</td>
<td>ASST Opening Ceremony/Keynote</td>
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<td>7 PM</td>
<td>ASST Bus 10</td>
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<td>8 PM</td>
<td>ASST Bus 11</td>
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**Opening Night Party**
(begins at 7 PM and ends at 10:30 PM)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Room</th>
<th>Speaker Information</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>201</td>
<td>Erica Clark, DO, RPVI</td>
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<td>202</td>
<td>Myla Bennett, MD</td>
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<td>203</td>
<td>Daniel Refai, MD</td>
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<td>204</td>
<td>Sylvia Garcia-Houchins, MBA, RN, CIC</td>
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<td>David Whiteman, MD, FRCS</td>
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<td>206</td>
<td>Dennis Carradin, LPCMH, NCC, BCETS</td>
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<td>207</td>
<td>Helen Crouch, RN, MPH, CIC, FAPIC</td>
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<td>208</td>
<td>Keith L. Obstein, MD, MPH, FASGE, FACG</td>
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**AST Scrub Bowl Championship**

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<tr>
<th>Room</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>209</td>
<td>ASST Student Forum</td>
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<td>210</td>
<td>ASTSA Scrub Bowl Championship</td>
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<tr>
<td>211</td>
<td>Closing Night Reception</td>
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<td>212</td>
<td>(begins at 4:30 PM and ends at 6:30 PM)</td>
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<td>213</td>
<td>Preconference Events</td>
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<td>214</td>
<td>Education Sessions</td>
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<td>Featured Speakers</td>
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<td>Student Events</td>
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Register at ast.org
THURSDAY, MAY 28, 2020

7:30 – 10 AM
Opening Ceremony/Keynote

10:15 – 10:50 AM
AST Business Session 1

11 – 11:50 AM
• FS100 1 CE
Novel Advances and Future Horizons in Disposable Endoscopes
Keith L. Obstein, MD, MPH, FASGE, FACP, AGAF

Hear how the novel advances that have recently occurred in endoscopic technologies have the potential to mitigate or absolve the current limitations of endoscopic surgery.

Noon – 12:50 PM
• FS101 1 CE
Infection Prevention: How Does This Apply to Me and My Patient?
Helen Crouch, RN, MPH, CIC, FAPIC

Discuss infection prevention from point-of-use through sterilization or high-level disinfection, including the Joint Commission’s findings on nationwide outbreaks related to improperly cleaned devices.

1 – 4 PM
Exhibits
Earn CEs in the Exhibit Hall. You’ll receive .5 CE for each 30-minute session you attend in the AST Learning Hub. These CEs are available on a first-come, first-seated basis. Review the conference guide onsite for the schedule and rules.

4 – 4:50 PM
• FS102 1 CE
Intraoperative Nuances to Improve Patient Outcomes in Brain Tumor Surgery
Melanie Hayden Gephart, MD, MAS

Review the indications, common complications and specific mechanisms for avoidance of the complications in brain tumor surgery.

5 – 5:50 PM
• FS103 1 CE
Dealing with Traumatic Stress in the Operating Room
Dennis Carradin, LPCMH, NCC, BCETS

Learn to define, recognize and distinguish the differences between stress, traumatic stress and critical incident stress, as well as how Emergency Responders Exhaustion Syndrome plays a role in one’s personal and professional lives.

7 – 10:30 PM
Opening Night Party (Badge Required)
Celebrate being part of the OR team by wearing your favorite sports team gear or favorite team’s colors. Get acquainted, enjoy hors d’oeuvres and dance, dance, dance!

FRIDAY, MAY 29

7:15 AM – 2:50 PM
ASTSA Student Forum
See page 7 for agenda.

8 – 9 AM
Candidates Forum
9 – NOON
Exhibits
Earn CEs in the Exhibit Hall. You’ll receive .5 CE for each 30-minute session you attend in the AST Learning Hub. These CEs are available on a first-come, first-seated basis. Review the conference guide onsite for the schedule and rules.

