



Exhibit Rules and Regulations

Effective: February 25, 2020

Meeting Dates: December 13–17, 2020

Exhibit Dates: December 15–17, 2020

McCormick Place – Chicago, IL

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## Introduction

The American Association for Clinical Chemistry is committed to providing the highest quality Annual Scientific Meeting and Clinical Lab Expo possible. It is agreed and understood that these policies for exhibitors are part of a contract between the exhibitor and AACC, and that submission of the application for exhibit space constitutes the exhibitor's agreement to abide by these regulations. In addition, the exhibitor agrees to abide by the [exhibitor policies](#) of McCormick Place. AACC reserves the right to interpret, amend, and enforce these terms at any time as it deems proper to assure the success of the exposition. Written notice of any amendment or interpretation of the following rules and regulations shall be given to all contracted exhibitors. All amendments are binding upon publication for all parties as if contained in the original regulation.

It is the responsibility of the official exhibitor representative to see that all booth staff are made aware of and adhere to all rules and regulations and conduct themselves in a professional manner. Exhibitor personnel may not enter the exhibit space/meeting rooms of another exhibitor without permission from the latter. At no time may anyone enter or photograph an unstaffed area of another exhibitor.

AACC reserves the right to restrict exhibits that are objectionable because of noise, glaring or flashing lights, method of operation, or any other reason, and to prohibit or evict any exhibit that, in the opinion of AACC, detracts from the general character of the exhibit hall. All booth activities and content must be professional in nature and provide educational information related to the field of laboratory medicine. This reservation includes persons, things, conduct, printed material, or any other reason that AACC judges to be objectionable. In the event of such restriction or eviction, AACC is not liable for any refund to the exhibitor. AACC may review the exhibit floor activities of the exhibitor at any time.

## Eligibility to Exhibit

Only an organization identified on a signed Application and Contract for Exhibit Space, submitted either by hard copy or online, that has been approved by AACC may exhibit. The name of the company or organization whose name appears at the top of the Application and Contract for Exhibit Space is eligible to be placed in the booth or be listed in print, online, and in the mobile app.

The United States Department of Agriculture has determined that some exhibiting companies display test kits or reagents that contain animal products from outside of the United States. The USDA requires that all animal-derived and cell cultured materials must have import permits. All fluids, reagents, cell cultured materials, etc. must be removed from the exhibit at the close of the event on Thursday, December 17. Removal is the exhibitor's responsibility. Please adhere to the information in McCormick

Place's exhibitor policies regarding waste disposal and biological samples.

Please note that while all meeting attendees are invited to the exhibit hall, anyone who is observed to be soliciting business in the aisles or other public spaces, including another company's booth, will be asked to leave immediately and their badge may be revoked. Additional penalties may be applied. Please report any violations you may observe to AACC Exposition Management (SPARGO, Inc.).

## Priority Point System

The priority point system is designed to recognize companies that support AACC and its activities, and to encourage new companies to participate. Priority points are assigned for each year of participation as an exhibitor and/or corporate supporter. Companies and organizations participating in the 2020 Annual AACC Scientific Meeting & Clinical Lab Expo will earn priority points as described [here](#).

Priority points not only determine exhibit hall placement, but also help determine placement for group housing blocks. Please keep in mind that, in addition to the priority-point total, the group size, date of submission of the request and other factors will also influence the final hotel placement.

### **Priority-Point Reduction**

Any corporations/organizations found to be in violation of AACC's rules and regulations will be subject to a priority-point reduction and other possible action deemed necessary by AACC. Please see the Violations box below for details. The reduction in priority points will affect the priority point standings in future years.

## Violations

Failure to adhere to the AACC rules and regulations will result in immediate penalties on site. AACC strictly enforces the rules and regulations and will make all parties responsible for upholding them.

Violations of AACC's rules and regulations will result in the following penalties:

- 1st violation: loss of current-year priority points
- 2nd violation: loss of one-half of all accrued priority points for a second violation in any three-year span)
- 3rd violation: loss of the remainder of all accrued priority points
- 4th violation: one-year suspension of exhibiting privilege

AACC reserves the right to enact further penalties as it deems appropriate for violations of AACC policy.

## Mergers and Acquisitions

Priority points will be calculated for the company name stated on the exhibit space contract or corporate support letter of agreement. If companies have since merged, been acquired, or have purchased another company, the resulting company will be allotted the combined total of points from each company. A company that has merged with another exhibiting company must submit notice in writing by the merged company. Please submit such requests to Michele LaFrance at [aaccexhibits@spargoinc.com](mailto:aaccexhibits@spargoinc.com).

Companies belonging to a parent company with other divisions participating at AACC cannot reserve exhibit space under the parent company's points unless they are participating under the parent company's name.

