

# AMERICAN COLLEGE of RHEUMATOLOGY

*Empowering Rheumatology Professionals*

## ACR Convergence 2024

### Affiliate Events

Meetings and events organized by exhibitors, universities, non-profit organizations, and government entities may be held in conjunction with the ACR Convergence. Any meeting or event that involves ACR scientific meeting attendees hosted by a company or organization, regardless of exhibiting status, is considered an affiliate event.

#### Policies

- All events must be approved by the ACR
- Events cannot offer CME (except for approved [industry supported symposia](#))
- Signs, banners or hospitality desks in lobbies or public areas of the hotels or convention center are NOT allowed.
- One sign may be placed directly outside the meeting room.
- Events must be held during the approved affiliate event schedule
- Onsite registration for affiliate events may not begin before the approved times.
- Organizers must show approval letter from ACR to secure meeting space.
- If an organization is planning to host a virtual event, affiliate event organizer will be responsible for securing their own virtual meeting platform. Affiliate events will not be hosted on the official meeting platform and may not offer CME.
- All marketing materials, agendas and handouts must be in compliance with the [Promotional Materials Guidelines](#).
- No reference to the ACR, the ARP, or the Rheumatology Research Foundation (The Foundation) may be included.

#### Types of Events

Non-Attendee Meetings	Attendees Meetings
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Any event at which only full-time employees of organizations will be present. They cannot include ACR attendees unless the individual is an employee of the company or sits on the board. They may not offer CME.</li> <li>• Approved Times: Unrestricted</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Any event in which ACR attendees are present. They may not offer CME.</li> <li>• Include:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Advisory Boards</li> <li>○ Committee Meetings</li> <li>○ Focus Groups</li> <li>○ Investigator Meetings</li> <li>○ Social Functions</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

**Approved Times for Attendee Meetings (all times Eastern Standard Time)**

Events which only include full-time employees of the organization and do not include ACR scientific attendees are unrestricted.

Approved times for any event in which ACR attendees will be present is as follows:

**Industry Affiliate Events**

Thursday, November 14:	unrestricted
Friday, November 15:	before 7:30 AM and after 6:00 PM
Saturday, November 16:	before 7:30 AM and after 7:45 PM
Sunday, November 17:	before 7:30 AM and after 7:45 PM
Monday, November 18:	before 7:30 AM and after 5:30 PM
Tuesday, November 19:	after 2:30 PM

**University, Government and Non-profit Organizations**

Thursday, November 14:	unrestricted
Friday, November 15:	before 7:30 AM and after 6:00 PM
Saturday, November 16:	before 7:30 AM and after 5:30 PM
Sunday, November 17:	before 7:30 AM and after 5:30 PM
Monday, November 18:	before 7:30 AM and after 5:30 PM
Tuesday, November 19:	after 12:30 PM

*\*University, government and non-profit organizations may hold committee meetings between Noon – 2:00 PM on Saturday, Sunday and Monday.*

All third-party agencies acting on behalf of an exhibiting company are expected to adhere to ACR exhibitor rules and regulations. The exhibiting company will be held responsible for the activities of any third-party agency appointed on its behalf. Any violations by the supporting company or their third party will be dealt with as follows:

- The first penalty assessed by the ACR will result in the company not being allocated the priority points for participation in the current year.
- The second penalty assessed by the ACR will result in the company losing one-half of its accrued priority points.
- The third penalty assessed by the ACR will result in the company not being eligible to host industry sponsored events and/or services at the next annual meeting.
- The fourth penalty will result in the company *not being eligible to exhibit* at future ACR meetings.