Noon – 1:50 PM
• FS200 1 CE
Innovations in Vascular Surgery
Erica Clark, DO, RPVI
Understand the most common vascular diseases encountered by physicians and the evolution of vascular surgery, including endovascular alternatives for complex vascular diseases.

2 – 2:50 PM
• 201 1 CE
A Multidisciplinary and Varied Approach of Life Lessons in the Care of the Orthopedic Patient
Maurice Goins, MD
Hear about the importance of approaching surgical care from a multidisciplinary team approach.

• 202 1 CE
Inspire Hypoglossal Nerve Stimulation for the Treatment of Obstructive Sleep Apnea
Sanjay Athavale, MD
Learn about the Inspire hypoglossal nerve stimulation surgical procedure for treatment of obstructive sleep apnea, including the intraoperative and postoperative care of patients.

2020 ASTSA STUDENT FORUM

7:15 – 7:45 AM
Meet and Greet
ASTSA Student Representatives

8 – 9 AM
AST Candidates Forum

9:15 – 9:30 AM
Welcome
Holly Falcon, CST, FAST, AST President
Greg Salmon, CST, CSFA, CSA, ASA President
Robin Keith, CNOR, RN, BSN, ARC/STSA President
Grant Wilson, CST, FAST, NBSTSA President
ASTSA Student Representative Introductions

9:35 – 10:35 AM
Surgeons, They’re Humans Too
Shane Friedman, CST, CSFA

10:40 – 11:40 AM
ASTSA Candidates’ Speeches

11:45 – 12:15 PM
Lunch (provided)

12:25 – 1 PM
Voting

1:10 – 2 PM
Certification Exam Q & A
NBSTSA

2:05 – 2:35 PM
ASTSA Representatives Activity

2:40 – 2:50 PM
T-Shirt Contest Results
Voting Results

AST SCRUB BOWL CHAMPIONSHIP

3:30 – 5 PM
• Online team registration begins on February 1 at ast.org/aboutus/conference.
• Participation is limited to the first 24 teams to register.
• Registered teams must check in at the ASTSA exhibit table on Thursday, May 28, between 1–4 PM.
• For information about the Scrub Bowl format, rules, team eligibility and registration, visit ast.org/aboutus/conference.

Register at ast.org
**What To Pack**

- Business casual slacks, skirts, shirts or blouses for education sessions
- Gear or team colors from your favorite sports team to wear during the opening night party
- Comfortable shoes
- A new stuffed animal (with the tag, but no noises or choking hazards) to donate to Children’s Health of Atlanta
- Jeans or other casual clothes for after hours
- Pen and notepad for good ideas
- Leave room in your suitcase for materials you pick up in the Exhibit Hall

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**EDUCATION SESSIONS CONTINUED**

- **203 ICE**
  **Updates in Gynecological Surgery**  
  *Shannon Price, MD*
  Review female pelvic anatomy, the most common pathological conditions treated by surgical intervention, and the fundamental principles and potential complications of gynecological surgery.

- **204 ICE**
  **Surgical Assisting—Core Skills**  
  *Mary “Libby” McNaron, CST, CSFA, RN, FAST*
  Wondering what the next step is in your career? Hear about the skills, techniques and core knowledge required to become a surgical first assistant.

**3 – 3:50 PM**

- **205 ICE**
  **Neurosurgery: Microsurgery and Endoscopy**  
  *Neil Woodall, MD*
  Examine case studies that summarize diagnoses and indications for use of the operating microscope and endoscope in neurosurgical procedures.

- **206 ICE**
  **A Modern Approach to Bariatric Surgery**  
  *David Whiteman, MD, FRCS*
  Discuss updates and new bariatric surgical modalities, including preoperative planning.

