



Tentative Agenda and Pre-Registration Information



Taking Charge of Your Profession: 2012 ATRA Mid-Year Forum on Public Policy

February 26 – 28, 2012



Make your way to Baltimore and the ATRA Mid-Year Conference!

Excerpt from the *ATRA Newsletter, Volume 27, No. 4 (Winter 2011)*:

ATRA Federal Public Policy: The Year in Review - A Look to 2012

Thomas K. Skalko, Ph.D., LRT/CTRS, Richard Williams, Ed.D., LRT/CTRS, and Lisa Morgan, CTRS

2012 and Beyond: What you can do! FPP Action steps for 2012 and beyond include on-going efforts with existing coalitions, but perhaps more importantly, the Public Policy Team has set the goal to engage every member of the profession in the public policy process. This starts with continued energies to inform recreational therapists of successes in public policy (e.g., inclusion of RT in the MDS 3.0) and the challenges that confront recreational therapy in the public policy arena. The Public Policy Team can do only so much by itself. A grassroots effort is needed to bring about changes that are needed to help recreational therapy continue to grow as a profession and to improve our abilities to positively affect the lives of our consumers. So, how can you get involved in these important efforts? Here are several easy-to-accomplish tasks that will make immeasurable differences in the future of the profession:

- 1. Attend the ATRA Mid-Year Issues Forum** in Baltimore, MD. The Issues Forum will not only focus on educating the membership of public policy issues but will facilitate your interaction with your elected Congressional Representative and Senator. In addition, the Mid-Year Forum will include content on state licensure and successes of other states in the effort to gain licensure. Participants will have the opportunity to earn approximately 1.5 continuing education (CEU) activities. Your profession needs for you to attend and educate your elected officials on the issue important to you!
- 2. Maintain Your Membership and Recruit a Member** since it is the membership that is the grassroots of the profession. All recreational therapists need to “just do the math” to determine the impact and need for every member. There are approximately 14,000 Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialists (CTRS) registrants under the National Council for Therapeutic Recreation Certification (NCTRC). Currently, ATRA has approximately 2,100 members. When student members are factored in, that means that less than 21% of CTRS’s are members of ATRA. These figures pale compared to our sister organizations. APTA has 77,000 members; ASHA has 145,000 members; and AOTA has approximately 35,000 members. A bigger and stronger ATRA membership would enhance the profession’s ability to positively affect public policy.
- 3. Consider State Recognition Legislation** as an initiative to protect the consumer from misrepresentation and unqualified recreational therapy practice. Each chapter and state organization should be exploring state licensure programs as a means to protect the public and to ensure quality RT services. Many state and federal regulations speak to qualified health care professionals as being professionals licensed by the state. Each state should be taking action to explore and eventually implement state licensure legislation.
- 4. Commit** to taking action on behalf of your profession when it comes to advocacy, membership, and advancement. Public policy is about the individual. Come join us in Baltimore; help your chapter by joining and participating; ensure the quality of your services to all consumers. We’re all in this together.

Baltimore's Inner Harbor

Baltimore's Inner Harbor is one of the most photographed and visited areas of the city. It has been one of the major seaports in the United States since the 1700s and started blossoming into the cultural center of Baltimore in the 1970s. Distinct in function and form, locals and visitors alike enjoy Baltimore's Inner Harbor and surrounding neighborhoods that offer a variety of fine dining, cultural experiences and exciting nightlife. From breath-taking panoramic views of the skyline to the up-close and personal experiences of street performances happening spontaneously at the waterfront, Baltimore's Inner Harbor offers more to see and do than you might imagine; read more online <http://baltimore.org/about-baltimore/inner-harbor>.

Inner Harbor Restaurants include elegant gourmet cuisine, ethnic foods from around the world and plenty of fresh seafood from Maryland's Chesapeake Bay abound. Come sample a taste of Baltimore at one of the many Inner Harbor restaurants. Search restaurants online: (<http://baltimore.org/dining-and-nightlife/neighborhood/17>).

Conference Objectives:

Following the conference, attendees will be able to:

- Discuss a variety of ideas that have professional practice relevance. Attendees will leave armed with ideas and solutions that can be implemented in their practice, including hands on learning and practical tools.
- Document earned continuing education units necessary for recertification and professional development.
- Identify ways to contribute to the recreational therapy profession and the association at the local, state and national levels.
- Describe how to improve and update quality services for clients.
- Articulate the benefits of networking with other professionals.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Sunday, February 26, 2012

7:00A - 5:30P

Registration

Pre-Conference Sessions

**FULL-DAY INTENSIVE: .65 CEUs
(Additional Registration Required)**

8:30A – 4:30P

1 | DPG Training



Suzanne Fitzsimmons, MS, GNP, ARNP

Working as a Recreational Therapist with individuals who have dementia can be challenging, especially when you encounter behavioral problems. This all day intensive workshop will provide you with extensive training in using the Dementia Practice Guideline in your facility. After completion of 6-50 minute modules and passing the competency exams, you will receive a Certificate of Training and will be listed on ATRA's Dementia Practice Directory. This evidence-based guideline and training will improve your skills, recreational therapy practice and the lives of your residents.

