



**NACUFS 2026
Spring Conference**

**MARCH 18 - 20
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA**

We are thrilled to welcome you to **Philadelphia Marriott Downtown** for the
NACUFS 2026 Spring Showcase, taking place **March 19th 2:30 – 5:30 p.m.**

We can't wait to see the creativity, products, and experiences you'll bring to the Showcase floor!

Mobile App Access

The conference mobile app is a great tool for connecting with attendees and navigating the event schedule.

Please note: **Only the main contact of your company will have access to the Exhibitor Console.**
[Exhibitor Console Link Here](#). No password required.

Within the app you can:

- Edit your company profile
 - View the conference schedule
 - Search and connect with attendees
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Exhibitor Name Badge Pick-Up – Badge Requests Due March 6th

Location: Outside the Franklin Hall Entrance – 4th Floor

Pick-Up Begins: Thursday, March 19th at 8:00 a.m.

Name badges are required on the showcase floor, so please plan to pick it up once the registration desk opens (or before you enter the hall if you arrive after 8:00 a.m.).

Shipping and Material Handling

Our official decorator, Alliance Exposition Services, will be handling all material receiving and transport.

Advance Warehouse Shipments

If your materials were shipped to the Alliance advance warehouse, they will be delivered directly to your booth space prior to setup.

Driving In / Loading Dock Deliveries

If you are arriving with materials or products:

- Proceed to the hotel loading dock
- Load-in begins at 6:00 a.m.
- Alliance staff will assist with receiving and transporting items to your booth
- If you plan to use the loading dock, please provide your anticipated arrival time and truck/vehicle information in advance.
- As with kitchen access, a Certificate of Insurance (COI) must be on file for any exhibitor using the dock.

To help keep the process efficient, exhibitors should only hand-carry materials in a single trip. Larger loads must go through the loading dock. No hand carts or dollies allowed.

Dock entrance is located off 13th Street between Market and Filbert. Map attached marked with a Star.

Food Preparation & Sampling Guidelines

Based on **updated venue guidance**, we're pleased to share that exhibitors now have additional flexibility when preparing and serving samples during the Showcase.

Electric Equipment on the Showcase Floor

Exhibitors may use **electric cooking or heating equipment directly in their booth** provided it meets the following requirements:

- **No open flame or gas equipment**
- **No grease-producing cooking**
- **No excessive heat or smoke**
- Equipment must be **fully electric**

Exhibitors using electric equipment are responsible for **ordering the appropriate electrical service through Encore**, the power provider.

Head House Kitchen Access

The **Head House Kitchen** will still be available as a designated preparation space separate from the Showcase floor for exhibitors who require additional prep space.

Exhibitors planning to use the kitchen should have already **completed and submitted the kitchen waiver**. If you still need to request kitchen access please contact [Vanessa](#)

Cold Storage

Cold storage will be available onsite for exhibitor products.

- Exhibitors who **shipped products in advance** (arriving no sooner than March 16th) will have their items managed and stored accordingly upon arrival.
- Exhibitors **bringing products with them day-of** should check in with the NACUFS team or Alliance staff upon arrival for assistance with storage.

Specific storage locations and access procedures will be provided onsite at check-in.

Ice & Water Requests

Ice and water will be available for exhibitors who need it for product preparation or service.

If your booth requires **water access or larger quantities such as 5-gallon water jugs**, please submit your request **in advance** so we can coordinate with the venue.

 [Email Vanessa](#) with your request prior to the event.

Advance requests will help ensure supplies are ready and available during setup.

Booth Setup & Teardown

Exhibitor Setup

Thursday | **6:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**

Exhibitors arriving with materials should report to the **loading dock beginning at 6:00 a.m.** where our official decorator, **Alliance Exposition Services**, will assist with unloading and transporting items to your booth.

All booths should be **fully set and ready prior to the start of the Showcase**.

Exhibitor Teardown

Thursday | 5:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Additional move-out instructions will be provided onsite by the Alliance team.

Attendee Lists

To support your outreach and planning:

- Preliminary attendee list: Sent one week prior to the conference for planning purposes
 - Final authorized attendee list with contact information: Sent one week after the event
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Showcase Prize Giveaways

One of the highlights of the Showcase is the exhibitor prize giveaways, and we encourage you to bring something fun for attendees!

Prizes are a great way to:

- Drive traffic to your booth
- Create memorable interactions
- Showcase your brand

Popular options include product bundles, branded merchandise, culinary experiences, or specialty items from your company.

To help coordinate the giveaways during the Showcase, [please fill out the prize form](#).

Networking Events

Welcome Reception

Exhibitors who will be arriving in Philadelphia on Wednesday, March 18th, are welcome to purchase a ticket to attend the Welcome Reception and connect with attendees as the event kicks off.

Tickets will be available at conference registration onsite for an additional fee.

Industry Appreciation Reception

Immediately following the Showcase, join attendees and fellow exhibitors for the Industry Appreciation Reception.

Franklin Hall Foyer 5:45 – 6:45 p.m.

This event is a great opportunity to continue conversations and celebrate the collaboration between campus dining professionals and industry partners.