## Failure to Occupy Exhibit Space

Any space not occupied by Monday, December 14, 2020 at 2:00 p.m. will be forfeited by the exhibitor. The space may be reassigned or used by AACC without a refund. Exhibitors who anticipate delays in setting up their booths must receive prior written approval by December 1, 2020, from AACC Exposition Management for late installation. Requests may be submitted to Meghan Leahy, AACC Exposition Management, at [meghan.leahy@spargoinc.com](mailto:meghan.leahy@spargoinc.com).

All booths must be staffed during exposition hours. Exhibiting organizations that fail to

occupy and furnish contracted exhibit space will be charged for the expenses incurred by AACC to carpet the booth floor and convert it to a lounge area.

## **Subleasing of Exhibit Space**

An exhibitor may not sublet, share or apportion its contracted exhibit space to another organization or business unless prior written consent has been obtained by AACC. An exception will be considered when a corporate affiliation exists (meaning that the organizations share a parent company) or for a government sponsored pavilion (must be a minimum of 400 sq. ft).

Two or more companies may share a booth only on the condition that the number of 10'x10' booths is equal to or greater than the number of companies sharing the booth space. Only the sign of the company whose name appears on the Application and Contract for Exhibit Space may be placed in the booth. Further, the company submitting the Application and Contract for Exhibit Space will be the exhibitor on record entitled to exhibitor badges and promoted on the AACC website, in the final program, on the booth ID sign and in other show-related materials.

## **Relocation of Exhibits and Floor Plan Revisions**

AACC retains the exclusive right to revise the exhibit hall floor plan(s) and/or relocate any assigned exhibitors for the betterment of the Clinical Lab Expo as determined solely by AACC. Exhibitors who change the size of their exhibit space are not guaranteed the originally assigned location and may be subject to relocation by AACC. Due to the large number of exhibiting companies, AACC cannot guarantee that a company will not be located near a competitor.

The exhibit hall floor plan and exhibitor list are the property of AACC. Use or publication for any purpose without AACC's written consent is prohibited.

## **Exhibit Display Guidelines**

### **Booth Configurations**

All exhibits must conform to the standards set by the Healthcare Convention Exhibitors Association as follows:

#### **Inline Booth (linear 10'x10' booths)**

No side rails, counters, or structure may exceed 4 feet in height, or be within 5 feet of the front

of the exhibit space. Backgrounds are limited to 8 feet in height (12 feet for perimeter booths) and banners, equipment and monitors must not protrude more than 5 feet from the back wall.

- Exhibit construction may not exceed the height of the side rail except in the back half of the booth as noted above.
- The reverse side of any wing panel extending from the back wall of the display must be draped in order to avoid raw exposure to a neighboring booth. If the exhibitor does not comply, AACC will have the general services contractor drape the area at the exhibitor's expense.
- Corner booths will not have the outside 3-foot side rail installed.
- Absolutely no storage of any kind will be permitted behind an exhibitor's booth. If the exhibitor does not comply, AACC will have the items stored in the area or removed at the exhibitor's expense.
- Additional pipe and drape will be required at the exhibitor's expense for those booths that have exposed areas between the back wall of their structure and the back wall of the booth. Please note that, in order to provide a harmonious environment to all exhibiting companies' sightlines, rules will be strictly enforced.
- No exhibitor will be permitted to span an aisle by overhead contrition.
- Exhibitors must provide space within the booth to accommodate spectators. If spectators interfere with normal traffic flow in the aisles or if they overflow into adjacent exhibits, AACC Exposition Management has the right to discontinue the activity.
- No part of the exhibit or signs may be pasted, nailed or otherwise affixed to convention center walls, doors, etc.

To confirm your booth adheres to the outlined rules and regulations, please submit a rendering to Meghan Leahy, AACC Exposition Management at [meghan.leahy@spargoinc.com](mailto:meghan.leahy@spargoinc.com). Exhibitors must correct infractions by 8:00 am on Tuesday, December 15, prior to the exhibit hall opening.

### **Island Booth**

An island booth is typically a 400-square-foot (20'x20') or larger exhibit space exposed to the aisles on all four sides.

- Island booths must be constructed to allow access from all sides.

- Island booths should have open sight lines around and through the design (including hanging signs/structures), so that the surrounding area can be viewed through the booth and neighboring booths are not inappropriately obstructed.
- AACC requires island booth exhibitors to comply with the See-through rule, which means that at least 50% of the exhibit booth must have visibility through it on all sides.
- The top of the booth's sign must not extend more than 20 feet from the exhibit hall floor and cannot block visibility of AACC signs. Variances will not be granted.
- Exhibitor must provide suitable floor covering.
- Demonstration areas on the perimeters facing the aisles are prohibited. Exhibitors must provide space within island and other booths to accommodate spectators. If spectators interfere with normal traffic flow of the aisles and overflow into adjacent exhibits, AACC Exposition Management has the right to discontinue the activity.
- Multi-level exhibits are permitted, and the exhibitor is required to obtain stamped plans certifying the space is structurally sound. The elevated space will be billed at prevailing rates. Exhibit spaces may not be wider than they are deep. Exceptions may be made at AACC's discretion.