Objectives: Participants will be able to: define the term disturbing behaviors; demonstrate five recreational therapy interventions to be used in addressing disturbing behaviors; and explain a non-pharmacological practice approach to treating disturbing behaviors.

**FREE BONUS CEU OPPORTUNITY!! HALF-DAY INTENSIVE: .35 CEUs
(Additional Registration Requested)**

12:30P – 4:30P 2 | State Licensure: Nuts and Bolts of the Process



**Thomas K. Skalko, PhD, LRT/CTRS
Bob Riley, PhD, CTRS**

Protecting the public from harm is the basis of professional licensure. The licensure of recreational therapy practitioners is paramount to this goal. This session will discuss the basis, value, challenges and processes for establishing licensure in recreational therapy.



Objectives: Upon Completion of this session, participants will: identify the rationale for state licensure of recreational therapy professionals, be able to identify at least three values of state licensure, be able to identify at least two challenges to implementing a state licensure program, and identify steps necessary to pursue state licensure for recreational therapy professionals.

**5:30P - 7:30P 3 | Opening General Session | Federal Healthcare Policy:
What is the climate? (.15 CEUs)**



**The Honorable Glenn 'GT' Thompson, Congressman Pennsylvania's
5th District**

This session will address current Federal Healthcare policy and the landscape for Recreational Therapy Practice.

Objectives: Participants will be able to: identify the direction of Federal Healthcare, explain the manner in which Recreational Therapy might fit into Federal Healthcare in the future, and identify three concerns they might want to discuss with their Congressman regarding the status of Recreational Therapy and Federal Healthcare initiatives.

7:30P - 8:30P Reception

Welcome to the conference and to Baltimore! Join us for a time of networking with the Federal Public Policy Team and other professional recreational therapists interested in contributing to the field!

Monday, February 27, 2012

7:00A - 5:00P Registration

**8:30A - 10:00A 4 | General Session | Health Care Reform:
Where Does That Leave Recreational Therapy? (.15 CEUs)**



Mary Ann Keogh Hoss, Ph.D., CTRS, FACHE, FDRT

This session will give a brief overview of healthcare reform focusing on aspects that could impact the profession. Current hot topics will be covered.

Objectives: Upon Completion of this session, participants will: state three current trends that can impact the profession, discuss financial implications on the profession, identify three resources to assist in tracking movement on health care reform, and examine the need for CTRSs to understand Health Informatics.

10:00A - 10:30A Break

10:30A - 12:00P CONCURRENT SESSIONS: .15 CEUs

5 | Medicaid Waivers and Private Practice



Heather J. Sedletzeck, CTRS, DT

Both Medicaid Waivers and Private Practice are hot topics in Recreational Therapy these days. This session will provide valuable information on both topics and how you can explore potential opportunities in your state.

Objectives: Participants will be able to: define the term Medicaid Waiver, identify where to gain information on Medicaid Waiver services in their state, identify two potential payment sources for private practice, and list three ways to market their private practice.

6 | Taking Charge of Recreational Therapy in Long-Term Care



Sharon Nichols, CTRS/L

With the dramatic changes occurring in healthcare today, there are tremendous opportunities to demonstrate and substantiate the benefits of recreational therapy for persons in skilled nursing and long-term care facilities. This session will not only explore the changes and identify evidenced based practice interventions that are applicable in skilled settings but will also explore potential reimbursement opportunities for RT in LTC settings.

Objectives: Participants will be able to: describe CMS changes that have a direct impact on RT services in skilled nursing facilities, identify at least three evidenced-based interventions that can be applied with persons in skilled nursing facilities, and recognize approaches that will maximize opportunities for reimbursement of RT services.

7 | Medical Home: Is there a place for recreational therapy?

Mary Ann Keogh Hoss, Ph.D., CTRS, FACHE, FDRT

This session will discuss the concept of medical home. The focus will be on chronic disease management. The role of recreational therapy in achieving the goals of medical home will be explored.

Objectives: Participants will be able to: define the concept in medical home, examine the diseases most often identified with chronic care, explore the role of the recreational therapist in chronic disease management, and identify a role for recreational therapy in medical home.

12:00P - 1:30P 8 | Lunch and General Session | Preparing for the Day on the Hill (.15 CEUs)



Diane Skalko, MS, LRT/CTRS

This session will provide an overview of the talking points for the Day on the Hill, do's and don'ts, strategies for talking to legislators as well as a role-play of a typical appointment.



