



## SC11 Attendee Guide

### Preparing for SC11

An SC conference can be an overwhelming experience for attendees, particularly those attending for the first time. With each passing year the conference gets bigger—more exhibits, more technical program sessions and more attendees—making it harder than ever to keep track of things.

If this is your first time at SC, here are some pointers on how the conference is organized and how to find more information about things of most interest to you. Even if you have attended SC before, there are some changes in store at SC11 in Seattle, so you may want to keep reading.

**There will be two sessions for first-time attendees to SC on Monday afternoon, November 14. One will be “HPC in Plain English” from 2:30-3:30pm; the other will be an “Introduction to Supercomputing” from 3:30-5pm. Both sessions will be held in Rooms 602/603 of the Washington State Convention Center (WSCC).** These sessions are open to all SC attendees.

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### Transportation from Seattle (SEA-TAC) Airport to Downtown Seattle

For transportation from the Seattle-Tacoma airport to downtown Seattle, the SC11 hotels, or the WSCC, you can ride the light rail, schedule a shuttle or take a taxi. For the light rail, take one of the skybridge walkways from the baggage claim area and walk to the station on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor of the airport parking garage. The trip to Downtown Seattle takes about 40 minutes and costs \$2.75 each way. Here's a [map of the light rail line](#).

The [Downtown Airporter](#) picks up passengers at the inner drive curb on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the airport garage. It departs twice an hour from 6:30am–9pm, with service to and from major downtown Seattle hotels: Madison Renaissance, Crowne Plaza, Fairmont Olympic, Hilton Hotel, Seattle Sheraton, Grand Hyatt, Westin Hotel and Warwick Hotel. The fare is \$15 one-way and \$25 roundtrip.

Taxis and limousines are on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the Parking Garage. For a taxi, use the curbside phones on the Baggage Claim level or dial directly at 206.622.6500. Taxis cost approximately \$40-45 each way.

For more information, visit the airport's [Parking and Transportation website](#).

## Weather in Seattle in November

Seattle is an amazing city with lots to do and explore, so you'll want to be sure you're dressed comfortably for your excursions. Local weather in November averages a high of 52 degrees (Fahrenheit) during the day, but can get chilly at night. During November, Seattle experiences an average of 5 inches of rain, so be prepared for potential cool, wet weather. Check the weather forecast before you pack to be well prepared. Please remember that the SC11 facilities will be air conditioned and in four buildings, and temperatures are apt to vary from room to room and building to building, so dress in layers to make sure you are comfortable both indoors and out.

Aside from dressing comfortably for the weather, there will be a mix of dress among the attendees and exhibitors. You'll see people wearing suits and ties, as well as blue jeans and polo shirts, but on average the majority of people will dress in a business casual style.

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## SC11 Spans Four Facilities

SC11 is uniquely different from former conferences in that the sessions and activities span four buildings—the WSCC, **where you register on site**, The Conference Center (TCC), the Grant Hyatt Hotel, and the Sheraton Hotel.

The Exhibit Hall spans the 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> floors of the WSCC. The majority of the Technical Program sessions are being held in the TCC, with the exception of the workshops on Sunday and Monday in the Grand Hyatt. The Communities Program sessions are in the WSCC.

The Keynote address is on Tuesday, November 15, at 8:30am in the Sheraton Hotel, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Ballroom.

For your convenience, we are providing overflow rooms for those technical sessions that are crowded. Three rooms (WSCC 604, TCC 204 and TCC LL3) will each be displaying up to eight concurrent technical sessions with audio streams selectable through headphones. These rooms will be available Tuesday through Thursday. So if you want to see a session that's crowded or quickly catch a session from the 6<sup>th</sup> floor exhibits, be sure to visit one of these rooms.

View a [map of the conference hotels and general area around SC11](#) or check out our SC11 app (see "*How to Organize Your Time at SC*" below) or the maps you receive when you register.