Exhibitors who wish to construct an island booth that will be 400 square feet or larger are required to submit a digital drawing, rendering, or architectural plans to AACC Exposition Management, through the online AACC Exhibitor Resource Center, for approval by September 11, 2020. Any changes that occur after initial submission must be resubmitted to AACC Exposition Management for approval prior to the meeting. Should booth construction at the show deviate from the actual submitted and approved floor plans, AACC Exposition Management reserves the right to ask the exhibitor to make modifications at the exhibitor's expense. No exceptions will be granted if the exhibitor fails to provide plans in a timely manner or for booths that do not comply with the AACC exhibit design rules once onsite. Please contact Meghan Leahy, AACC Exposition Management, at [meghan.leahy@spargoinc.com](mailto:meghan.leahy@spargoinc.com) with any questions.

## **Hanging Signs**

For an island booth, the top of a sign suspended from the exhibit hall ceiling or attached to the exhibit booth must not exceed 20 feet from the exhibit hall floor and cannot block visibility of AACC signs or other exhibitors' booths.

- Hanging signs must be suspended directly over the island booth and not over the aisles. It is the responsibility of the exhibiting company's contact person to notify the exhibitor's contractors and agents of the height restrictions for hanging signs.
- AACC may grant an exhibitor's request to allow a sign to hang over an aisle to conjoin

with another portion of that exhibitor's booth. An additional fee for the incorporated aisle space will apply.

- No part of any exhibitor signs shall be posted, nailed, or otherwise attached to columns, walls, floors, or other parts of the building or its furniture.

## **Lighting**

All island booths may utilize special lighting.

- Lighting must be directly over or in the exhibitor's booth and may not extend into the aisles or neighboring booths.
- Exhibitor lighting cannot affect other exhibitors or aisles.
- Overhead lighting may be dimmed or turned off at the exhibitor's expense with on-site approval from AACC. Requests must be approved by AACC Exposition Management and may be made on site at the Exhibitor Service Desk.

## **Booth Carpet**

AACC will carpet all visible aisle space within the exhibit area and will supply linear exhibitors with pipe and drape. Exhibitors must completely cover the entire area of the exhibit space with carpeting or an approved material (bare floors are not permitted). The order form for carpeting will be provided in the online Exhibitor Service Manual. At the discretion of AACC, the General Services Contractor will carpet exhibit booths that are not appropriately carpeted at the expense of the exhibitor.

## **Prohibited Items in the Exhibit Hall**

- Audio/visual devices that display anything other than exhibiting company products and services; prohibited displays include, but are not limited to, sporting events and news broadcasting
- Balloons or lighter than air objects
- Combustible or Flammable Materials
- Paint – the use of paint is not allowed in the exhibit hall
- Popcorn
- Smoking to include vaping



- Storage of any shipping materials in or behind booths

## Shipping Information

All shipments to the AACC exposition must be received and processed through Freeman, the general services contractor. Information on shipping methods, targeted move-in schedules, and rates will be included in the Exhibitor Service Manual, which will be available in July.

- To ensure proper handling and receiving, advance freight and other shipments should not be sent directly to McCormick Place prior to the assigned target date.
- Any shipments going directly to McCormick Place will be received during installation dates ONLY.
- Freeman will begin accepting advanced freight at their warehouse 30 days prior to the first official move-in day.
- If you are using a private vehicle to deliver freight to the convention center, please refer to the [exhibitor policies](#) published by McCormick Place.
- Empty crates will be removed, stored and returned after the removal of aisle carpet at the close of the exposition.
- When planning your dismantling and subsequent departure, please allow approximately 6–8 hours for the return of all empty shipping materials from storage. Shipping materials will be returned as quickly as possible.
- All exhibit materials must be ready for removal from the exhibit hall by 10:30 a.m. on Saturday December 19, 2020.
- Do not store anything of value in crates or shipping materials being removed for storage.

## Targeted Freight Move-In

All confirmed exhibitors will receive a target date and time for freight delivery, which will be identified in the Exhibitor Service Manual. Please keep in mind that the target date/time is for freight delivery only, not for booth installation. A minimum of four hours between the target freight delivery time and installation of the booth must be allowed.

Requests for early move-in must be made in writing no later than September 11, 2020. An

explanation of the special circumstances warranting the exception should be sent to Bill Leithleiter with Freeman at [William.Leithleiter@freemanco.com](mailto:William.Leithleiter@freemanco.com)

### **Booth Installation and Dismantling**

Exhibitors shall utilize proper authorized labor for exhibit installation services during move-in, exhibitor services during open hours, and exhibit dismantling during move-out according to the official policies/union agreements of AACC, facility management, official general services contractor, and all applicable state and local laws.

