



## 2028 AES Host City Application

Statement of Need: In 2028, the American Elasmobranch Society will host its own individual meeting outside of JMIH. To facilitate the ad hoc planning committee with identifying a location for the 2028 meeting, applications are welcomed from AES members to nominate their city for consideration. Please fill out the information below that will provide important information for the committee to evaluate cost, feasibility, and ease of access for selection of the host city in 2028. If selected, nominating member(s) are presumed to be part of the local host committee that will form subsequently. We hope that this can unlock savings across multiple areas, while also improving collegiality and networking.

Please return this application and associated materials as one PDF document to [secretary@elasmobranch.org](mailto:secretary@elasmobranch.org) by **June 15th, 2026** for consideration.

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**Local Host Information**

Name of primary host (include affiliation & email): \_\_\_\_\_

Name and contact information of co-host(s) who will assist the primary host with meeting organization: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Host City Name, State, Country (General): \_\_\_\_\_

Host Organization/University (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Host City Support Statement. Provide a short statement indicating your interest in hosting the meeting and rationale for hosting it in your city. Please keep to 300 words or fewer:



## Venue Logistics:

Assuming an attendance of 200-300 people, please describe with detail the proposed meeting venue (next page), including estimated quotes from hotel representatives. Multiple venue options can be provided and clearly separate each entry. Local Chambers of Commerce may assist you in searching for venues. However, be aware that they tend to favor larger, dues-paying partners (such as convention centers) and they might steer you towards more expensive options. If you work with a Chamber, make it clear that we are on a tight budget! The following information can guide your inquiry:

- Number of meeting rooms and capacity (min-max capacity per room)?
  - What is the cost? Does this cost depend on food/beverage purchases (“F&B minimum”)
  - Ideally, one main room (to accommodate plenary) and two rooms for concurrent sessions are recommended
  - Availability of other, smaller rooms which may be helpful for presentation submission, registration, lactation room, etc.
- Is there a space large enough for a poster session (with vendors)? Are there additional associated costs?
- Are locked rooms for the AES store available? (room to hold up to 50 people)
- Is a set up service of tables and chairs available? If so, provide estimated cost.
- Availability of Wi-Fi in meeting rooms (Free? Speed? If not free, how much?)
- Is A/V available from the hosting facility or via local contractors? If so, provide estimated cost. Can conference attendees bring their own A/V equipment?
- Are there mandatory catering options or is outside food/drink allowed? If the former, what are the minimum spend amounts? Price of a typical lunch and dinner? Service fees?
  - Ex. Cost of coffee service can be a good indicator of price
- Are poster stands available for use? If so, provide estimated cost.
- Are local daycare or nursing room options available at the venue or could be sub-contracted locally?



Venue Description Narrative:



**Travel Logistics:**

Local Airport Name(s) (and 3-letter code): \_\_\_\_\_

Distance from airport to proposed venue: \_\_\_\_\_

Availability of public transportation (Y/N)? Are there time limitations (e.g. late-night arrivals or early-morning departures)?

If public transit is available, please provide a screen shot from Google/Apple maps outlining the route that includes distance and time.

Estimated Ride Share Cost from airport to venue (assume 3pm on a Wednesday):

\_\_\_\_\_



### **Lodging Logistics:**

Please provide names of at least three hotels (with addresses) along with distance from conference venue and estimated daily price per night (including tax rate; e.g. \$179/night + 8.5% state and local tax). For the purposes of consistency, use a check in/out date range of July 8<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup> 2026. Please indicate if hotel prices in the area are cheaper at other times of the year and provide alternative search dates.

- 1) July price:
  - a) Off-season price(s) and date(s):
- 2) July price:
  - a) Off-season price(s) and date(s):
- 3) July price:
  - a) Off-season price(s) and date(s):

Additional considerations:

Are university dorm rooms available (Y/N)? If so, provide estimated cost (if known).

Are there any other housing options you would like the committee to consider (e.g. abundance and ease of access of AirBnB or VRBO properties)?



**Activity Logistics:**

Please provide a list of restaurants/food options (along with a rough estimate of price range and walking distances).

Describe other food options (e.g. Jimmy John's, Grocery Stores, Costco etc.) and approximate distances from the venue.

Are there enough food options to avoid long lines (bottlenecking) during the noon lunch breaks?

Please provide a list of options for the opening reception and the closing banquet (along with estimated walking distances or Ride Share distance to travel).

Please provide a brief statement of other attractions (e.g. outdoor adventures, family fun options, "night life" options, etc). If possible, please include operating hours for each and distance from the proposed conference venue.



**Sponsorship:**

Please describe the potential for local sponsorship from the host city. This is not required to have secured funding promises, however, the committee is interested in learning about the potential for local support to help offset meeting costs