



Pennsylvania-Delaware Chapter

Association for Education and Rehabilitation of
the Blind and Visually Impaired (AER)

www.penn-delaer.org

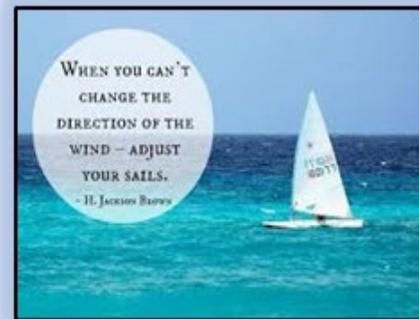
Tips for Conference Success

Penn-Del AER 2022 Conference
Adjusting Our Sails: Charting a New Course
April 27 - 29, 2022

The Penn-Del AER Conference Planning Committee has been working hard to once again provide a conference experience to remember! This year's conference will be presented in-person with sessions streamed for virtual attendees.

There are so many details the Conference Planning Committee manages each year to ensure that conference attendees can get the maximum professional and personal benefits from the conference.

Currently, conference committee members are making final arrangements with our presenters and exhibitors, designing materials, organizing rooms and audio-visual equipment, managing registration, selecting refreshments for meals and networking events, and much more!



Our Conference Theme and Layout

This year, our conference theme is: "Adjusting Our Sails: Charting a New Course". As we are hopefully nearing the end of the COVID-19 pandemic, many of us are finding that we need to create new ways of teaching and working with students/clients. As a result, we need to adjust our sails, and perhaps set out on a whole new course.

The conference is divided into eight sessions including three general sessions, fifteen concurrent sessions, a gathering of poster presentations and displays, and an opportunity to visit the Exhibit Hall and Silent Auction. This year's nationally respected conference will also offer social and networking opportunities, and the opportunity to participate in membership incentive drawings at the Penn-Del AER General Business Meeting on Wednesday evening available in-person or virtually.

Join friends and colleagues for the annual Awards Banquet on Thursday evening. Enjoy a great dinner and applaud this year's recipients of the Penn-Del AER Richard L. Welsh Service Award, Elinor Long Educator of the Year (ELEY) Award, and Student Scholarship Award.

The Awards celebration is open for all AER members and other professionals in the field of vision education or rehabilitation, for the families of the award recipients, and other guests. The 2022 Awards Event will be presented in person and streamed for virtual attendees.

We hope you plan to attend and help us recognize the accomplishments of our colleagues. Immediately following the Penn-Del AER Awards Banquet, unwind and toast the 2022 Award Recipients at the Awards Reception sponsored by SAGE Vision.

The conference is ACVREP approved, and a Certificate of Attendance will be available. Detailed descriptions of all presentations and activities can be found in the 2022 Penn-Del AER Conference Program.

Visit the [Penn-Del AER Annual Chapter Conference](#) website page for conference brochure and conference details.

Tips for a Successful Conference

Health and Safety

We will be requesting that all conference attendees wear masks and practice social distancing where possible. The conference planning committee will have hand sanitizer and masks available for attendees. Thank you to Dancing Dots for the hand sanitizer.

We are encouraging all attendees to practice healthy habits even before the conference to keep you healthy for the conference. In addition, it is strongly recommended that each attendee monitors his or her own health during the conference to ensure safety for everyone.

Penn-Del AER will follow all CDC and hotel requirements regarding COVID precautions.

Session Information: Chart Your Course to Maximize Your Experience

- Detailed descriptions of all presentations and activities can be found in the 2022 Penn-Del AER Conference Program. Select the concurrent sessions and networking events you plan to attend.
- For your own convenience, it may be helpful to print important conference documents or save them in a file that is easily accessible so that you have needed information readily available.
- All sessions will be presented in-person and will be streamed for virtual attendees.
- When you attend the Exhibitor session, you may notice that portions will be streamed through Facebook Live.

Charting your Course: Tips for In-person Attendees

- **Get Oriented:** Review the hotel map which is in the conference program along with a text-based description of the hotel layout. Take a few moments to familiarize yourself with the location of meeting rooms listed in the conference program to ensure timely arrival at sessions and other events.

