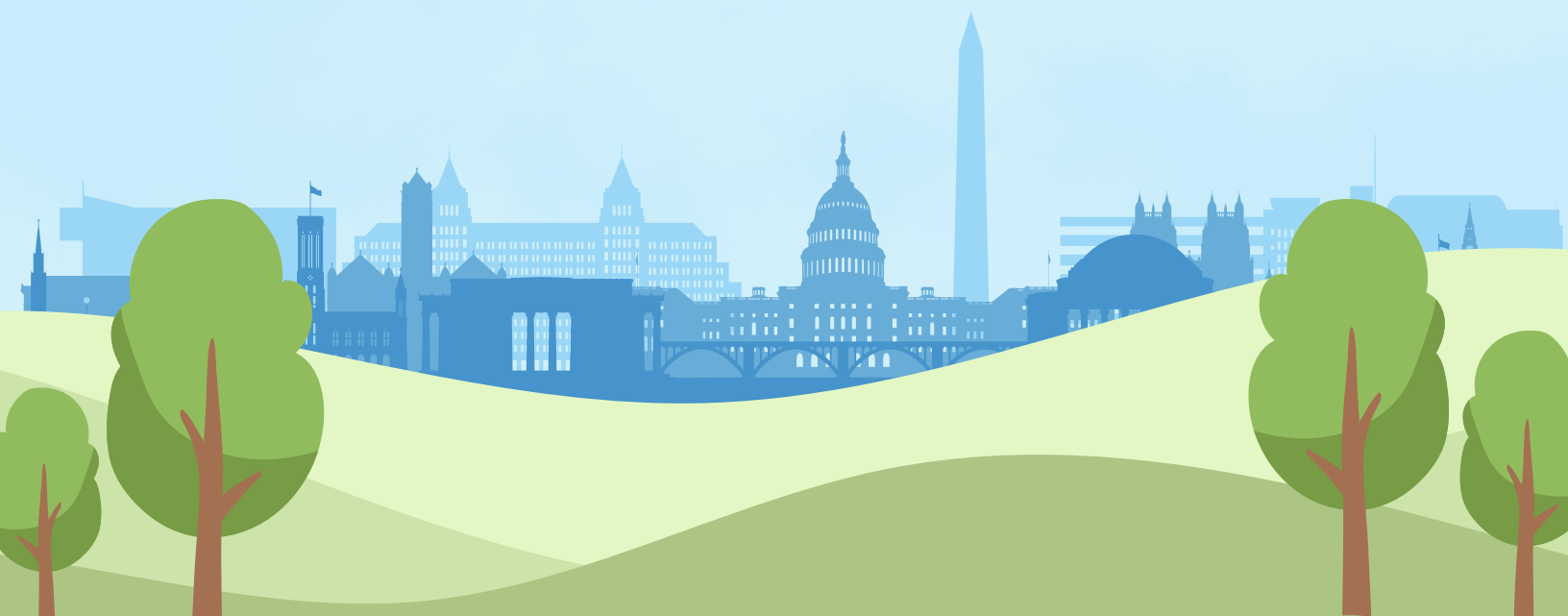




# PARTICIPATION GUIDE



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

|   |                           |
|---|---------------------------|
| 3 | Summit at a Glance        |
| 4 | Day 1: Agenda             |
| 5 | Day 2: Agenda & Logistics |
| 5 | Hotel Map                 |
| 6 | Local Travel              |
| 7 | Metro Map                 |
| 8 | Local Restaurants         |
| 9 | Thank you to our Sponsors |



We look forward to seeing you in Washington, DC on September 29-30!  
Please refer to our FAQ for [more information](#) and reach out to [policy@ndsccenter.org](mailto:policy@ndsccenter.org) with any questions.

# SUMMIT AT A GLANCE

When: September 29 - 30, 2026

Where: Omni Shoreham Hotel and Capitol Hill in Washington, DC

## Hotel Information:

- Name: Omni Shoreham Hotel
- Hotel Website: [Click here](#)
- Reserve Your Hotel Room: [Click here](#)
- Parking: Discounted NDSC rates are \$30/day or \$50 overnight. Mention the NDSC Policy Summit when using valet. Metro or rideshare is encouraged.
- Wi-Fi: Free Wi-Fi is available in the event spaces.
- Address: 2500 Calvert St NW, Washington, DC 20008
- Contact Information: (202) 234-0700

## Weather & Packing Tips:

- DC weather in late September can vary from very warm to chilly.
- Bring comfortable walking shoes
- Layers for air-conditioned buildings
- Umbrella or rain jacket in case of rain

## Dress Code:

- Day 1: Business casual
- Day 2: Professional

## DAY 1

### Morning

- Breakfast (provided)
- Advocacy Training

### Afternoon

- Lunch (provided)
- Policy Breakouts
- Hill Day Logistics
- State/Group Planning

### Evening

- Reception
- Dinner (on your own)

## DAY 2

### Morning

- Head to Capitol Hill
- Congressional Breakfast  
Reception with Members of Congress
- Meetings with Elected Officials

### Afternoon

- Lunch (on your own)
- Meetings with Elected Officials

# DAY 1: AGENDA

- **Foundations Breakouts:** Explains the basics in plain, easy-to-understand language. No prior policy knowledge is needed.
- **Deep Dive Breakouts:** Explores policy details, current proposals, challenges, and advocacy strategies. Designed for participants who have some familiarity and want a deeper understanding.