Objectives: Participants will be able to: discuss the talking points for Skilled Nursing Facilities and advocate for recreational therapy in Skilled Nursing Facility settings, discuss the talking points for Inpatient Rehab Facilities and advocate for recreational therapy in Inpatient Rehab Facilities, and discuss the

talking points of Inpatient Psych Facilities and advocate for recreational therapy in Inpatient Psych Facilities.

1:30P - 3:00P

CONCURRENT SESSIONS: .15 CEUs

9 | Basic Steps to Pursue Coverage of Recreational Therapy in Active Treatment Settings

Tim Passmore, Ed.D., CTRS/L

This session will provide knowledge of the mechanisms and regulatory language which provides the opportunity for Recreational Therapy to be covered in the Active Treatment Setting.

Objectives: Participants will be able to: identify the steps needed to initiate coverage of Recreational Therapy in Active Treatment Settings, identify how the specific regulatory language which allows the coverage of Recreational Therapy in active treatment settings, and identify who they are to contact and what they are to do if a question of coverage arises in their treatment setting.

10 | Understanding Public Policy and Mental Health

Thomas K. Skalko, Ph.D., LRT/CTRS

Understanding the policy issues that impact mental health services is critical for the direct service provider. This session will address dominant issues and regulatory language at the national level that impacts mental health providers.

Objectives: Upon Completion of this session, participants will: identify the at least three regulatory items that affect recreational therapy professionals, be able to identify at least three actions they may take to secure RT inclusion in language, and be able to identify at least two challenges to securing grassroots support.

11 | Inpatient Rehabilitation Facilities – IRF’s Public Policy – Critical Issues for Recreational Therapy



Lisa J. Morgan, CTRS

This session will provide an update on what changes have occurred with Federal Public Policy in Inpatient Rehabilitation Facilities (IRF’s). Information will be shared on what steps ATRA has taken for CTRS’ working in this setting. Participants will be given information that they can share with their US House of Representatives and Senators during this session.

Objectives: Upon completion of this session, participants will: demonstrate awareness to three strategies that have occurred through ATRA’s Federal Public Policy for RT in Inpatient Rehabilitation Facilities; identify three strategies to take to affect public policy and the RT profession at the local, state, and national level; obtain information to share during appointments on the hill with US House of Representatives and Senators; and identify three areas the profession needs to go in the future for Recreational Therapy as it relates to Federal Public Policy.

3:00P - 3:30P

Break

3:30P - 5:00P

12 | General Session | Current State of Affairs in Federal Public Policy and Implications for Recreational Therapy (.15 CEUs)



Peter Thomas, Principal, Power, Pyles, Sutter & Verville, ATRA Legislative Counsel

This session will address the current state of affairs in federal public policy and the challenges that confront the recreational therapy profession. Specific agenda items for discussion with legislative representatives will be provided.

Objectives: Upon completion of this session the participant will be able to: identify three issues at the federal public policy level that confront services to individuals with health and disabling conditions, accurately identify an issue that relates to their setting, and state their concern to their elected official.

5:30P – 7:00P (CEUs not applicable.) **California State University, Long Beach Students' Presentation**
Preparing for the Future: The Role of Licensure for the Profession of Recreation Therapy

7:00P – 8:30P (CEUs not applicable.) **Treatment Team Meeting(s)**

Evening Option **Explore the Inner Harbor!** Stretch your legs and have an adventure. So many opportunities to enjoy shopping, dining, clubs, sports, museums, walking, bicycling, maritime tours, taxis, and more!



Tuesday, February 28, 2012

7:00A – 10:00A **Registration (Registration will reopen 4:00P-5:00P.)**

7:00A – 8:30A **Grab your complimentary continental breakfast on your way to the Hill and don't forget to pick up your important information and tracking documents before you go!**

(Minimum of one appointment for 30-minutes to 90-minutes and maximum of three appointments at 30-minute increments AND attendance to debriefing session REQUIRED to qualify for CEU credit.)

ALL DAY **13a | Day on the Hill (13a+13b MAXIMUM CEU Value .3 CEUs)**
Scheduling assistance is available prior to the conference for setting up meetings on the Hill – be sure to complete your registration form accurately and completely to receive timely contact from the committee.

Note that you can easily use the Camden Line MARC train (station walking distance from the hotel at 301 West Camden Street) to get to the Hill. Note that the station is only open 4:30 – 9:30 a.m. and 3:00 – 9:00 p.m. but you can pre-purchase tickets with the association to receive a discounted rate of \$7.00 roundtrip (half the regular price!) Be sure to order tickets when registering for conference, this group rate will only be available through the association until February 10th.