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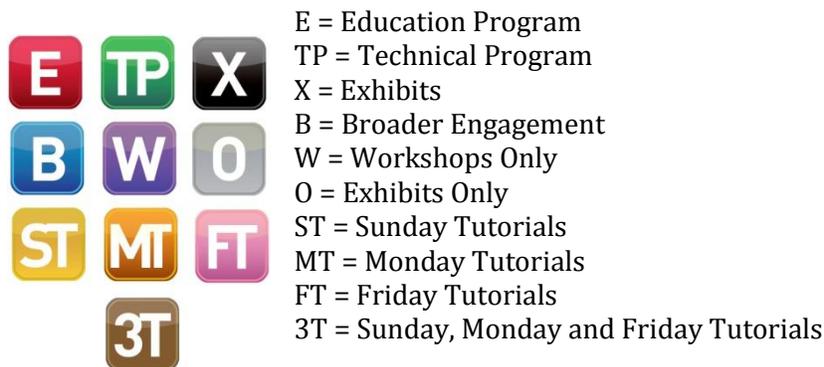
## SC11 Conference Registration

Upon arrival at the WSCC, **please proceed to the registration area on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor, South Lobby (at the top of the escalators) to register** and pick up your badge, which you need to wear at all times. **We strongly encourage Workshop and Tutorials participants to register the day before the event to avoid registration lines.** Registration hours are as follows:

Saturday, Nov 12	1pm-6pm
Sunday, Nov 13	7am-6pm
Monday, Nov 14	7am-9pm
Tuesday, Nov 15	7:30am-6pm

Wednesday, Nov 16 7:30am-6pm  
Thursday, Nov 17 7:30am-5pm  
Friday, Nov 18 8am-11am

When you pick up your registration badge, you'll notice a variety of letter icons. These icons, which match the registration categories represented on your badge, are located on signs, maps, and the printed program to help you determine which events you may attend. Here's a guide to each icon:



When you pick up your registration badge, you will have access to multiple publications to help you navigate through the conference.

- The printed **Conference Program** (provided to Technical Program attendees) provides the schedule of all sessions and activities for the week. Daily maps are also included.
- The **Exhibit Directory** provides a list of all exhibitors, and the sessions offered through the Exhibitor Forum.
- **Conference Program at a Glance** (included in your badge) provides a map of SC11 facilities and a brief summary of all sessions
- **SC11 Abstracts Addendum** (available at the registration desk) provides a description of sessions not available in the printed program. This information is also available on the SC11 website and via the SC11 app.

**Daily Maps** – Each day's event types and their locations can be found in daily maps available in the Conference Program, on the website, and via the SC11 app. Map legends and badge icons will help direct you to the proper location, where signs will have more detailed information. Look for Quick Response (QR) codes to download the daily map to your mobile device.

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## How SC is organized

There are four main components of the SC conference: the Technical Program, the Exhibits, the Communities Program, and SCinet.

The Technical Program has been the heart of the conference since its inception. The Technical Program provides multiple forums for sharing research, development and applications through invited talks, technical papers, tutorials, panel discussions, workshops, research posters, Birds-of-a-Feather sessions, and awards. A Technical Program registration and badge are needed for attending most of these sessions, while tutorials require a separate registration.

The Exhibit Hall is filled with booths featuring the latest technologies and discoveries from industrial and research organizations located around the world. To enter the Exhibit Hall, you will need either an Exhibitor, Technical Program or Exhibits Only registration.

The Communities Program engages people new to SC and/or new to high performance computing, networking, storage and analysis. Within the Communities Program are:

- Broader Engagement program, aimed at supporting under-represented members of the community;
- Education Program, that assists educators with incorporating the tools and resources of SC into their courses;
- International Ambassadors, who help attendees from other countries make the most of their time at SC;
- Student Cluster Competition, where teams of students design and deploy computing clusters;
- Student Job Fair, that enables students interested in fellowships, internships, summer jobs, assistantships, or permanent employment to meet with potential employers;
- Student Volunteers program, that brings students from around the world to assist with conference logistics while providing them time to attend the sessions; and
- Workforce Development sessions, that provide forums for discussing how to prepare the next generation of HPC practitioners.

A dedicated group of network experts volunteer each year to create SCinet, the conference network that has more bandwidth into the Conference than any other facility in the world and more capacity than many cities and countries. SCinet operates a commodity network for attendees and an experimental network that showcases the latest, most sophisticated technology currently available. SCinet supports the high-speed network connections linking the convention center to outside networks and provides free wired and wireless connections for SC attendees and exhibitors.

As SC offers a range of registration categories, we have prepared a chart showing what kind of access each registration allows. View the [Registration Pass Access chart](#).

