



NDSC DOWN SYNDROME POLICY SUMMIT

FAQ

When: September 29 - 30, 2026

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

What is the NDSC Down Syndrome Policy Summit?

- The NDSC Down Syndrome Policy Summit is a two-day event that brings advocates from across the country to Washington, DC to build advocacy skills, learn about timely policy issues, and meet with their elected officials on Capitol Hill.
- Day 1 focuses on learning key policy issues and advocacy strategies to equip participants with the knowledge and skills needed to effectively influence policymaking. Day 2 shifts to Capitol Hill, where participants meet with elected officials and advocate for the Down syndrome community.

Where is the Policy Summit held?

- Day 1: Omni Shoreham Hotel at 2500 Calvert St NW, Washington, DC 20008
- Day 2: Capitol Hill in Washington, DC

What is included with registration?

- Registration includes:
 - Advocacy Training
 - A full day of interactive training designed for participants of all experience levels
- Policy Breakout Sessions
 - Two tracks (Core Concepts and In-Depth) led by top policy experts
- Capitol Hill Day
 - Congressional breakfast reception
 - Customized Capitol Hill meeting schedule arranged by NDSC
- Meals:
 - Day 1: Breakfast, lunch, and evening reception
 - Day 2: Congressional breakfast reception
- Advocacy Materials and Resources
 - Issue briefs, talking points, and other materials to support your meetings

How much does the Policy Summit cost?

- Registration Fees:
 - General Admission: \$121
 - Children (ages 3-12): \$60
 - People with Down syndrome and intellectual/developmental disabilities (ages 3+): \$50
- Hotel Accommodations:
 - \$279 - \$319 per night, plus tax (rate varies based on room capacity)
 - Youth 17 and under stay at no additional cost

How and when should I reserve my hotel room?

- Please do not reserve a hotel room until after you complete your Summit registration, which opens on May 14, 2026.
- Once registered, you will receive a unique reservation link to book your room at the discounted Summit rate.



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What airports and transportation options are nearby?

- Airports:
 - Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport (DCA)
 - Washington Dulles International Airport (IAD)
 - Baltimore/Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport (BWI)
- Train and Bus:
 - Union Station
- For additional travel information, please visit <https://washington.org/dc-guide-to/washington-dc-airports>

Do I need to schedule my own Capitol Hill meetings?

- No. NDSC coordinates all Capitol Hill meetings and provides you with a personalized schedule.
- To ensure a smooth and organized experience, we ask that participants do not independently schedule meetings.
- If you have a personal connection with a Member of Congress or staff member, please contact us at Policy@ndscenter.org so we can consider this information when scheduling your meetings.

What topics will be covered, and what will participants advocate for at the Policy Summit?

- Policy priorities will be determined closer to the event date. Topics will focus on a broad range of disability issues and will not be limited exclusively to Down syndrome.

How can I raise funds to attend the Policy Summit?

- NDSC offers a Peer-to-Peer Fundraising Program to help participants offset the cost of attending. Additional details and resources will be provided soon.

What is the refund, transfer, and cancellation policy?

- Registration fees are non-refundable after September 1, 2026.
- If you need to transfer your registration, please contact Policy@ndscenter.org as soon as possible. All cancellation and transfer requests must be submitted via email by September 1, 2026.
- No refunds or transfers will be approved after that date.

What are the participation options for children ages 3 - 12?

- There is no separate programming for children ages 3-12. Children are welcome to attend Summit sessions and are encouraged to join their families for Capitol Hill meetings.
- A quiet play area with a volunteer adult will be available on Day 1 for families who need a break during the event.

Who should I contact with additional questions?

- If your question is not addressed on our website, please contact us at Policy@ndscenter.org. We are happy to assist you.

¿Está disponible esta información en español?

- Sí. Una versión completa de las preguntas frecuentes del NDSC Down Syndrome Policy Summit está disponible en español. [Puede acceder a la versión en español aquí.](#)
- Si necesita asistencia adicional en español, por favor comuníquese con nosotros en Policy@ndscenter.org y con gusto le ayudaremos.