5:00P - 8:00P 13b | Day on Capitol Hill for Recreational Therapy (return to hotel for this important processing and debriefing session in order to qualify for CEUs)
Recreational Therapists Attending Meetings Facilitated By ATRA Federal Public Policy Team:
Thom Skalko, Ph.D., LRT/CTRS
Diane Skalko, MS, LRT/CTRS, ATRA President Elect
Lisa Morgan, CTRS, ATRA Treasurer
Tim Passmore, Ed.D., CTRS/L, ATRA Member At Large

This session will provide an opportunity for grassroots advocacy of participating Recreational Therapists. CTRS' will coordinate and meet with their US House of Representatives and US Senators to discuss key issues of services provided by Recreational Therapists and how this will impact consumers served in IRF's, IPF's, and SNF's.

Objectives: Upon completion of this session, participants will be able to: meet and discuss with their US House of Representatives and US Senators critical issues for Recreational Therapy and the consumers served in Inpatient Rehabilitation Facilities, meet and discuss with their US House of Representatives and US Senators critical issues for Recreational Therapy and the consumers served in Skilled Nursing Facilities, meet and discuss with their US House of Representatives and US Senators critical issues for Recreational Therapy and the consumers served in Inpatient Psychiatric Facilities, and complete a form that provides specific details of areas addressed during meetings and a summary of information provided from the congressional offices.

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM: ATRA Mid-Year Conference | 02/27-28/12

Name: _____ Name on Badge: _____

Organization: _____

CTRS: Yes No Other credentials: _____

Note that a Committee Member will contact you to assist with legislative appointment scheduling; please provide your residential and billing information, if it differs. Please also provide your ZIP+4 Code. Thank you!

Residential Physical Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ - _____

Billing Address, if different: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ - _____

Phone: _____ FAX: _____

Email: _____

Special Needs/OR Special Diet Requirements: Yes (Please attach list.)

Request to be on Roommate List, log your request in the ATRA Members' Forum (under the Networking tab of the website).

Step 1 - Select Your Registration Package – Full Conference or Daily Rate

Full Package	By 12/30/11	By 1/27/12	On-site (After 1/27)
ATRA Member	<input type="checkbox"/> \$220	<input type="checkbox"/> \$250	<input type="checkbox"/> \$260
Student Member	<input type="checkbox"/> \$75	<input type="checkbox"/> \$75	<input type="checkbox"/> \$85
Professional Non-Member	<input type="checkbox"/> \$330	<input type="checkbox"/> \$365	<input type="checkbox"/> \$375
Student Non-Member	<input type="checkbox"/> \$135	<input type="checkbox"/> \$135	<input type="checkbox"/> \$145

Daily Package -- Fee is Per Day - Please Select Day(s): <input type="checkbox"/> Sun, 2/26 <input type="checkbox"/> Mon, 2/27			
	By 12/30/11	By 1/27/12	On-site (After 1/27)
ATRA Member	<input type="checkbox"/> \$125	<input type="checkbox"/> \$155	<input type="checkbox"/> \$165
Student Member	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50	<input type="checkbox"/> \$60
Professional Non-Member	<input type="checkbox"/> \$175	<input type="checkbox"/> \$200	<input type="checkbox"/> \$210
Student Non-Member	<input type="checkbox"/> \$75	<input type="checkbox"/> \$75	<input type="checkbox"/> \$85

Step 2 – Would You Like to Add a Pre-Conference?*

ATRA Member Rate	Add on	Pre-Con Only
Full Day: DPG Initial/Recert.**	<input type="checkbox"/> \$125	<input type="checkbox"/> \$155
Student Member Rate	Add on	Pre-Con Only
Full Day: DPG Initial/Recert.**	<input type="checkbox"/> \$85	<input type="checkbox"/> \$105
Non-Member Rate	Add on	Pre-Con Only
Full Day: DPG Initial/Recert.**	<input type="checkbox"/> \$140	<input type="checkbox"/> \$170
Student Non-Member Rate	Add on	Pre-Con Only
Full Day: DPG Initial/Recert.**	<input type="checkbox"/> \$95	<input type="checkbox"/> \$115
All Full Package Attendees	Add on	
Half Day: State Licensure*	<input type="checkbox"/> FREE!	

**BONUS EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY! Half-Day Intensive Afternoon Pre-Conference available at no charge for Full-Conference registrants! **Dementia Practice Pre-Conference rates include the mandatory Dementia Practice Guideline manual at discounted rate.*

REGISTRATION CONTINUES ON NEXT PAGE.....

