

International travel to the ASC

We look forward to welcoming international students and scholars from around the world at our Annual Meetings in Washington DC this November.

As you finalize your travel plans, please review current Visa and Customs policies by the U.S Government as these change periodically.

For more information please visit:

<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/us-visas.html>

<https://www.cbp.gov/travel/international-visitors>

Please keep in mind that the appropriate US visa for participants at academic conferences is the B-1 visa. The B-2 visa is primarily for tourism, but it also allows for participation in certain types of activities, including attending seminars or meetings. Countries with current visa waiver programs are exempt from these requirements.

When entering the United States, we recommend:

1. Printing your conference registration confirmation.
2. Having the conference venue address and contact information readily available
3. Being prepared to explain the professional nature of your visit
4. Printing copies of your inbound and outbound tickets and hotel bookings (if applicable)

Digital Privacy and US Immigration

As part of the current U.S immigration process, government officials may review your electronic devices, social media accounts, and overall online presence during the visa application process, entry to the US, or at other points of your immigration process or travel. This can include requests for social media handles, searches of publicly available information, and, in some cases, a review of devices in border crossings. Some of these protocols may apply to U.S citizens as well.

We encourage students and scholars to be mindful of their digital presence and to ensure compliance with all visa and immigration regulations.

Whether you are applying for the B-1 visa or traveling to the United States as a citizen of a Visa Waiver country, you may need a letter of invitation to attend a professional conference. ASC supports **conference presenters** with an official letter of invitation, which validates the purpose of your travel to the United States. To request a letter of invitation, please email meetings@asc41.org, and attach a copy of your submission acceptance email and institutional/university affiliation. Please note that the letter of invitation does not represent an offer of financial support for travel or lodging.