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## **How to Organize Your Time at SC**

Clearly, there is a lot to see and do during the week at SC, and the events are spread across a number of buildings, floors, and rooms in the four facilities being used for SC11.

To start planning your agenda, start at the [SC11 website](#). Here you will find descriptions of the activities and a detailed [Technical Program Schedule](#) that can be used to build your own custom agenda. When viewing the Technical Program Schedule, notice on the far right-hand side a column labeled "Planner." Click on this to build your own schedule. Once you select an event and want to add it to your personal schedule, just click on one of the calendar icons (outlook calendar, ical calendar or Google calendar) and that event will be stored there. As you select events in this manner, you will have your own schedule to guide you through the week.

There is an SC11 application (powered by Boopsie) that is freely available to track all events from your smartphone. Simply point your phone's browser at [sc11.boopsie.com](http://sc11.boopsie.com) to download your own version of Boopsie, or search for "SC11" from the Apple iTunes store or Android Marketplace.

## Wireless Access

SCinet provides free IEEE 802.11a, 802.11g and 802.11n wireless network access in the:

- Grand Hyatt Hotel for Workshops
- The Conference Center for all sessions
- Washington State Convention Center for all sessions and the Exhibit Hall

There will NOT be wireless access in the Sheraton Hotel meeting rooms.

Please note that the wireless system is not secure and can be monitored by others.

Most of the SC11 Conference hotels will be offering free wireless connections in the sleeping rooms. The exceptions include the Westin, the W, and the Sheraton. At the Sheraton, wireless is free if you join the Starwood Preferred Guests program.

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## Get Connected @ SC11

Join the conversation on Twitter and Facebook! Connect with colleagues, discuss the technical program, get the latest news from exhibitors, post videos and images about your experience and share tips about Seattle attractions! Follow @supercomputing and use #SC11 – the official Twitter hashtag for the conference – to let the world know what you see, hear and feel during the week. We want it all! Don't forget to -- "like" us at facebook.com/SCconference and "check-in" on Foursquare-- there will be giveaways!

## Connection Zones

Look for our Connection Zones in the convention center and the TCC, where Wiffiti by LocaModa will animate all of the SC11 social media buzz in real-time on large screens! Use #SC11 and your tweets will automatically pop-up—or to share via SMS message.

It's easy:

1. Start a new text message on your cell phone to 87884
2. Compose your message always starting with @SC11
3. Hit "SEND" and watch your message appear!

You can also email [SC11@wiffiti.com](mailto:SC11@wiffiti.com) with your short message in the subject line and/or photo attached and it will pop-up on the Connection Zone screen!

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## Bus Service

Since all the conference hotels are within walking distance of the Washington State Convention Center, no busing is necessary.

Bus service will be provided for exhibitors to attend the Sunday evening Exhibitor Reception at the Experience Music Project (EMP) and for Technical Program attendees to attend the Thursday evening Conference Reception at the Space Needle. Check the printed program, the website or the SC11 app for times and locations.

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### **Conference Store**

One of the busiest places at the SC conference is the Conference Store, where you can pick up shirts, hats and other souvenirs. If you see something you like, we suggest buying it then as the store often runs out of popular items before the week is up. Really!

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### **Family Day**

If your family is traveling with you to SC, they can visit the Exhibition during the “Family Day” program from 4-6pm, Wednesday, Nov. 16. Family members will be admitted at no charge, but must be accompanied by an attendee with paid registration. All children under age 16 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

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### **Questions?**

In the 4<sup>th</sup> floor lobby of the WSCC and on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> floors of the TCC you can get answers to your questions at the SC Information Booths. In addition, there will be people walking around with “ASK ME” buttons and bright yellow “We’re Connected” t-shirts who can assist you with any questions you may have.

The SC conference organizers try to anticipate many of your questions and post large signs throughout the convention center listing the times and locations for most conference activities. Often the answer to your question can be found on one of these signs, please don’t hesitate to ask if you need help!

Finally, check out the SC11 website ([sc11.supercomputing.org](http://sc11.supercomputing.org)) and be sure to load your smartphone with the SC11 app, powered by Boopsie, to help you navigate the array of conference offerings as well as information about the local Seattle area.

We look forward to seeing you in Seattle!

*The SC11 Committee*