Additions: CEUs Member: \$20 Non Member: \$30

MARC Train Roundtrip Ticket _____ (# of tickets at \$7 each)

Please indicate intended attendance for planning purposes:

- Sunday, February 26, 2012 - 2 | State Licensure: Nuts and Bolts of the Process
- Monday, February 27, 2012 - 8 | Lunch and General Session | Preparing for the Day on the Hill
- Tuesday, February 28, 2012 - Continental grab-and-go breakfast

METHOD OF PAYMENT:

- Check or Money Order (Payable to ATRA in US Dollars)
- Purchase Order # _____ -- Attach a copy of the purchase order.
- Credit Card: Visa MasterCard Discover American Express

Name on Card: _____

Card # _____ Exp. Date _____ Security Code _____

Signature: _____

RETURN TO ATRA:

- Mail to: 629 N. Main Street - Hattiesburg MS 39401
- Fax with Credit Card or PO to: 601.582.3354

Cancellation/Refunds:

All requests for refunds must be made in writing to ATRA. Cancellations marked before January 5th will receive a full refund minus \$50 processing fee. After January 5th refund requests are reviewed on a case-by-case basis. No refunds will be made after February 10, 2012. Refunds will not be made for no-shows.

Conference Site and Lodging Information

ATRA Mid-Year Conference | February 26 – 28, 2012 | Baltimore, MD/Washington, DC

The meeting will be held at the **Sheraton Inner Harbor Hotel** with legislative appointments to be held on the Hill. Accommodations must be reserved by Friday, January 27, 2012, to receive the American Therapeutic Recreation Association (ATRA) reduced room rate of \$119 single/double; \$139 triple; \$159 quad (+ applicable state and local taxes, currently 15.5%). Make reservations by calling **800-325-3535** or via this link:



<https://www.starwoodmeeting.com/StarGroupsWeb/booking/reservation?id=1107250404&key=3F960>

General Conference Information

Conference Registration/Packages: A full package includes Sunday afternoon's pre-conference on State Licensure, evening General Conference Session and Reception, Monday's lunch, Tuesday's continental breakfast to take to the Hill, break refreshments (as indicated) and concurrent sessions. Additional fees apply for all conference attendees for: CEUs, DPG Pre-Conference, transportation to the Hill, and other optional events as noted or derived.

Special Services: Please attach to your registration form, a written description of services. Requests such as special diet, wheelchair transportation, large print handouts, interpreter, educational assistance for test taking, etc., must be made in writing in advance. Accommodation may not be guaranteed for requests received after January 20, 2012.

Roommate? Request to be on the Roommate List by logging your request in the ATRA Members' Forum (under the Networking tab of the website).

Recommended Dress: Business Casual.

Cancellation/Refunds: All requests for refunds must be made in writing to ATRA. Cancellations marked before January 5th will receive a full refund minus \$50 processing fee. After January 5th refund requests are reviewed on a case-by-case basis. No refunds will be made after February 10, 2012. Refunds will not be made for no-shows.

CEUs: Total CEUs Available: 1.5 (includes 0.35 CEUs from *free bonus* state licensure pre-conference opportunity) to 1.8 (includes 0.65 CEUs from DPG pre-conference opportunity, additional processing fee applicable). All CEU-qualified educational sessions have been pre-approved by NCTRC.

Questions: Contact the ATRA Office

Phone: 601.450.2872 (ATRA)

Fax: 601.582.3354

Email: membership.services@atra-online.com

Mail: 629 N. Main Street, Hattiesburg, MS 39401

10 Reasons to Attend the ATRA Mid-Year Professional Issues Forum:

It is time for Recreational Therapists to take charge of the viability of their profession. It is more essential than ever for recreational therapists to take charge of their professional destiny. Changes in health care affect everyone and changes in covered services require knowledge and advocacy for every recreational therapist. This is the responsibility of each of us. Take charge and get the tools to be an advocate.

The Recreational Therapist will serve as an advocate for THEIR chosen profession. Too often the grassroots professional is not versed in the issues that affect their services and the profession. The ATRA Mid-Year Professional Issues Forum will give you the opportunity to engage in the public policy issues that affect you.

You as a Recreational Therapist will acquire the skills and knowledge to effectively meet with your elected official. Take the mystique out of meeting with elected officials. The ATRA Mid-Year will help you develop the confidence to address critical issues that impact your professional security.

Recreational Therapy professionals will learn the nuts and bolts for implementing a state licensure initiative. State licensure is an essential element in positioning your profession at the state level. The ATRA Mid-Year will give you the tools and resources to pursue state licensure.

Network with Recreational Therapy professionals from your state and region to influence change and secure your future. The changes in health care require that you take charge of your future. This is not an individual activity but requires the actions of every recreational therapist in your state and region.

Understand the issues around the coverage of recreational therapy services. The Forum will offer the therapist an understanding or coverage and options for the coverage of recreational therapy services in multiple treatment settings.