- **207 ICE**
  **Orthopedic Topic TBD**  
  *Dave Heinsch, MD*

- **208 ICE**
  **Utilizing Cloud Technology to Streamline Your Program**  
  *Kristie Cole, CST, MEd; Paul Landsman, CST*
  Evaluate how the use of a cloud-based system can streamline surgical technology programs to improve access to documents and communication with students.

**4 – 4:50 PM**

- **209 ICE**
  **Vascular Topic TBD**  
  *Guillermo A. Escobar, MD, FACS*

- **210 ICE**
  **Emergent Trauma Surgery: The Crash Thoracotomy and Laparotomy**  
  *Jonathan Nguyen, DO*
  While the trauma surgical team can never fully prepare for what will be encountered, there are a few simple steps that almost inevitably happen. Identify the steps that can assist the team through the initial minutes of the operation and contribute to the patient’s overall survival.

- **211 ICE**
  **Infection Prevention in the Operating Room—What’s Important?**  
  *Jill Holdsworth, CRCST, CIC, FAPIC, NREMT; Patty Rider, MEd, CIC, CPHQ*
  Learn about infection prevention projects and risk assessments so you can put them into action at your facility.

- **212 ICE**
  **Assisting the Learner to Pass High-Stakes Exams**  
  *Jayne MacPherson, CST, PhD, FAST; Dana Thomas, CST; Kristen Urbanek, CST*
  Analyze methods that will help learners pass high-stakes tests and how to word questions to reflect the demographics of the country.
5 – 5:50 PM

• 213 | CE
Patient Safety and Medical Errors
Karen Chambers, CST, FAST; Jennifer Germany, CST
Understand the methods the surgical team can implement in the OR to prevent medical errors.

• 214 | CE
Orthopedic Topic TBD*  
Brian Seng, DO

• 215 | CE
AST Legislative Updates
Stephanie Whalum, Esq.
AST Director of Government Affairs
Receive updates about AST’s legislative efforts occurring across the country.

• 216 | CE
Precepting in the OR  
Michelle Muhammad, CST, FAST
Discuss teaching methods preceptors can use to properly guide students through their clinical experience, including how the methods need to be adjusted as the student progresses in clinical rotation.

SATURDAY, MAY 30

8 – 8:45 AM
AST Voting (Delegates only)

9 – 9:50 AM
AST Business Session 2

10 – 11:50 AM

• FS300 | CE
Assessing the Value of Spine Surgery in the US
Daniel Refai, MD
Examine the benefits of spinal surgery to the patient and the U.S. population from a cost perspective.

11:50 AM – 12:50 PM

• FS301 | CE
Ensuring Compliance with Joint Commission Standards
Sylvia Garcia-Houchins, MBA, RN, CIC
Compliance with infection control standards continues to be problematic for many organizations. This presentation will provide a standardized approach to ensure your organization is in compliance with Joint Commission standards and help dispel myths that are often attributed to the Joint Commission.

1 – 1:50 PM

• FS302 | CE
Why Am I Here?
David Whiteman, MD, FRCS
When the OR lights come on, are you ready to perform at your best for the sake of the patient? This session will challenge you to look introspectively at how you prepare to provide the highest quality patient care every day.

2 – 2:50 PM

• FS303 | CE
Overcoming Your Fear: You Have Everything You Need!
Myla Bennett, MD
Did you know that shifting your mindset can help you achieve your dreams and make them come to life? We tend to get stuck in our way of thinking, which can hurt us in the long run. By altering your mindset, you can see all the ingredients you need to fulfill your dreams, and you can reach every goal you imagine.

4:30 – 6:30 PM

Closing Night Reception (Badge Required)
This is your last chance to hang out and swap stories with your new friends. Enjoy hors d’oeuvres before you take off for the airport or a night on the town.

