



INFORMATION FOR ATTENDEES

General information for students, parents, teachers, and other guests attending the 2023 Georgia Science & Engineering Fair at The Classic Center in Athens, Georgia, March 30 - April 1, 2023.

ALL ATTENDEES

All GSEF attendees (exhibitors, parents, teachers, guests) must adhere to the safety protocols required by The Classic Center: classiccenter.com/381/Safety-Protocols

PARENTS / TEACHERS

- ▶ Please review the [Parent/Teacher Letter](#), which details ways you can support your GSEF exhibitor.
- ▶ Please review the [GSEF Registration Instructions](#) and the [Exhibitor Handbook](#) with your student. These contain important information for your student to successfully register for and participate in GSEF.
- ▶ We will primarily use email to communicate with your student about their registration status, so please help your student ensure that their email address is written/typed clearly and correctly in GSEF registration materials. If your student is not receiving emails from GSEF, please encourage them to **check their junk email folder**.
- ▶ Exhibitors are encouraged to attend GSEF in school groups, if possible. Parking can be limited, so attendees are encouraged to carpool or bus, or to walk from nearby hotels. **Only student exhibitors and judges are allowed in the Exhibit Hall during judging on Friday.**
- ▶ Parents, teachers, and friends: We know you are excited to support your student at GSEF; we are eager as well to help exhibitors have the best experience possible. **We request that parents, teachers, and other guests refrain from being in the Classic Center after 9:30 AM on Friday, March 31.** We hope you will use this opportunity to explore UGA and the beautiful Athens community. We have reserved a lounge for you with free WiFi across the street at the Hilton Garden Inn. Thank you for helping us make GSEF an excellent experience for all.

LODGING / PARKING

- ▶ GSEF participants are responsible for their own hotel arrangements. Check with your school, district, or Regional Fair to find out whether they plan to handle lodging.
- ▶ The Athens Convention & Visitors Bureau has secured special rates at certain hotels close to The Classic Center for GSEF attendees. Space is limited and many blocks drop in early March, so **reserve your hotel EARLY**. Visit To make reservations in one of the discounted blocks, visit bit.ly/gsef2023housing.
- ▶ For other hotel options close to The Classic Center, see GSEF's list of **Athens Area Hotels** on the following page.
- ▶ Attendees may park in The Classic Center parking deck at a rate of \$1.50 an hour, up to \$8 for the day, or in the Washington Street deck (125 W Washington St) at a rate of \$1.00 per hour. **Parking may be limited**, so attendees who are staying in hotels near The Classic Center are encouraged to walk or take public transportation. Groups arriving by bus, please coordinate directly with The Classic Center for [Bus Parking](#).

ATTENDANCE & SCHEDULE

- ▶ See the **Attendance Policy** and **Event Schedule** in the [Exhibitor Handbook](#).
- ▶ Exhibitors must be present Friday, March 31 for judging and Saturday, April 1 for the Awards Ceremony. Exceptions will not be made for schedule conflicts. This policy ensures equitable judging and respects the time and efforts of volunteer judges, sponsors, and supporters who make GSEF possible.

AWARDS CEREMONY

- ▶ Students, please **know your social security number** at the Awards Ceremony. You may need it to claim awards.
- ▶ The Awards Ceremony at 4:00 PM on Saturday, April 1 is an exciting part of the event for exhibitors. **Student attendance will be mandatory.** Guest attendance may be limited, but the ceremony will be livestreamed (see below). All exhibitors will be guaranteed one guest ticket, with an option to pick up additional tickets on a first-come, first-served basis. Tickets will be distributed on site at GSEF and cannot be reserved or claimed in advance.
- ▶ Guests are invited to watch Georgia Public Broadcasting's [Livestream of the Awards Ceremony](#) on their own electronic devices or in a big-screen viewing room on site.