**\*Breaks will be built into your schedule**

| TUESDAY             | AGENDA                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | ROOM                                                                    |
|---------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 7:30 AM - 8:30 AM   | <b>Registration &amp; Networking Breakfast</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Blue Pre-Function Ballroom                                              |
| 8:30 AM - 8:45 AM   | <b>Welcome &amp; Summit Kickoff</b><br>From Personal Stories to Policy Change: Why We're Here                                                                                                                                                                             | Blue Ballroom                                                           |
| 8:45 AM - 9:45 AM   | <b>Storytelling for Advocacy</b><br>Your Story is the Strategy: Making it Stick with Decision-Makers                                                                                                                                                                      | Blue Ballroom                                                           |
| 9:45 AM - 10:15 AM  | <b>The Big Asks</b><br>What We're Taking to Capitol Hill                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Blue Ballroom                                                           |
| 10:30 AM - 11:15 AM | <b>The Hill Perspective</b><br>What Hill Staff Really Think: What Makes Advocacy Successful                                                                                                                                                                               | Blue Ballroom                                                           |
| 11:15 AM - 11:45 AM | <b>Hill Meeting Skit</b><br>Back on Track: Lessons from a Hill Meeting Gone Wrong                                                                                                                                                                                         | Blue Ballroom                                                           |
| 11:45 AM - 12:45 PM | <b>Lunch</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Blue Ballroom                                                           |
| 12:45 PM - 1:15 PM  | <b>Keynote Address</b><br>Presented by Julie Hocker, U.S Assistant Secretary of Labor for Disability Employment Policy<br>The Future of Competitive Integrated Employment                                                                                                 | Blue Ballroom                                                           |
| 1:30 PM - 2:15 PM   | <b>Policy Breakout #1 Employment:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Foundations: Working in the Community: Why Jobs Matter and What Needs to Change</li> <li>• Deep Dive: Ending Subminimum Wage &amp; Advancing CIE: Policy, Systems, and Strategy</li> </ul> | <b>Foundations:</b> Blue Ballroom<br><b>Deep Dive:</b> Hampton Ballroom |
| 2:30 PM - 3:15 PM   | <b>Policy Breakout #2 SSI and Financial Security</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Foundations: Understanding SSI: Saving, Working, and Keeping Benefits</li> <li>• Deep Dive: Modernizing SSI: Asset Limits, Income Limits, and Policy Reform</li> </ul>      | <b>Foundations:</b> Blue Ballroom<br><b>Deep Dive:</b> Hampton Ballroom |
| 3:20 PM - 4:00 PM   | <b>Hill Day Logistics</b><br>Preparing for Capitol Hill: Logistics and Expectations                                                                                                                                                                                       | Blue Ballroom                                                           |
| 4:00 PM - 4:45 PM   | <b>State Group Planning and Practice</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Blue Ballroom                                                           |
| 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM   | <b>Evening Reception</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Blue Terrace                                                            |
| 6:30 PM             | <b>Dinner (See page 8 for local recommendations)</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | On Your Own                                                             |

# DAY 2: AGENDA & LOGISTICS

| WEDNESDAY         | AGENDA                                                              | ROOM                                                                     |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM | <b>Congressional Breakfast Reception</b><br>Sponsored by: Microsoft | <b>Russell Senate Office Building</b><br>SR-325, The Kennedy Caucus Room |
| 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM | <b>Congressional Meetings</b>                                       | <b>Capitol Hill</b>                                                      |

