

IAFP 2026: Insider Tips

New Orleans, Louisiana • Conference customs, etiquette, and helpful traditions
Quick guide to sessions, questions, recording rules, community culture, and Foundation traditions



Session etiquette

Mute phones

Ask questions

Support the Foundation

Session Etiquette

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- ◆ **Move between sessions:** Feel free to move between sessions in other rooms.
- ◆ **Leaving early:** If you may need to leave early, sit in the back near the exits.
- ◆ **Enter quietly:** Be respectful and quiet when entering or leaving a session already in progress.
- ◆ **Safety:** Avoid standing at the back of the room because it can create a fire-safety hazard.
- ◆ **Stay on schedule:** Organizers work to keep presentations on time so attendees can move to other sessions.

Phones, Photos + Presentation Customs

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- ◆ **Mute your phone:** Mute your phone or switch it off completely during presentations.
- ◆ **No unauthorized recording:** Do not take photos of slides or record audio/video without prior approval. Ask speakers afterward if they can share slides.
- ◆ **Slides online later:** Within a week of the conference, speaker-approved presentations are available on the IAFP website.
- ◆ **Commercialism policy:** If you are presenting, review the IAFP policy on commercialism: foodprotection.org/policy-on-commercialism

Questions + Conversations

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- ◆ **Be respectful:** Be respectful of speakers if you talk with other audience members in the room.
- ◆ **Ask questions:** IAFP presenters expect questions at the end of their talk. Keep questions brief so others have time too—and always use the mic.
- ◆ **Roundtables:** Roundtables are intended to be lively conversations between panelists and the audience, so be sure to join in.

Community + Foundation

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- ◆ **Thank sponsors:** If you see people wearing a Sponsor tag, thank them for helping support the conference.
- ◆ **Foundation booth:** Stop by the IAFP Foundation Booth to learn how it supports students and members. Donations let you ring the bell; a \$50 donation gets the commemorative coin.
- ◆ **Silent auction:** Check out the silent auction tables in the Exhibit Hall and bid before the auction closes on Tuesday at 12:00 PM.
- ◆ **Be welcoming:** IAFP has many international attendees. Be welcoming, courteous, and respectful of different languages, dress, food preferences, and beliefs.
- ◆ **Big picture:** Join conversations, ask questions, make new friends, and share your knowledge—IAFP is known for being collegial.

Tip: IAFP is collegial and conversation-driven—be curious, respectful, and ready to participate.

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