- Exhibitors planning to build special displays on site should employ union display companies in their fabrication, carpentry, and electrical work. Information on union rules and jurisdictions will be available in the Exhibitor Service Manual.
- Exhibitors are not permitted to simply abandon exhibit materials and shipping materials (booth walls, carpet, furniture, skids, crates, etc. or biological materials) at the end of the Expo. Please remove booth walls, carpet, furniture, skids, crates, etc., before you depart. Exhibitors that will have a significant amount of trash are required to submit a removal plan and provide contact information for the exhibitor and the waste removal company contact. This does not include small amounts of promotional materials or routine trash in trash cans and wastebaskets or material rented from suppliers in the exhibitor service manual. Should you leave exhibit and or shipping materials behind, your company may be prohibited from exhibiting at future AACC Annual Meetings and you will be charged for all costs associated with removal of your material from McCormick Place.
- Early dismantling is expressly prohibited by AACC. Exhibits officially close on Thursday, December 17, 2020 at 1:00 p.m. All booths must be staffed until that time. Exhibitors that dismantle before closing will be subject to priority- point reduction and possible exclusion from future Clinical Lab Expos.

### **Exhibitor-Appointed Contractors (EACs)**

Exhibitors planning to use ANY contractors other than the official contractors for any services within the exhibit areas must complete and submit an Exhibitor-Appointed Contractor Form for each exhibitor-appointed contractor (EAC) firm/organization. The exhibiting firm appointing the EAC is totally responsible for the behavior and adherence to all AACC rules and regulations by all employees/representatives of the EAC. EAC employees/representatives who violate any of the AACC rules and regulations or exhibit any unacceptable behavior as determined by AACC or any authorized representative of AACC, are subject to immediate revocation of AACC badges and/or admittance wristbands and immediate eviction from the facility and exhibit areas.

If an exhibitor is utilizing an EAC, it is the exhibitor's responsibility to submit the Exhibitor-Appointed Contractor Form and valid certificate of liability Insurance through the online AACC Exhibitor Resource Center by September 11, 2020, that includes:

- Commercial general liability coverage, product liability coverage, and broad property damage endorsement with combined and single limits of liability of not less than \$1 million per occurrence.
- The certificate must also include coverage for workers' compensation and employers' liability within commercially reasonable limits as otherwise required by the laws of the state of Illinois.
- The certificate of liability insurance must name AACC, SPARGO, Inc., Freeman, and McCormick Place as additional insured.
- Certificates of liability insurance for EACs must indicate the name of the exhibiting company/organization and booth number that they are representing in the description area of the certificate of insurance. If said information is not included, the certificate of liability insurance will NOT be accepted by AACC.
- All EAC's must complete the [McCormick Place EAC form](#)
- EAC's are required to adhere to the [McCormick Place Building Entry Exit Procedures](#)
- Exhibitor Appointed Contractors are prohibited from setting up service desks in the exhibit hall.

## **Electrical Safety**

All wiring on booths or display fixtures within an exhibitor's booth must meet underwriters' rules and pass standard fire department inspection applicable under all appropriate state, county, city and McCormick Place this applies to construction, not pre-wired equipment.

## **Fire and Safety Regulations**

All materials used in the exhibit hall must be flameproof and fire resistant in order to conform to local fire ordinances. Corrugated paper, flameproof or otherwise, will not be permitted. All aisles and exhibits must be kept clear at all times, and fire stations and fire extinguishers must not be covered or obstructed. To minimize fire hazard, no storage of any kind will be permitted behind an exhibit booth.

- Fire regulations prohibit storing product, literature, empty packing containers, or packing materials behind back drapes or under draped tables. In most cases, however, exhibitors may store a limited supply of literature or product appropriately within the booth area, so long as these do not impede access to utility services, create a safety problem, or appear unsightly.

- Accessible storage for exhibitor materials will be available from Freeman for a fee. Detailed information regarding accessible storage will be available in the Exhibitor Service Manual.

### **Porter Service**

In an effort to maintain a clean and organized exhibit hall, exhibitors who will be distributing giveaways and providing food and beverage/hospitality in their booth must order porter service through Freeman.

- Porter service is exclusive to Freeman and includes monitoring the exhibit booth to empty wastebaskets and collect empty boxes during show hours.
- Standard wastebasket emptying does not include removal of empty boxes.
- Empty boxes may not be placed in the exhibit hall aisles, behind or adjacent to columns, or in trashcans in the exhibit hall during show hours. If an exhibitor does not properly handle empty boxes, Freeman will remove the boxes at the exhibitor's expense.
- To be approved for food and beverage, exhibitors must submit the Giveaway Approval Form through the online AACC Exhibitor Resource Center by September 11, 2020.

