



FAQ: Understanding Meal Function Procedures at the NCSM Annual Conference (100224)

The following are frequently asked questions by NCSM Annual Conference attendees. We hope that the responses provided below will clarify the procedure and ensure that more attendees will come and less food will go uneaten.

Are meal function tickets automatically included in my registration?

- Neither your membership dues nor your registration fee pays for meal function tickets.
- NCSM sponsor partners support us in a variety of ways. Some do so by hosting a meal function, providing as many meals as their budgets will allow.
- Meal function tickets are given to conference registrants on a first-come-first-served basis while seats are available.
- If upon registering, you selected a function(s) that had seats available, you will find a ticket(s) when you pick up your registration materials.

I have a meal ticket. Does that guarantee me a seat, no matter what time I show up?

- Not necessarily. When the doors open for a meal function, conference attendees with tickets enter first (seating is on a first-come-first-served basis).
- After the ticketed line goes through, as long as space permits, attendees in the waiting line gain entry.
- Our advice: Please be on time.

What do I do with a meal function ticket I have, that I no longer need?

- Please turn in any unused ticket(s) to the NCSM conference registration booth.
- Turning in your ticket(s) will enable some conference attendees without tickets to get into the event.
- Tickets may also be given to Sandie Gilliam at any time during the conference.

What happens if people with tickets don't show up to the meal function? Might I be able to get in?

- Very possibly.
- Depending on the function, there is a good chance of getting in, especially if you get in the waiting line early!

I do not have a meal function ticket. Is there an advance wait list for meal functions?

- No. We do all we can to accommodate as many conference attendees as possible.
- If there is a meal function you would like to attend, you should:
 1. Check at the conference registration booth to see if tickets have been turned in.
 2. If there are no tickets there, join the waiting line for the meal function of interest.

How does the waiting line work?

- The waiting line will be located off to the side of the entrance to each meal function.
- Those without tickets, wearing an NCSM conference badge, will be seated as space permits.
- The waiting line will be allowed to enter the meal function shortly after the ticketed line goes through.