



Conference accessibility and resource information for participants all in one place!

Downloadable Reference Guide

A CERF Navigator is a conference attendee committed to making CERF a safe, professional, and inclusive event who helps ensure that all participants feel welcomed, included, and respected. CERF Navigators are members at all career stages who volunteer to participate and will be available throughout the conference to chat informally, provide guidance, suggestions, and help increase engagement among attendees. Navigators also play a crucial role in ensuring accessibility to all aspects of the conference and fostering a genuine sense of belonging for every participant.



QR Code to join our GroupMe to ask questions

*Chair: Mike Allen
Contact: 202-556-3274
mallen@mdsg.umd.edu*

Greater Richmond Convention Center Accessibility

VCU Health Lactation Lounge

The VCU Health Lactation Lounge is located in the GRCC's Ballroom Pavilion on the 1st Floor near Meeting Room B15c. It features comfortable seating, a table, power supply for pumping, nursing pads and easy access to restrooms. When the lounge door is closed, it can be locked from the inside and displays an "occupied" message on the outside. The GRCC is the only convention center in the Commonwealth of Virginia to offer a permanent lactation lounge for guests. The lounge is sponsored by [VCU Health](#) as part of its commitment to supporting mothers who want to breastfeed their babies.



Wheelchair Accessibility & Availability

The GRCC has wheelchair-accessible entrances at the following locations:

- 3rd & Marshall GRCC Parking Deck Entrance (GRCC 2nd Floor)
- 5th & Marshall Parking Deck Entrance (GRCC 2nd Floor)
- 3rd & Marshall - Exhibit Hall Pavilion
- 4th Street/Cyber Cafe - Exhibit Hall Pavilion
- 5th & Marshall - Exhibit Hall Pavilion
- 5th Street Exhibit Hall Entrances - Exhibit Hall Pavilion
- 5th & Marshall - Ballroom Pavilion
- 5th Street - Ballroom Pavilion

Open entrances may vary depending on event location and activity within the facility. The GRCC has elevators at the following locations in the facility:

- Exhibit Hall Pavilion: 3rd & Marshall/Meeting Room E10 (1st Floor) & Meeting Room E20/Administrative Offices (2nd Floor)
- Exhibit Hall Pavilion: Cyber Cafe/Registration Lobby (1st Floor) & Food Court/Meeting Room E21 (2nd Floor)
- Exhibit Hall Pavilion: Exhibit Hall C (1st Floor) & Meeting Room E24 (2nd Floor)
- Ballroom Pavilion: Meeting Room B15c (1st Floor) & Ballroom C (2nd Floor)
- Ballroom Pavilion: Meeting Room B15a (1st Floor) & Ballroom A (2nd Floor)

Wheelchairs also are available on a first-come, first-served basis; they may not be taken out of the building. Visitors will be asked to leave an ID at the security desk while using the wheelchair. Please inquire at the main entrance at the corner of Third Street and Marshall Street or ask a staff member upon arrival.

If you have any further questions about accessibility accommodations, please contact info@cerf.science.

Low Sensory Room E24-AB

At CERF, we offer a "Low Sensory Room" as an escape from the stimulation of conference activities. This quiet space provides an area for individuals to recharge and relax. Inside, you'll find a variety of tactile activities designed to help calm the senses, including fidget spinners, thinking putty, and our custom CERF coloring pages. The Low Sensory Room is the perfect location for those looking to take a break from presentations and networking, allowing them to refocus and return to their conference activities feeling refreshed.

Family Room E25-B

At the CERF conference, we offer a welcoming "Family Room" where kids can come along with their guardian or caregiver. This dedicated space is designed for little ones to enjoy themselves with a variety of fun activities like games and puzzles, as well as our very own CERF custom coloring pages. Here, kids can express their creativity, socialize with other young friends, and take breaks whenever they need it. The Family Room is also a cozy spot for families to hang out together during downtime, providing a reprieve from conference activities.

Most current info available here: <https://conference.cerf.science/safety-and-accessibility>

The CERF 2025 Biennial Conference Ombuds: Your Resource for Addressing Concerns

Independent. Impartial. Informal. Confidential.

The term “ombuds” (pronounced “ahm–buhds”) comes from a Swedish term meaning “a person who has an ear to the people.”

<https://www.mwi.org/cerf-ombuds/>

The ombuds is an impartial, independent, off-the-record resource who is available on-site to hear concerns confidentially. The ombuds can assist with identifying options and resources to address conflicts or issues such as harassment, discrimination, or any violation of CERF’s Event Code of Conduct. This resource is available to all attendees, staff, exhibitors, and anyone participating in CERF 2025.

The Ombuds will be on-site during the conference for individual, confidential consultations at the **Greater Richmond Convention Center in Show Office A** as follows:

- *Monday, November 10, 2025*
 - 7:00 am to 8:00 am, 9:30 am to 10:30 am, and 2:30 pm to 4:30 pm
- *Tuesday, November 11, 2025*
 - 9:30 am to 12:00 pm and 2:30 pm to 4:00 pm
- *Wednesday, November 12, 2025*
 - 9:30 am to 10:30 am, 2:30 pm to 4:30 pm, and 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm
- *Thursday, November 13, 2025*
 - 8:30 am to 10:00 am and 1:30 pm to 3:00 pm

Resources for Navigators and Participants

The full [Code of Conduct](#) can be found on the conference website.

If you are being subjected to inappropriate conduct, notice that someone else is being subjected to inappropriate conduct, or have any other concerns, contact CERF Event staff at the Registration Booth or [submit an online report](#).

If you or someone else is in immediate danger, call 911.