Learn strategies that you can use in your congressional district to manage future visits with elected officials. Gain the skills and strategies to maximize the relationship between you and your elected officials at the state and national level.

Be on the cutting edge of knowledge that affects your services. Knowledge is power. Understanding the basis for the issues that affect your service setting is essential to your success.

Including pre-conference sessions, approximate maximum potential opportunity offered to earn up to 1.8 CEUs. Through participation in the preconference sessions and general conference, the RT can earn 18 hours in CEUs toward national certification or state licensure.

Baltimore, MD, and Washington, DC, are great venues for education and entertainment. There will be opportunities for professionals to take advantage of the many assets of the sister cities of Baltimore and Washington. These opportunities do not come along often. Take advantage of the moment to also visit Baltimore's Inner Harbor and the Nation's Capitol.



Baltimore is famous for its beautiful waterfront, world-class museums, three centuries of history and much, much more. But if you're still not completely convinced that the perfect place for your event is right here,

we've put together a handy summary of the great reasons to meet here. **Inner Harbor –The Heart of the “Convention Community”** Our shining jewel, the Inner Harbor, is lined with attractions, restaurants, shopping, hotels and the Baltimore Visitor Center. It's all within a quick walk – or as we say, just “two feet away” – from the Baltimore Convention Center. **Easy to Get Around** Although nearly everything you may want to do and see is within easy walking distance, you can also explore our many one-of-a-kind neighborhoods, museums and attractions via the fast, free and green Charm City Circulator. Other enjoyable options include water taxis, trolley tours or harbor cruises. **A Multitude of Experiences for Everyone** With more than 130 attractions, museums, historic sites and performing arts groups, Baltimore promises something for everyone. From the Star-Spangled Banner to African American history, and pop culture to dolphins and dinosaurs, there is something exciting around every corner. Many of our venues are perfect for off-site parties, receptions and small gatherings. Baltimore celebrates its diversity with festivals and events that spotlight its multicultural heritage and African American, Hispanic and Asian communities, and its LGBT pride. **Historic, Hip and Trendy Neighborhoods** From historic Federal Hill to Fell's Point, Harbor East to Mount Vernon, Little Italy to Hampden, our diverse neighborhoods serve up great food, stories from the past, fascinating things to do and see, and a world of intriguing shopping.