- **Dress for Success:** Plan to wear your Penn-Del AER logo shirts on Friday, April 29. We will have opportunities to take pictures and show our Penn-Del AER pride. For the rest of the conference, the attire is business casual. Be sure to wear comfortable shoes and dress in layers or bring a light sweater or jacket for personal temperature control.

Adjusting your Sails: Tips for Virtual Attendees

- Prepare for computer needs, including power sources and a quiet space with minimal distractions.
- Checkout a [Zoom Screen Setup short video](#) on how to change your viewing settings in Zoom.
- Consider setting up an “out of office” reply on your phone and email and place your phone in silent mode when signed into Zoom.

Mapping a Course for All Attendees

- **Conference Documents:** All attendees will have access to a digital copy of the conference program via Dropbox link. In-person attendees will also receive a USB drive.
- **Reflect on your professional goals:** Select your sessions according to your goals. Make a plan to focus on variety, try some new topics, or go deep in one area. Remember, it’s your conference!
- **Fuel Yourself:** Stay hydrated and be sure to eat or snack as necessary to keep your energy levels high throughout the busy days of the conference.
- **Stay Active:** Make time to get some exercise each day. Even a quick walk around the outside of the hotel or up and down the halls can help you to stay energized and focused.
- **Follow-Up:** After the conference, follow-up with your new contacts. Also, remember to pay it forward by sharing what you’ve learned with colleagues and friends and encourage them to attend future Penn-Del AER conferences.
- **Be Appreciative:** Thank your supervisor for allowing you to attend. Let your family know how much you appreciated their support while you attended the conference!
- **Plan Ahead:** Watch for information about the 2023 Penn-Del AER Conference and other AER events. Make notes NOW on topics or issues you can present at next year’s conference!
- **Join the Process!** If you are a Penn-Del AER member and would like to work with a dedicated group of individuals who truly believe that our annual conference and other activities promote professionalism in our field and offers opportunities for personal growth and refreshment, why not consider joining a Penn-Del AER Chapter Committee? Willing heads and hands are always welcome! Look for members of the Planning Committee and the Penn-Del AER Board during the conference and ask how you might get involved!

Registration Information

Haven't registered yet, no problem!

- Register via Google Forms for **only one** of the two formats: either [in-person](#) or [virtual](#).
 - **In-Person Registration:** [In-Person Link](#)
 - **Virtual Registration:** [Virtual Link](#)
- Your AER membership number is required for discount registration fee. For your convenience, we have included a direct link to the AER membership website. Join AER to take advantage of member rates!
- The conference registration fee is based on participation format, the type of membership, and the postmark date.
 - **In-Person rates:**
 - Regular rates are in effect from April 14-29, 2022:
 - AER Member: \$175
 - AER Student: \$125
 - Non-Member: \$275
 - Student Non-Member: \$175
 - **Virtual rates:**
 - AER Member: \$125
 - AER Student: \$50
 - Non-Member: \$150
 - Student Non-Member: \$75
- We are excited to offer two options for registration payment:
 - **Check:** Make check payable to Penn-Del AER. Please inform your business office to send your payment to: Helene Marano (Hmarano@obs.org); Penn-Del AER Conference; 75 Belmont Station; Southampton, PA 18966
 - **Venmo:** @PennDel-AER
- Cancellations made between April 1 and 14, 2022 are subject to a \$50 administration fee. NO CANCELLATION REFUNDS AFTER April 15, 2020. Mail cancellations to Helene Marano Penn-Del AER Conference, 75 Belmont Station, Southampton, PA 18966

Hotel Accommodations

Book your room now online or via phone. The conference room rate is \$120.95 plus 11% tax.

- **Online:** [Best Western Premier Central Hotel & Conference Center Website](#) (link for special conference room rates)

- **Phone:** 717-735-9397 (indicate that you will be attending the Penn-Del AER Conference)

We hope you can join us for our 2022 Chapter Conference!

Pennsylvania-Delaware Chapter of the Association for Education and Rehabilitation of the Blind and Visually Impaired (AER) supports professionals who provide education & rehabilitation services to people with visual impairments.

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