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Additional information for students can be found in the **Exhibitor Handbook**, including:

- ▶ **Attendance Policy**
- ▶ **Event Schedule**
- ▶ **Project Categories**
- ▶ **Common Display & Safety Violations**
- ▶ **What to Bring to GSEF**
- ▶ **What to Wear at GSEF**
- ▶ **Judging Criteria**
- ▶ **FAQ**



[Go to Exhibitor Handbook](#)

ATHENS AREA HOTELS

HOTELS WITH SPECIAL GSEF GROUP RATES

The Athens Convention & Visitors Bureau has secured special rates at the following hotels for GSEF attendees. To make reservations in the GSEF block, visit: bit.ly/gsef2023housing



Hyatt Place Downtown
0.1 mi to Classic Center
412 North Thomas Street
706-425-1800
athensdowntown.place.hyatt.com/en/hotel/home.html



Hilton Garden Inn Athens
0.1 mi to Classic Center
390 East Washington Street
706-353-6800
hilton.com/en/hotels/ahndtgi-hilton-garden-inn-athens-downtown



Homewood Suites Athens
0.3 mi to Classic Center
750 East Broad Street
706-548-3500
hilton.com/en/hotels/ahnathw-homewood-suites-athens-downtown-university-area



Springhill Suites Athens Downtown
0.5 mi to Classic Center
220 South Hull Street
706-850-2072
marriott.com/hotels/hotel-rooms/ahnse-springhill-suites-athens-downtown-university-area

Note: To access the GSEF group rate, use the bit.ly/gsef2023housing link. Please do not contact the hotels directly for GSEF group reservations. If you have any questions or concerns regarding your reservation, please contact the Athens Convention and Visitors Bureau at 706-357-4579 or Housing@VisitAthensGA.com. The GSEF office is not privy to information regarding hotel arrangements; all questions will be directed to the Athens Convention and Visitors Bureau.

OTHER ATHENS AREA HOTELS

Graduate Athens
0.3 mi to Classic Center
295 Dougherty Street
706-549-7020
graduatehotels.com/athens

Hotel Indigo
(LEED gold certified)
0.3 mi to Classic Center
500 College Avenue
706-546-0430
indigoathens.com

Holiday Inn Express Athens
0.6 mi to Classic Center
513 West Broad Street
706-546-8122
ihg.com/holidayinnexpress/hotels/us/en/athens/ahndt/hoteldetail

Georgia Gameday Center Condos
0.5 mi to Classic Center
250 W. Broad Street
706-583-4500
gagameday.com

Wingate Athens
1.1 mi to Classic Center
255 North Avenue
Athens, GA 30601
706-707-9027
wyndhamhotels.com/wingate/athens-georgia/wingate-by-wyndham-athens-near-downtown/overview

Best Western Athens
1.1 mi to Classic Center
170 N. Milledge Avenue
706-546-7311
bestwesterngeorgia.com/hotels/best-western-athens

UGA Center for Continuing Education & Hotel
1.3 mi to Classic Center
1197 South Lumpkin Street
706-542-2134
hotel.uga.edu

Hampton Inn Athens
2.3 mi to Classic Center
2220 W. Broad Street
706-548-9600
hilton.com/en/hotels/ahngahx-hampton-athens/

Fairfield Inn & Suites Athens-University Area
2.4 mi to Classic Center
175 Old Epps Bridge Road
706-549-5900
marriott.com/en-us/hotels/ahnfw-fairfield-inn-and-suites-athens-university-area

Country Inn & Suites Athens
2.6 mi to Classic Center
236 Old Epps Bridge Road
706-612-9100
radissonhotelsamericas.com/en-us/hotels/country-inn-athens-ga

Howard Johnson Athens
2.9 mi to Classic Center
2465 West Broad St
706-510-1108
wyndhamhotels.com/hojo/athens-georgia/howard-johnson-inn-athens/overview

Quality Inn & Suites
3.5 mi to Classic Center
2715 Atlanta Hwy
706-549-1530
choicehotels.com/georgia/athens/quality-inn-hotels/ga173

Comfort Inn & Suites Athens
8.1 mi to Classic Center
3980 Atlanta Hwy
706-227-9700
choicehotels.com/georgia/athens/comfort-inn-hotels/ga717

Sleep Inn & Suites
8.7 mi to Classic Center
109 Florence Dr
706-410-2023
choicehotels.com/georgia/athens/sleep-inn-hotels/ga656

Candlewood Suites Athens
8.7 mi to Classic Center
156 Classic Road
706-548-9663
ihg.com/candlewood/hotels/us/en/athens/ahncw/hoteldetail