### **Audio/Visual Equipment**

Exhibitors are permitted to use the following if they do not interfere with the activities of neighboring exhibitors:

- Exhibitors may use sound equipment in their booths provided the noise level does not disrupt the activities of the neighboring exhibitors. Microphones must be kept at a level of 85 decibels or below.
- Excessive audio/visual devices and offensive displays are not permitted, and sound effects are discouraged because of the potential to interfere with other exhibitors and detract from the professional atmosphere of the exhibit hall.
- Electrical or other mechanical apparatus must be muffled so that the noise does not interfere with other exhibitors and speakers; other sound devices must be positioned to direct sound into the booth rather than into the aisle.

- Speakers or video terminals may not be placed in the corner of booths.

At the request of AACC, objectionable sound levels must be remedied, or use of the sound-producing device will be forbidden for the remainder of the show. Those exhibitors violating noise regulations will be warned only once. Priority points will be deducted if this rule is not followed. Exhibitors that violate this rule will lose the current year priority points.

### **Liability for Damage to Property**

Exhibitors are liable for any damage to facility property, including but not limited to escalators, floors, walls, or columns, standard booth equipment, and other exhibitors' property.

### **Review and/or Expulsion of Exhibitors**

AACC may review the exhibit floor activities of exhibitors at any time. AACC may deny an exhibitor access to, or expel an exhibitor from, the event without refund of any fees if, as determined solely by AACC, such exhibitor has not complied in all material respects with policies, legal requirements, and terms and conditions of the exhibitor agreement.

### **Children Admittance Regulations**

For safety and liability reasons, AACC does not permit any children 16 years of age or younger at any time in the exhibit areas. During move-in or move-out, NO ONE under the age of 18 will be permitted within the exhibit areas. Children who are of an appropriate age and permitted into the exhibit area must be registered as a guest and must wear their meeting badge in order to be allowed access to the hall.

## **Exhibitor Meeting Rooms**

Exhibitor meeting rooms may be used to hold private meetings, staff meetings, or set up as a staff lounge. Exhibitor meeting rooms may not be utilized to hold workshops, group presentations, or other similar events. Exhibitor meeting rooms will be available for use Tuesday, December 15, through Thursday, December 17, 2020 during published Exhibit Hall hours. Please contact Meghan Leahy, AACC Exposition Management, at [meghan.leahy@spargoinc.com](mailto:meghan.leahy@spargoinc.com) with questions pertaining to access hours or use of exhibitor meeting rooms.

## **Promotional Activities**

AACC recognizes that promotional activities encourage a steady flow of traffic to the exhibit booths. It is imperative that exhibitors display professionalism and consideration for their fellow exhibitors; therefore, interviews, demonstrations, and the distribution of literature or samples must take place within the exhibitor's booth. No queuing in the aisles will be permitted. Please allow for queuing to take place in your exhibit booth space. Canvassing or distributing promotional materials outside the exhibitor's rented booth space is not permitted. No literature may be distributed in the convention center, hotels, or any public area. Those exhibitors violating promotional material regulations will be warned only once. Priority points will be deducted if this policy is not followed.

Scientific and educational presentations are prohibited within the exhibit hall, and exhibitors are prohibited from offering activities in their booths that provide continuing medical education (CME) credit. However, presentations that promote a company's products and services are allowed within that company's exhibit booth. Demonstrations must be located in an area such that any crowd that gathers will be contained within that exhibitor's space and will not block the aisles or neighboring exhibits.

### **Booth Activities**

The use of promotional robots, signage and other materials is restricted to the exhibitor's own booth and must conform to the line of sight and height restrictions for the booth type. Professionals hired for other than product demonstrations require prior approval by AACC Exposition Management. AACC Exposition Management reserves the right to evict any model or mannequin used in a booth that, in its sole discretion, it considers inappropriate for the Clinical Lab Expo.

Distributing exhibitor materials and information and talking to attendees within an exhibit booth are not considered booth activities and do not need to be included in exhibitors' approval requests.

All booth activities and content must be professional in nature and provide educational information related to the field of laboratory medicine. Please contact Meghan Leahy, AACC Exposition Management, at 703-631-6200 or [meghan.leahy@spargoinc.com](mailto:meghan.leahy@spargoinc.com) with any questions.

### **Private Demonstrations–VIP Hours**

Exhibitors will be permitted to conduct off-hour private demonstrations in the exhibit hall. Private demonstrations must be approved by AACC Exposition Management two weeks prior to the start of exhibitor move-in. Additional information and requirements will be provided after your demonstration has been approved.

- Companies requesting permission to hold private demonstrations must complete the

application found in the Exhibitor Service Manual.