*Watch The Surgical Technologist for updated information.
**CONFERENCE PLANNING WORKSHEET**

**Education sessions**

If you attend every education session on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, you will receive 16 CE credits for the conference (one CE per hour of education). **You must register for every session to receive credit.** Review your selections carefully to ensure that you have registered for a session during all the available time slots.

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<tr>
<td>Opening Ceremony/Keynote</td>
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<td>• FS100 Disposable Endoscopes</td>
<td>• FS101 Infection Prevention</td>
<td>Exhibits</td>
<td>• FS102 Brain Tumor Surgery</td>
<td>• FS103 Traumatic Stress in the OR</td>
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<tr>
<th>Friday, May 29</th>
<th>8–9 AM</th>
<th>9 AM–NOON</th>
<th>12–1:50 PM</th>
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<th>4–4:50 PM</th>
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<tr>
<td>Candidates Forum</td>
<td>Exhibits</td>
<td>• FS200 Innovations in Vascular Surgery</td>
<td>• 201 Orthopedic Patient</td>
<td>• 205 Neurosurgery</td>
<td>• 209 Vascular Surgery</td>
<td>• 213 Patient Safety and Medical Errors</td>
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<td>• 202 HNS for Obstructive Sleep Apnea</td>
<td>• 206 Bariatric Surgery</td>
<td>• 210 Emergent Trauma Surgery</td>
<td>• 214 Orthopedics</td>
<td>• 215 Legislative Updates</td>
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<td>• 203 Gynecological Surgery</td>
<td>• 207 Ortho Surgery</td>
<td>• 211 Infection Prevention</td>
<td>• 216 Precepting in the OR</td>
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<td>• 204 Surgical Assisting Core Skills</td>
<td>• 208 Cloud Technology</td>
<td>• 212 Standardized Exams</td>
<td>• 216 Precepting in the OR</td>
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<th>Saturday, May 30</th>
<th>8–8:45</th>
<th>9–9:50 AM</th>
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<tr>
<td>AST Voting (Delegates only)</td>
<td>AST Business Session 2</td>
<td>• FS300 Spine Surgery in the US</td>
<td>• FS301 Joint Commission Standards</td>
<td>• FS302 Why Am I Here?</td>
<td>• FS303 Overcoming Your Fear</td>
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**Optional Events**

**Preconference State Assembly Leadership Forum**

Wednesday, May 27
7:15 AM–3 PM
Limited to State Assembly Board members only. (Must register for full conference.)

AST Member $50

**2020 Techs Doing Good**

A search-and-find event to benefit MedShare.

Friday, May 29
10 AM–Noon
Registration donation $25 (includes T-shirt; register by April 15 to ensure your size)

**Order Your Conference Shirt Early**

Don’t take the chance that the 2020 Conference T-Shirt will sell out before you get one. Order yours when you register and pick it up onsite.

Order Your Conference Shirt Early

$15
Registration fees

Conference registration includes all Thursday, Friday and Saturday education sessions, business meetings, exhibits and social events. 16 CEs are awarded to attendees who register for all sessions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Early Bird Registration</th>
<th>ENDS MARCH 15</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Online, Members-Only Early Bird Discount</td>
<td>$275</td>
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Mail-in registrations are not eligible for the early bird discount. Payment must be received by March 15.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Full Registration Packages</th>
<th>In Advance BY APRIL 15</th>
<th>Onsite AFTER APRIL 15</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AST Member</td>
<td>$350</td>
<td>$390</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nonmember$1</td>
<td>$480</td>
<td>$520</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AST Retired/Disabled Member$2</td>
<td>$175</td>
<td>$175</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

$1Call or visit ast.org to join AST before you register. The annual membership fee is $80. Save $205 ($125 after the cost of membership) by joining and registering before March 15.

$2Retired/disabled members must have reached the social security retirement age or be permanently disabled and unable to work.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Registration</th>
<th>In Advance BY APRIL 15</th>
<th>Onsite AFTER APRIL 15</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AST Student Member</td>
<td>$99</td>
<td>$139</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AST Student Nonmember</td>
<td>$144</td>
<td>$184</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

AST student registrants must be able to provide verification of enrollment in a program whose graduates are eligible to sit for the CST examination.

