

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Where is the 2019 NCCSD Conference?

A: The conference this year will be held at Mission Point Resort on Mackinac Island!

Q: May I bring my spouse or significant other?

A: Yes! Spouses and significant others are welcome!

Q: Should I bring my children to the Conference?

A: Sure! There are many activities that the children would enjoy including a visit to the Butterfly House, a bike ride around town (or the Island!), a visit to Fort Mackinac and more!

Q: What about my dog?

A: Feel free to bring "Fido" along, too! You will need to arrange to bring your pet directly with Mission Point Resort. Please call them at 906-847-3000 to arrange the details, including a small pet fee (depending on the size of your pet).

Q: In a nutshell, unless I'm driving my own car, how do I get to the resort?

A: You can choose a flight landing at Pellston or Traverse City. From either airport, Michigan will have a shuttle/van waiting to take you to Shepler's Ferry in Mackinac City at no additional charge. From Pellston, it's a 30-minute ride to the ferry. From Traverse City, the ride to the ferry takes 2 hours and 30 minutes. Your ferry ticket is included in your registration. Sit back and enjoy a 30-minute ferry ride to Mackinac Island. Once you dock at the island, check in your luggage with the dock porter and enjoy a 10-minute walk or a horse-drawn taxi to the hotel. Your luggage will be waiting in your room after you arrive.

Q: How do I get to the ferry?

A: Michigan will have a shuttle/van waiting at Pellston or Traverse City airport to transport you to the ferry at no additional cost to you.

Q: How do I get my ferry ticket?

A: Your (round trip!) ferry ticket will be waiting for you at Shepler's Ferry. Just give them your name and pick up your ticket(s).

Q: Can I bring my bike on the ferry?

A: You bet! If you will be bringing your bike or bike trailer, the cost is \$11 each, and tickets can be bought when you pick up your ferry tickets.

Q: What is the ferry schedule?

A: In general, the first ferry leaves Mackinaw City for Mackinac Island at 7:30 AM and has hourly departures until the last ferry at 7:30 PM. Coming back from the island, the first ferry leaves Mackinac Island for Mackinac City at 8:00 AM and has hourly departures until the last ferry at 8:00 PM. The ferry takes about half an hour.

Q: I will be driving to the conference. Where do I park my car? How much is parking?

A: There is a 60-minute unloading grace period at the Shepler's Ferry dock. Once you have unloaded, there are two options for self-parking in Mackinaw City:

- Premium On-Site Parking, \$25.00 per night
- Standard Overnight Parking, \$5.00 per night

Q: How do I get to the hotel once on the island?

A: You can either walk (approximately 10 minutes) to the resort or grab a horse-drawn taxi at the dock (\$5 per person). Your luggage will be transported from the dock directly to your room. Upon your arrival to the docks on Mackinac Island, you will be greeted by a dock porter who can answer any questions you may have regarding luggage or taxi transportation to the hotel.

Q: How will my luggage get to the hotel?

If you travel by ferry, luggage transfer is simple and convenient. When you check in your luggage with the ferry service on the mainland, it will be tagged and delivered directly to your hotel room. Upon check-in, present your luggage tags at the front desk.

For your return trip back to the mainland, follow the in-room instructions. Your luggage will be tagged and transferred from your room to a secure location on the appropriate mainland dock. There is a minimum two-hour window for the transfer.

Q: What are the room rates?

Mission Point has a block of rooms reserved for the conference at the rate of \$180 per night. This rate only includes charges for up to two occupants. An additional person charge of \$25 per person, per night applies for the third and fourth adult staying in a room where the maximum occupancy allows up to four adults. Rates are exclusive of state and local taxes, hotel levy, and luggage transfer fees.

The \$180 per night room rate is exclusive of state and local taxes, which is currently 6% for Michigan sales tax and 2% for Mackinac Island city assessment.

The hotel levy is a mandatory fee charged to all guests of the hotel and is not included in the \$180 per night rate. The hotel levy is 10% of the base room charge. The hotel levy allows the hotel to provide various amenities and services, including but not limited to complimentary guestroom wireless internet, access to the health and fitness center, lawn games, tennis court fees, Kids Club participation, and admission to the Richard and Jane Manoogian Mackinac Art Museum.

Luggage transfer fees are mandatory for all guests of Mission Point and are not included in the \$180 per night rate. This fee includes seamless luggage delivery from the docks directly to the guest room. The luggage transfer fee is currently \$6 per person.

Q: What time is check-in and check-out at the hotel?

A: Check in is at 4 PM and check out is at 11 AM. Your luggage can be dropped earlier or later to the ferry if needed—just contact the hotel!

Q: What is the average temperature on Mackinac Island at the time of the conference?

A: While all Michigan weather is unpredictable, the average weather on Mackinac Island in September has highs in the 60s to 70s. But there's lots to do inside as well in case of poor weather!

Q: What should I bring with me?

A: Remember to bring your camera! Feel free to bring your bicycle, too! Otherwise, Mission Point has bikes you can rent for a small daily fee. Remember to bring dress clothes for the social on Monday night.

Q: Will there be Wi-Fi available?

A: Yes! Mission Point Resort offers free Wi-Fi in the rooms and throughout the resort