- Morning demonstrations can be scheduled for Wednesday and Thursday from 8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. only.
- Afternoon demonstrations can be scheduled for Tuesday and Wednesday from 5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. only.
- Demonstrations are not allowed on Tuesday morning or Thursday afternoon.
- Exhibiting companies will be required to hire security for the length of the demonstration starting 30 minutes prior to the start time and for 30 minutes following. The number of security guards needed is based on the size of the exhibit space.
- There is a 4-hour minimum per shift per security guard.
- Exhibiting companies must supply a final list of demonstration attendees via email to Meghan Leahy, AACC Exposition Management at [meghan.leahy@spargoinc.com](mailto:meghan.leahy@spargoinc.com) by Friday, December 4, 2020.
- A representative from the exhibiting company must escort demonstration attendees to and from the booth.

### **Advertising/Marketing**

The only appropriate and acceptable venues for the distribution of advertising, publications, or marketing materials are the booths in the exhibit hall and the official AACC ClinPack hotel door drop program. Exhibiting companies may not, for example, engage in marketing activities through the use of hotel television channels, distribution of marketing materials in hotels (e.g., giveaways, flyers, or door drops), and distribution of marketing materials in the convention center. If you are interested in learning about available support opportunities please contact [Michele LaFrance](#) or 703-631-6200.

The display of banners or other advertisements outside of the exhibit hall and targeted to attendees of the AACC Annual Scientific Meeting and Clinical Lab Expo (including, but not limited to, advertising in/on buses, taxis, Segways, boats, pedicabs, planes, street cars, building facades, etc.) is prohibited within five miles of the convention center during the period beginning three days before and continuing until three days after the meeting (December 13–17, 2020). The use of any name logo, or trademark of AACC in any exhibitor advertising is strictly prohibited without AACC's advance written consent.

## Prohibition of Sales

The AACC does not permit completed sales of merchandise on the exhibit floor.

## Contests, lotteries, raffles, and games of chance

Contests, lotteries, raffles, and games of chance must comply with the following guidelines: “The contest must be open to all meeting attendees and be conducted in a professional manner.” Prizes must be educational in nature and moderate in value (under \$100).

- Giveaways should meet the standards of the [AdvaMed Code of Ethics](#). Notification of winners, semi-finalists, and runners-up, etc., must take place after the conclusion of the AACC Annual Scientific Meeting and Clinical Lab Expo.
- Contests of any kind must first be approved by AACC Exposition Management. Exhibitors intending to conduct contests, lotteries, raffles, or games of chance must complete the Giveaway Request Form through the online AACC Exhibitor Resource Center by September 11, 2020.

## Giveaways

All items distributed in the exhibit hall must be useful to the participants at the meeting and/or in their professional activities. Items must be small in size and made available to all AACC attendees, regardless of registration type or demographics, as long as the supplies last. Please also note the following restrictions:

- It is AACC’s policy that all giveaways by exhibitors in the exhibit hall meet the giveaway standards of the [AdvaMed Code of Ethics](#), whether or not the companies have adopted the AdvaMed Code. All giveaways by exhibitors must be designed primarily for the education of patients or health care professionals. Such giveaways must also be of modest value (under \$100) and available to all registered attendees immediately upon request.
- The following items are not eligible giveaway items: balloons, cash or cash equivalents, golf/tennis balls, stress balls, hats, fans, massagers, stuffed animals, t-shirts, toys.
- The following items are examples of approved giveaways: Hand Sanitizers, Pens, Catering, Lens cleaning cloths, Industry related books, Business card holders, USB’s, Safety glasses, Gloves, Tools related to the job (petri dishes, slides, beakers, graduated cylinders, ph papers, droppers, tube pinching clamps, beaker tongs, test tube racks, thermometers, stirring rods, pipettes and bulbs and funnels) Scales, Instant Sealing Pouches and Lab Air Monitors.



- Exhibitors intending to provide giveaways must complete the Request for Approval of Giveaway Form through the online AACC Exhibitor Resource Center by September 11, 2020. Any exhibitors found distributing materials that have not been officially approved will be required to cease distribution immediately and will have their priority points reduced.

## **Food and Beverage**

Permission to serve food and beverages in exhibit booths must be requested in writing and approved by AACC Exposition Management. All food and beverages must be purchased through [Savor](#), the exclusive provider of food and beverage at McCormick Place.

- AACC prohibits the distribution of popcorn.
- Companies wishing to serve food and beverages must complete the Request for Approval of Giveaway Form available through the online AACC Exhibitor Resource Center by September 11, 2020.
- In an effort to maintain a clean and organized exhibit hall, exhibitors who will be providing food and beverage/hospitality in their booth must order porter service. Porter services is provided exclusively by our general services contractor, Freeman.