Students who register at the discounted student rate are required to attend the Student Forum on Friday. In order to earn CEs for attendance, students must have passed the certification exam before conference—and can only earn 3 CEs on Friday by registering for and attending the 3 PM, 4 PM and 5 PM sessions (instead of the Student Scrub Bowl Championship).

Guest Registration

Full-conference attendees may register a spouse, partner or family member as a guest for $50 per day. Guest badges allow admission to business sessions, the Exhibit Hall and social event(s)—NOT education sessions. Registered guests must show their daily badge in order to accompany attendees to the opening night party (Thursday guest) and the closing night reception (Saturday guest).

Employers or groups: To quickly register multiple staff members or students and make a single payment, go to ast.org and click the link to Conference Online Registration. After completing the registration form for the first person, click on “Register Another Person” to begin the next registration. Administrators can click the “I am registering on behalf of this person” link on the first screen to register an employee, and receive a copy of the confirmation and the receipt.

Payment policies: All fees must be paid at the time of registration. Make checks/money orders payable to AST. No personal checks will be accepted onsite. Conference fees may be tax deductible as education expenses (consult with your tax professional). Mailed payments must be received within 10 days of the online registration and before registration costs change (March 15 and April 15).

Transfer policy: Please contact AST to complete the transfer process. The original registrant or administrator must verify the substitution in writing. A $25 processing fee is required. If a nonmember is the replacement, the nonmember registration fee applies and payment is required.

Refund policy: Cancellations must be made in writing and postmarked by May 1, 2020. All approved cancellations will incur a $50 processing fee. Please allow four weeks for refunds. Partial refunds are not available for social functions in the package rate.
DESTINATION GEORGIA

DOWNTOWN ATLANTA

Join AST in Georgia’s capital city. Atlanta’s downtown attractions are within blocks of the hotel or are a short ride away on the Atlanta Streetcar.

▪ See more city from the SkyView Atlanta Ferris wheel.
▪ Taste the beverages at the World of Coca-Cola Museum. You’ll see why this brand is famous.
▪ Dive into more than 8 million gallons of marine and fresh water exhibits at the Georgia Aquarium.
▪ Broaden your perspective at the National Center for Civil and Human Rights.
▪ Take a behind-the-scenes tour of the CNN Center to find out how a live broadcast is produced and how the world’s largest news organization operates.
▪ Learn more about Martin Luther King, Jr. by visiting his birth home, The King Center and other attractions in the King Historic District.
▪ Visit the College Football Hall of Fame or snap a few photos of nearby venues, including State Farm Arena (NBA’s Atlanta Hawks) and Mercedes-Benz Stadium (NFL’s Atlanta Falcons).

VACATION IN GEORGIA

Let Atlanta be your gateway to the beauty of Georgia. Here are a few day trips or destinations within two hours of Atlanta: Athens’ indie music and art; Stone Mountain Park; Dahlonega (Georgia’s wine country); the Blue Ridge Scenic Railway; Lake Lanier; Callaway Gardens; Piedmont National Wildlife Refuge; Amicalola Falls State Park; Lookout Mountain and the Rock City Gardens.

GREATER ATLANTA

Use your car or ride share app to visit some of these local attractions: APEX Museum, Atlanta History Center, LEGOLAND Discovery Center, Delta Flight Museum, Fernbank Museum of Natural History, Jimmy Carter Presidential Museum and Library, the fabulous Fox Theatre, Piedmont Park, High Museum of Art, Margaret Mitchell House, Trap Music Museum, Zoo Atlanta, Six Flags Over Georgia and more.

SAVE 41% on admission to the top five Atlanta attractions with a CityPASS. Visit citipass.com/atlanta for details.