### Luggage Storage:

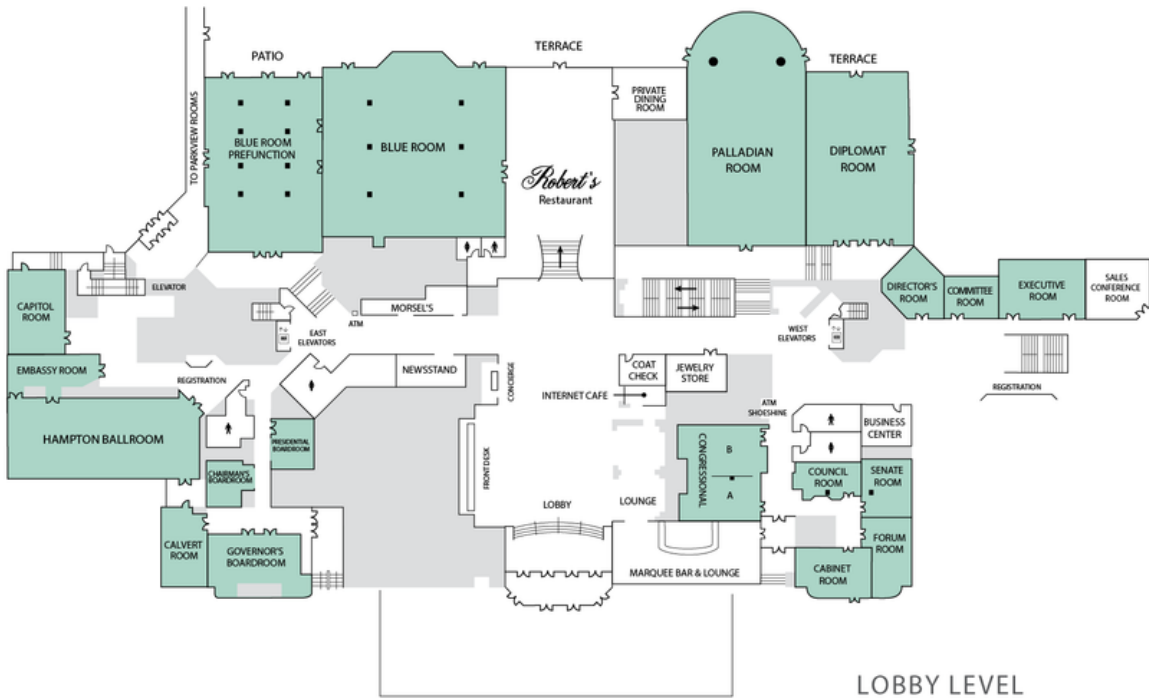
- Available at the hotel front desk

### Congressional Breakfast Reception:

Sponsored by: Microsoft

- Enter at 2 Constitution Ave NE, Washington, DC 20002
- Menu: Light continental breakfast
- Please note: Attendees should prioritize meetings over the Congressional Breakfast

## HOTEL MAP



# LOCAL TRAVEL

## Getting to the Omni Hotel, Capitol Hill, and around Washington, DC

### Transportation

- Summit attendees are responsible for their own transportation. NDSC will provide instructions on how best to get to Capitol Hill from the Omni.
- Transportation options to both the hotel and Capitol Hill include Uber, Lyft, or traditional taxi. Additionally, the WMATA offers bus and train options at an affordable cost. For your convenience, please see a map of the metro (train) system on page 7.
- You can buy a Smart Trip card at any WMATA Metro Station. You can also download the WMATA app for an electronic version of your metro card. More information [here](#).

### Airports & Stations

- Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport (DCA)
- Washington Dulles International Airport (IAD)
- Baltimore/Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport (BWI)

### Train:

- Closest Station to Capitol Hill Senate Side: Union Station
- Closest Station to Capitol Hill House Side: Capitol South
- Closest Station to the Omni Shoreham Hotel: Woodley Park Zoo/Adams Morgan

For additional information, please visit [Washington.org](http://Washington.org) to view their DC Airport Guide.

### Resources

- [WMATA Trip Planner](#)
- [DC Airport Guide](#)
- [Amtrak Train Travel Guide](#)
- [Things to do in DC](#)
- [Smithsonian Museums & Zoo](#)
- [DC Theater & Performing Arts](#)



# METRO MAP



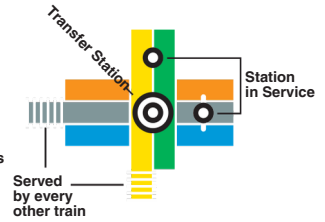
wmata.com  
Information: 202-GO-METRO | TTY: 202-962-2033  
Metro Transit Police: 202-962-2121 | Text: MYMTDP (696873)

- Terminal stations**
- R** Red Line • Glenmont / Shady Grove
  - Y** Yellow Line • Huntington / Mt Vernon Sq & Greenbelt
  - G** Green Line • Branch Av / Greenbelt
  - O** Orange Line • New Carrollton / Vienna
  - S** Silver Line • Ashburn / Downtown Largo & New Carrollton
  - B** Blue Line • Franconia-Springfield / Downtown Largo

**Station Features**

- P** Parking
- H** Hospital
- A** Airport

**Connecting Rail Systems**



Metro is accessible.

WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSIT AUTHORITY © 2022

N  
Map is not to scale

# LOCAL RESTAURANTS

\*DoorDash or other food delivery services are available

\*\*All times are in driving distance

|                                      |        |                  |
|--------------------------------------|--------|------------------|
| McDonald's                           | \$     | 1 min   0.1 mi   |
| Yours Cafe                           | \$     | 3 mins   0.2 mi  |
| Chipotle                             | \$     | 3 mins   0.3 mi  |
| Via Roma                             | \$\$   | 3 mins   0.3 mi  |
| Rajaji Curry House Indian Restaurant | \$\$   | 3 mins   0.3 mi  |
| Hot N Juicy Crawfish                 | \$\$   | 2 mins   0.2 mi  |
| LiLLiES Italian Restaurant & Bar     | \$\$   | 3 mins   0.5 mi  |
| Elfegne                              | \$\$   | 5 mins   0.7 mi  |
| Rakuya                               | \$\$   | 8 mins   1.1 mi  |
| Sfoglina Van Ness                    | \$\$\$ | 10 mins   1.8 mi |
| Swahili Village                      | \$\$\$ | 8 mins   1.6 mi  |



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