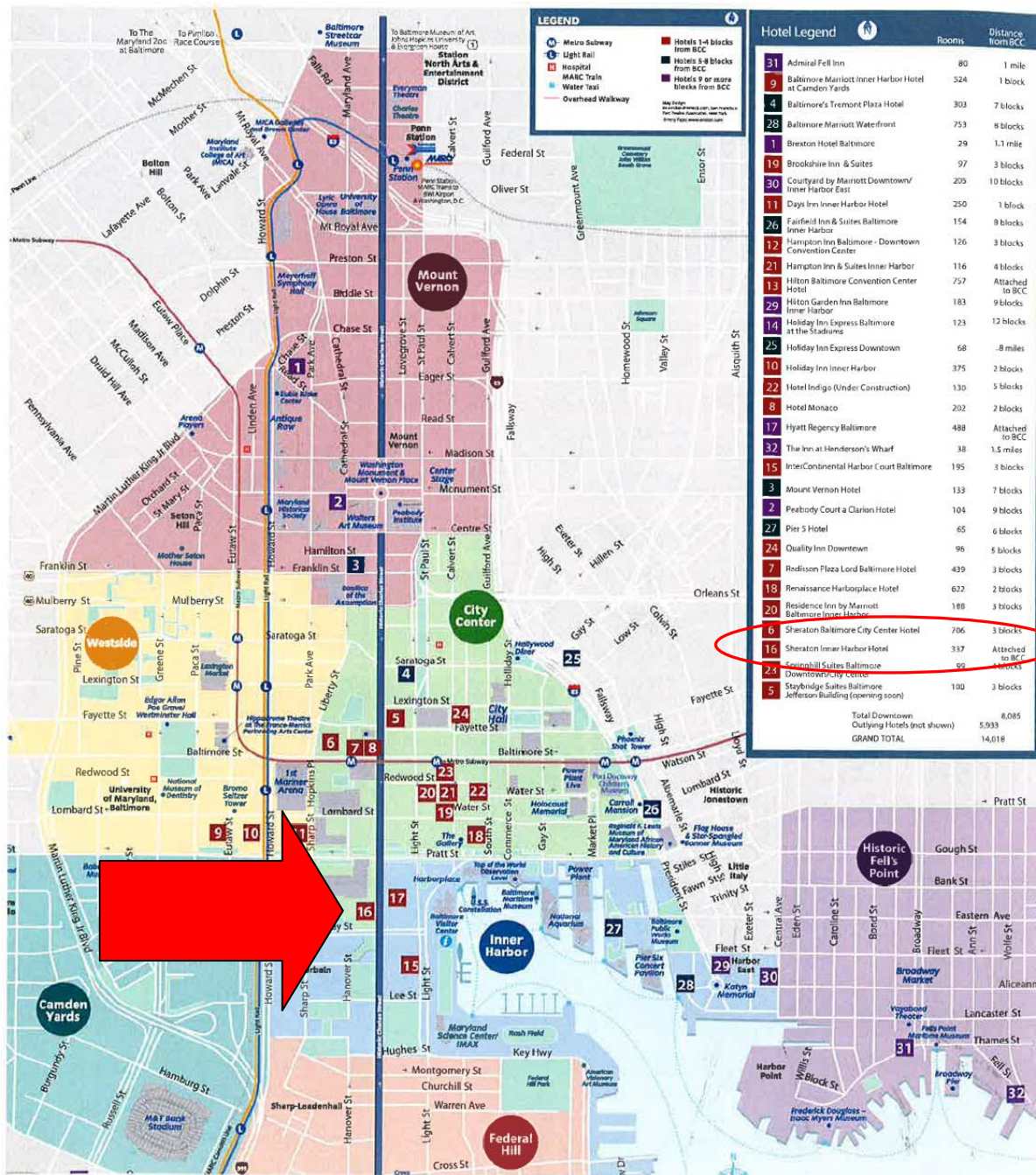
Temperate Climate

Baltimore is a great place to visit during any season, with warm weather prevailing from April through October. Winters are relatively short, with more rain than snow. The chart represents average Baltimore temperatures throughout the year.

Month	High	Low
January	41°	24°
February	44°	26°
March	53°	34°
April	65°	43°
May	74°	53°
June	83°	62°
July	88°	67°
August	85°	66°
September	79°	58°
October	68°	46°
November	56°	37°
December	45°	28°

(Temperatures in Fahrenheit)

Downtown Hotel Map



<http://baltimore.org/maps>



300 South Charles Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21201
Phone: (410) 962-8300
Fax: (410) 962-8211
innerharbor@sheraton.com

SECURE FAX NUMBER FOR CREDIT CARD PAYMENT

Fax: (410) 347-1850

Secure fax machines are located in private spaces in the hotel and have restricted access. We take care to ensure that your information is never accessed by anyone other than associates that need the data to process your request.

Driving Directions

From North

Take Interstate 95 South through the Fort McHenry Tunnel to Interstate 395 North. Follow I-395N for 1 mile, continue on to Howard Street and turn right on Pratt Street. Turn right on Charles Street and the hotel is on the right.

From West

Take Interstate 70 East to I-695 South (Exit #91, Outer Loop). Travel 4.5 miles to I-95 North (Exit #11). Travel 2.5 miles to I-395 North and continue on to Howard Street. Turn right onto Pratt Street, right onto Charles Street and the hotel is on the right.

Baltimore Washington International Airport or Interstate 95

Take Interstate 95 North to Interstate 395, which is 2.5 miles after crossing Interstate 695. Travel north 1 mile on I-395N and continue onto Howard Street proceed .2 miles and turn right onto Pratt Street proceed .2 miles then turn right onto Charles Street proceed .2 miles and the hotel is on the right.

Parking

Parking rate is \$20 per day for conference attendees, \$10 per event for evening events.

Airport Ground Transportation

Options for getting to/from the hotel include:

Baltimore Washington International Airport (BWI)

Travel Distance: Approximately 14.48 km/9.0 miles.

Taxi \$25 USD

Super Shuttle \$11 USD

(Super Shuttle runs every 10 and 40 minutes after the hour. Contact 800-258-3826.)

Dulles International Airport (IAD)

Travel Distance: Approximately 96.56 km/60.0 miles.

Taxi \$110 USD

Washington Flyer \$110 USD

(Contact 703-661-6655.)

Ronal Reagan National Airport (DCA)

Travel Distance: Approximately 69.2 km/43.0 miles.

Taxi \$75 USD

Other Transportation Information

Baltimore Light Rail (<http://mta.maryland.gov/light-rail>)

Travel Distance: Approximately 0.2 km/0.12 miles.

By Foot

Baltimore Railroad Station

Travel Distance: Approximately 3.22 km/2.0 miles.

