

Dear

I found a conference that provides the continuing education I need to perform at a higher level to enhance our workplace. The <u>American Association of Physicists in Medicine</u> (AAPM) 64<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting & Exhibition will be held in Washington DC, July 10-14, 2022.

Thousands of radiation therapy, imaging, and nuclear medicine professionals attend the Annual Meeting each year. This year's theme is Celebrating Medical Physics, Transforming Human Health. AAPM will tie symposia, panel discussions, poster sessions and workshops on the latest medical physics topics to this overarching concept in an effort to help medical physicists meet increasing demands.

While there is an option to attend virtually, in-person attendance offers so much more.

- The AAPM Annual Meeting draws a large number of equipment and service providers. There were 114 booths at the last in-person meeting in 2019. Exhibitors often take advantage of the AAPM meeting to highlight new products recently available or in development. I will be able to meet and interact with company sales and leadership representatives, view products, attend hands-on demonstrations with product specialists, and listen to booth presentations by other professionals only if I attend inperson.
- In-person attendance gives me the opportunity to network with my professional and commercial colleagues from around the country and the world. It is a valuable investment that cannot be replicated anywhere else. I will be able to meet new people as well as renew old relationships. This is especially important now after the limitations of the past two years. In addition to session breaks, mealtimes, and chance meetings in the hallways, this meeting has a number of organized events designed for social interaction and networking such as the Night Out, Awards and Honors Ceremony and Reception, Women Physicist's luncheon, Student and Trainee Night Out, and Annual Business and Town Hall meetings.
- In-person attendance at the scientific, educational, and professional sessions allows me to directly meet and question the presenters of any session. It provides me the opportunity to begin dialogues with experts in my field. In addition, I will be able to directly interact with other in-person audience members who share my interest in the session topic.
- AAPM committees, task groups, and working groups hold meetings during the Annual Meeting. AAPM is unique in that all of these meetings are open to any AAPM member.
   The work of these groups is often clinically and scientifically cutting edge and relevant

to my everyday work. *In-person* attendance makes it easier for me to sit in on interesting and relevant group meetings, which may lead to ongoing dialogues even after the group meeting time ends.

AAPM encourages government and regulatory specialists to attend their meetings. They
believe that the more physicists, government officials, and regulators know about each
other and each other's work, the better for all. The 2022 meeting is in Washington DC so
a large number of these specialists are expected to attend. Being in-person will give me
the unique opportunity to meet and talk with these professionals.

AAPM is offering early registration savings and hotel discounts if I sign up by June 1, 2022. More information is available at <u>w4.aapm.org/meetings/2022AM</u>.

Thank you for considering my in-person attendance at this conference.