## **Exposition Photography/Recording Policy**

Exhibiting companies/organizations must obtain written approval from AACC Exposition Management to photograph, videotape, and/or audiotape in the exhibit hall and will only be permitted to photograph, videotape, and/or audiotape in their contracted exhibit space.

- Photography, videotaping, and audio recording are permitted by exhibit booth staff in their own exhibit booth, provided that written permission/authorization is obtained from any distinguishable individuals if the photograph or recording will be used for promotional or commercial purposes (including use in printed materials, websites, and/or social media). AACC is not liable for the failure of any exhibitor to obtain such permission. Requests may be submitted to Meghan Leahy, AACC Exposition Management at [meghan.leahy@spargoinc.com](mailto:meghan.leahy@spargoinc.com)
- Exhibitors may not photograph, videotape, and/or audiotape other exhibits and/or attendees.

- Exhibitors that choose not to use the official photographer/videographer listed in the Exhibitor Service Manual must submit an Exhibitor Appointed Contractor Form and valid certificate of liability insurance through the online AACC Exhibitor Resource Center by September 11, 2020. The exhibiting company/organization may be required to make arrangements through the official security services company for an escort at their own expense. It is recommended that arrangements be made with electrical services for show-level lighting and power during the photo shoot if this occurs when the hall is closed.
- These activities must be conducted without disruption to exhibition activities or limitation to the accessibility of exhibitions.
- Exhibitors may not photograph other booths or record within booths of other exhibitors, including the AACC booth, without express written permission of the exhibiting organization. AACC reserves the right to review any footage that includes their branding or booth prior to it being published.

Please note that attendees are permitted to take photos or recordings in the exhibit hall for their own personal use, but they are required to obtain permission from the exhibiting company before engaging in photography or audio/video recording of or within said booth.

### **Failure to Adhere to Policy**

Exhibiting companies that violate this policy could face a loss of accrued priority points and suspension of exhibiting privileges. AACC strictly enforces the rules and regulations and will hold all parties responsible for upholding them.

## **Industry, Federal, and State Regulations**

Each company is responsible for understanding and following the specific requirements of any code to which they have signed on, and any local, state, and federal laws pertaining to laboratory medicine and medical device manufacturer conduct.

[AdvaMed Code of Ethics on Interactions with Health Care Professionals](#)  
[U.S. Food and Drug Administration \(FDA\)](#)

### **Americans With Disabilities Act**

Exhibitors shall be responsible for making exhibits accessible to persons with disabilities, as required by the Americans With Disabilities Act, and shall hold AACC harmless from any consequences of an exhibitor's failure in this regard.

## Insurance and Liability Issues

### Insurance

Exhibitors must acknowledge that neither the American Association of Clinical Chemistry, nor SPARGO, Inc., nor Freeman, nor McCormick Place shall be obligated to maintain property, liability, or business interruption insurance covering the exhibitor. It is the sole responsibility of the exhibitor to obtain such insurance at the exhibiting company's own expense. Proof of such insurance, including a certificate of insurance, shall be provided to AACC Exposition Management, or its agent or representative within three (3) calendar days after request, time being of the essence. Failure to remit such proof shall be a material breach of this agreement.

- The certificate must include commercial general liability, product liability coverage, and broad property damage endorsement with combined and single limits of liability not less than \$1 million per occurrence and a \$2 million aggregate limit.
- Commercial general liability shall name AACC as an additional insured and provide a certificate of insurance evidencing the same.
- Exhibitors shall also maintain workers' compensation and employers' liability insurance in commercially reasonable amounts and as otherwise promulgated by state law.
- Exhibitors shall carry commercial automobile insurance, including hired and non-owned liability coverage.
- The insurance policy must cover the time period from move-in through move-out.

### Limitations and Liability

The exhibitor shall, at its sole cost and expense, procure and maintain, through the term of this contract, comprehensive general liability insurance against claims for bodily injury or death and property damage occurring in or upon or resulting from the premises leased.

- Such insurance shall include contractual liability and product liability coverage, with combined single limits of liability of not less than minimum \$1 million per occurrence/\$2 million aggregate coverage.
- Such insurance shall name the American Association of Clinical Chemistry, SPARGO, Inc., Freeman, and McCormick Place as additional insured. During the term hereof, the exhibitor shall maintain workers' compensation and occupational disease insurance in

full compliance with all federal and state laws, covering all of exhibitor's employees engaged in the performance of any work for exhibitor.

- All property of the exhibitor is understood to remain under its custody and control in transit to and from the confines of the hall. Proof of such insurance, including a certificate of insurance, shall be provided to AACC or its agent or representative within three (3) calendar days after request, time being of the essence. Failure to remit such proof shall be a material breach of this agreement.