Transportation Information

- [Convention Center Transportation Site](#)
<https://www.richmond-center.com/transportation>
- [GRTC](#): Bus and local transportation info
 - Local buses are free to ride!
 - <https://www.ridegrtc.com>
- Rideshare Services
 - Uber and Lyft are available
 - If you have a need for an Uber voucher to get back from the Affinity Night or Student Night events on Monday, please see Susan Park or Stacy Trackenberg – Navigators have contact information

Affinity Night Out and Student Night Out Information

Night Out events are Monday, Nov. 10 at Siné Irish Pub – about a 20 minute walk. For individuals interested in traveling together to these events, meet in the Marriott Lobby by the Navigator sign. We will leave at the following times.

Affinity Night Out (7:30-9:00 pm): Leaving at 7:00 and 7:20 pm

Student Night Out (9:00 pm – late): Leaving at 8:45 and 9:15 pm

Individuals are also encouraged to **leave these events together in groups** at the end of their evening. Uber vouchers are available from Susan Park and Stacy Trachenberg at these events if you have an accessibility or safety need to get back to your hotel. Vouchers are limited so please travel in groups.

Safety and Accessibility Resources

- [2025 CERF Event Code of Conduct](https://conference.cerf.science/code-of-conduct)
<https://conference.cerf.science/code-of-conduct>
- [CERF Safety and Accessibility Guide](https://conference.cerf.science/safety-and-accessibility)
<https://conference.cerf.science/safety-and-accessibility>
- [CERF Online Complaint Form](https://cerf.memberclicks.net/index.php?option=com_mcform&view=ngforms&id=2019745#!)
https://cerf.memberclicks.net/index.php?option=com_mcform&view=ngforms&id=2019745#!
- [CERF Ombuds](https://www.mwi.org/cerf-ombuds/)
<https://www.mwi.org/cerf-ombuds/>
- [Inclusive Culture Links and Resources](https://conference.cerf.science/inclusive-culture)
<https://conference.cerf.science/inclusive-culture>

Contact Options

Navigator support, join our GroupMe using the QR Code or this link:

https://groupme.com/join_group/109787709/TYaSDY0r

CERF Staff email, info@cerf.science, or visit the registration desk

General conference issues or code of conduct violations, [submit an online report](#)

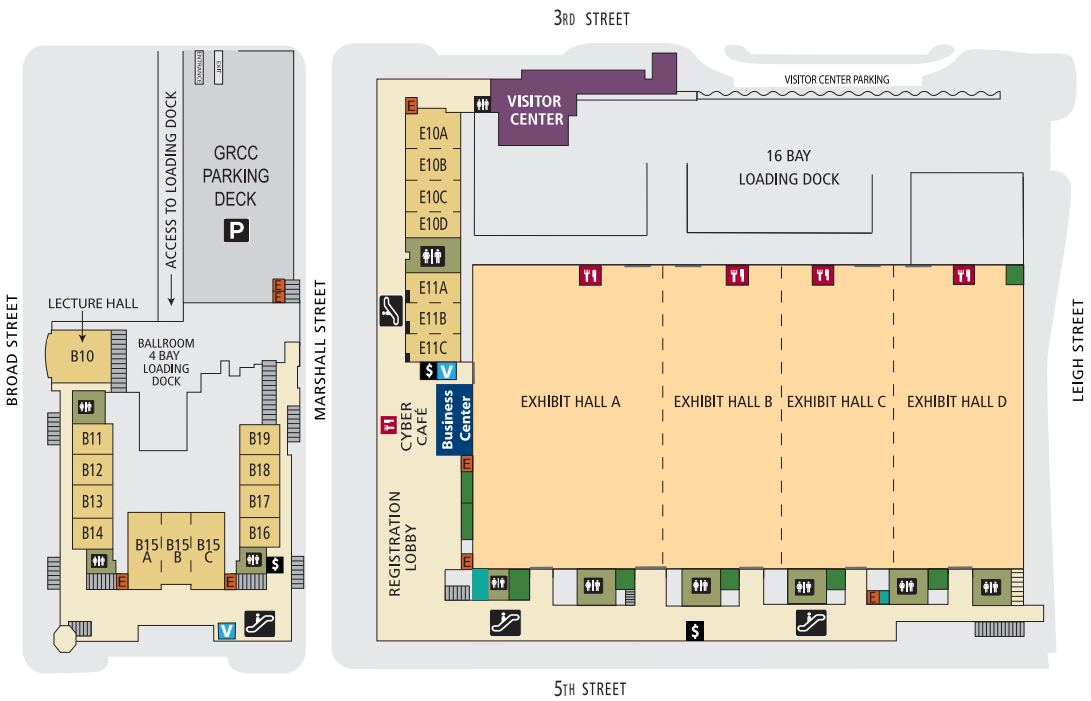
Ombuds, visit Show Office A

Mike Allen, Navigator Chair, 202-556-3274, mallen@mdsg.umd.edu

GREATER RICHMOND CONVENTION CENTER FLOORPLANS

LEVEL 1

- SHOW/REGISTRATION OFFICES & GREEN ROOMS
- FOOD & BEVERAGE
- MEETING SPACE
- COMMON AREA
- FLEXIBLE WALL
- RESTROOMS
- ESCALATORS
- BOX OFFICE
- ELEVATORS
- VENDING
- PARKING
- STAIRS
- ATMS



LEVEL 2

- SHOW/REGISTRATION OFFICES & GREEN ROOMS
- FOOD & BEVERAGE
- MEETING SPACE
- COMMON AREA
- FLEXIBLE WALL
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