Taxi \$4 USD

Greyhound Bus Station

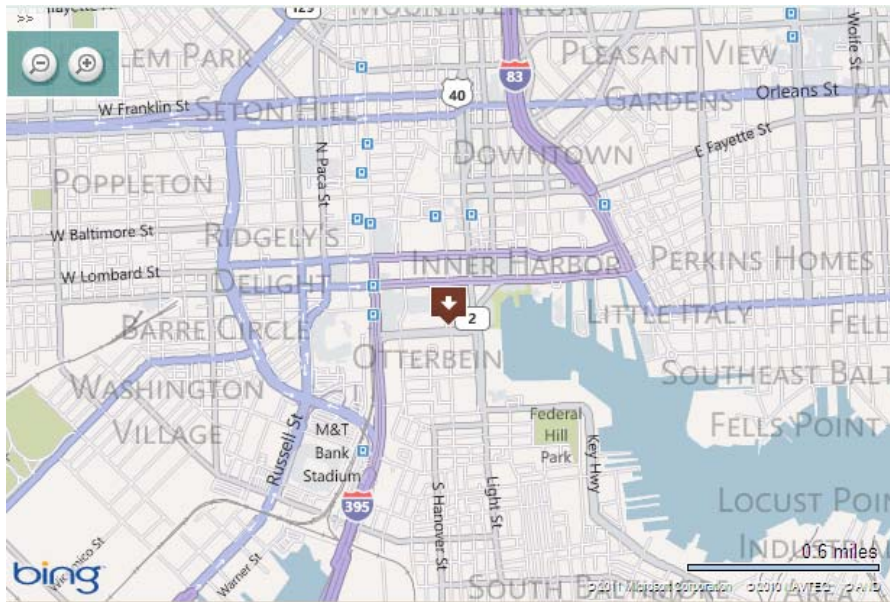
Travel Distance: Approximately 0.6 km/0.37 miles.

Taxi \$5 USD

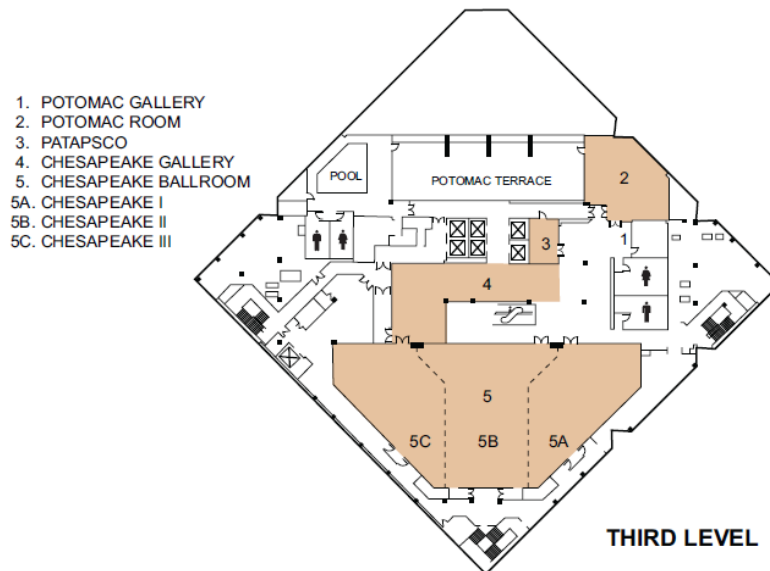
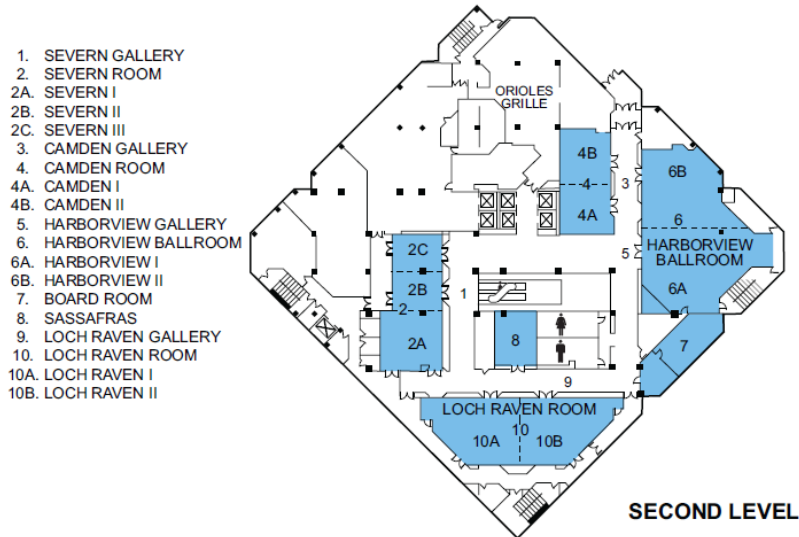
Budget Car Rental (Contact 410-837-6955.)

Enterprise Rent A Car (Contact 410-727-8080.)

Avis Rent A Car (Contact 410-685-6000.)



<http://www.starwoodhotels.com/sheraton/property/area/map.html?propertyID=197>



http://www.starwoodhotels.com/sheraton/property/meetings/stacked_map.html?propertyID=197&buildingKey=449478