### **Attorneys' Fees, Governing Law, Jurisdiction**

The Agreement between the exhibitor and AACC, of which these policies are a part, shall be governed by the laws of the District of Columbia, without regard to choice of law provisions. The exhibitor and AACC consent to the exclusive subject matter and personal jurisdiction of the courts of the District of Columbia, over any dispute arising under the Exhibitor Agreement or AACC's enforcement of AACC policies and standards. In the event that AACC litigates to enforce its rights, it shall be entitled to reasonable attorneys' fees incurred in connection with a judgment obtained by it.

### **Security**

AACC will provide security protection for the perimeter area of the exhibit hall on a 24-hour basis during the entire exhibit period, including move-in and move-out. Neither AACC, nor SPARGO, Inc., nor Freeman, nor McCormick Place shall be liable for any of the exhibitors' property.

- It is recommended that each exhibitor purchase a portal-to-portal rider available on the exhibitor's own insurance policy as protection against loss, theft, fire, damage, etc.
- Exhibitors must always wear the official AACC supplied badge in the exhibit hall.
- Badges are non-transferable and are the sole property of AACC. AACC, AACC Exposition Management, and AACC Security reserve the right to revoke any badge at any time.
- Access to the exhibit hall during set-up and dismantle times for booths is restricted to the published hours unless special arrangements have been made with AACC Exposition Management.

### **Indemnification**

Neither AACC, SPARGO, Inc. nor its other agents or representatives, or their shareholders, officers, directors, employees or contractors shall be responsible for any injury, loss or damage that may occur to exhibitor or to exhibitor's agents, employees, affiliated personnel, officers, directors, shareholders, contractors or representatives or any of their property, businesses or other activities from any cause whatsoever, prior to, during or after the conference or exposition event. By signing this Agreement, exhibitor expressly and voluntarily and knowing assumes all such risk and expressly agrees, and hereby does indemnify, defend and hold harmless AACC, SPARGO, Inc. and other agents and representatives, and their shareholders, officers, directors, employees and contractors, from and against all claims and liabilities arising out of, or in any way related to, the acts omissions or negligence of exhibitor, exhibitor's agents, invitees, employees or representatives.

### **Cancellation of Exposition**

It is mutually agreed that, in the event of cancellation of the AACC Scientific Meeting and Clinical Lab Expo as a result of strikes, acts of God, war, terrorism, disaster, curtailment of transportation facilities, governmental regulations, or other causes that would prevent its scheduled opening or continuance, this agreement will be terminated immediately. AACC shall determine an equitable basis for the refund of a portion of the exhibit fees after due consideration of expenditures and commitments already made.

## **Payments, Cancellations, and Refunds**

All exhibit space, meeting room rentals, exhibitor directory listings, Product Theaters, hotel room door drops, and mailing list rentals must be paid in full prior to move-in. Exhibitors with outstanding balances will not be permitted access to the exhibit halls or freight docks or begin the installation of their exhibits. Badges will also be withheld until full payment has been received.

### **Payment Policy:**

- 50 percent deposit payment due:
  - October 7, 2019, for applications submitted prior to October 7, 2019
  - With application when submitted between October 7, 2019 and March 30, 2020
- 100 percent payment due after March 30, 2020

AACC requires payment in full no later than March 30, 2020. Failure to make payments does not release the contracted or financial obligation of Exhibitor.

### **Cancellation Penalties:**

- Any cancellations received in writing through October 6, 2019, will not incur a

cancellation penalty and the exhibitor will be issued a 100 percent refund of any monies received by AACC for said cancellation.

- Any cancellations received in writing October 7, 2019 through March 30, 2020, will incur a 50 percent cancellation penalty.
- Any cancellations received in writing after March 30, 2020, will incur a 100 percent cancellation penalty and the exhibitor will be issued NO refund of any monies received by AACC for said cancellation.

In addition to the above cancellation penalties, should you cancel within 60 days prior to the first move-in day you may be assessed fees incurred by AACC to cover the booth area and convert it to a lounge area. Cancellation of exhibit space includes cancellation of registration allotted with exhibit space. Note that any exhibiting company that cancels exhibit space BEFORE it has made full payment is liable for full payment of the original cost of the total exhibit space less any applicable refunds as explained herein.

## Ancillary Meetings and Meeting Room Requests

Companies that are supporters of AACC may apply to hold ancillary meetings during the 2020 AACC Scientific Meeting & Clinical Lab Expo. All ancillary meeting requests must be submitted [online](#) by Monday, November 30, 2020. All requests will be assessed a one hundred dollar per day, per request, administrative fee. All requests must abide by the [Ancillary Event Space Guidelines](#).

AACC will assign meeting space on a first-come, first-served basis. Entertainment, meetings, or similar activities will not be permitted in hotel rooms or other private or public facilities during hours that conflict with AACC-sponsored events. Contracted hotels in Chicago will not reserve meeting rooms or function space for anyone during the meeting dates without prior AACC approval.