



Rhetoric Society of America Accessibility Guide

Atlanta, Georgia

May 26-29, 2016

We are looking forward to seeing you at the RSA16 Conference at the Hilton Atlanta! We hope the information provided in this accessibility guide will provide you with what you need and allow you to enjoy everything the conference has to offer.

We have tried to address all the accessibility issues that may arise during your time in Atlanta. If you feel that we have left out information that you need in order to navigate the conference, please let us know so that we may update this guide with the appropriate information prior to the conference.

The information below has been compiled from:

Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport: <http://www.atlanta-airport.com/Passenger/CustomerService/personsWithDisabilities.aspx>

Hilton Atlanta: <http://www3.hilton.com/en/hotels/georgia/hilton-atlanta-ATLAHHH/about/amenities.html>

Wheelchair Travel – Atlanta, GA: <http://wheelchairtravel.org/atlanta-ga/>

Additional links are provided throughout this guide.

Transportation

Getting from: **Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport**
6000 N Terminal Parkway
Atlanta, GA 30320

To: **Hilton Atlanta**
255 Courtland St. Northeast
Atlanta, GA 30303

During Your Time at Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport

There are a variety of services available at Hartsfield-Jackson to ensure travelers have a positive travel experience. See the following list for more details.

Meet & Assist Program

This service aids travelers in making connections in Atlanta to other flights and/or to ground transportation. If you schedule this service, a Travelers Aid representative will greet you at your arrival gate and make sure you make your appropriate connection.

This is a fee-based service that starts at \$55-75, depending on the day and time of your arrival. See the Traveler's Aid phone number below if you are interested in booking this service. (See also <http://www.atlanta-airport.com/Passenger/CustomerService/TravelInformation.aspx>)

Airport Parking

Passengers with disabilities are encouraged to use the Hartfield-Jackson Airport's "Park-Ride" facility, which offers convenient service to the domestic terminal building. A free shuttle bus service, which is wheelchair accessible, will pick up passengers at their vehicle and quickly take them to the curbside check-in. Upon returning to Hartsfield-Jackson, "Park-Ride" customers are picked up at the Ground Transportation Center. "Park-Ride" parking rates are: \$1 per hour; \$9 per day. (See <http://www.atlanta-airport.com/Passenger/CustomerService/personsWithDisabilities.aspx>)

Additional Information

All airport restrooms are wheelchair accessible. There are four sets of "Men/Women" restrooms located on each concourse. Travelers will find unisex restrooms located at Gates T-11, A-8, C-11, D-5, and D-31. (See <http://www.atlanta-airport.com/Passenger/CustomerService/personsWithDisabilities.aspx>)

Travelers may request wheelchair assistance from airline representatives during their time at Hartsfield-Jackson Airport. To reserve a wheelchair, contact the relevant airline prior to your arrival.

The Plane Train connects the domestic and international terminals to the airport's seven concourses (A, B, C, D, E, F, and T). The train arrives at concourse stations every 110 seconds and can take passengers to the farthest concourse in under five minutes. There is no additional cost for riding the Plain Train. (See <http://www.atlanta-airport.com/Airport/APM/>)

Service animals are permitted at Hartsfield-Jackson Airport. If you are traveling with a service animal or pet, you can find animal areas located here:

- At the Ground Transportation area on the Domestic Terminal South outside of doors W1 and W2 (this is the airport's main dog park);
- At the lower level of Domestic Terminal North outside of door LN2 and to the right side of the building; and
- At the arrivals level of the international terminal outside of door A1

(See <http://www.atlanta-airport.com/Passenger/CustomerService/PetAssistance.aspx>)

Airport Contacts:

Hartsfield-Jackson: (800) 897-1910

Parking: (404) 530-5010

Travelers Aid: (404) 817-7070 ext. 108

Security: (404) 530-6667

Police: (404) 530-6630

From Hartsfield-Jackson Airport to Hilton Atlanta

The following transportation options are wheelchair accessible and will take you from the airport directly to or near the Hilton.

MARTA (Subway)

MARTA is Atlanta's public transit system that operates accessible trains for wheelchair passengers. Platforms are designed for wheelchairs to easily enter and exit the trains, and wheelchair passengers will also find elevators at every subway station. In addition, each train car has a designated area for wheelchair users. There is a one-way \$2.50 fare per person.

If you require assistance boarding, riding, or departing from a MARTA train car, contact MARTA Mobility to schedule your service. Passengers need to make MARTA Mobility accommodations prior to the day they require service. There is a one-way \$4.00 fare per person.

The Red and Gold rail lines will take travelers from the airport to the Peachtree Center MARTA station, which is approximately .3 miles from the Hilton Atlanta.

For information on how to ride MARTA, see <http://www.itsmarta.com/how-to-ride-marta.aspx>

For information on MARTA's Mobility service, see <http://www.itsmarta.com/accessibility-Mobility.aspx>

SuperShuttle

A one-way fare is \$16.50. To book a wheelchair accessible ride in advance, call 800-BLUE-VAN (800-258-3826) or visit <http://www.supershuttle.com/>

Taxi

The Atlanta Checker Taxi Cab company provides wheelchair accessible taxis. It is highly recommended that customers book a taxi hours in advance of their need. Call (404) 351-1111 or visit http://www.atlantacheckercab.com/taxicabs_handicap-accessible-vans.html

Getting Around Atlanta

The following options are available to help you make your way around downtown Atlanta.

Amtrak

Amtrak trains are available to and from Peachtree Station. All trains are wheelchair accessible. For information on booking tickets and/or Amtrak accessibility, see <http://www.amtrak.com/accessible-travel-services>.

The Atlanta Streetcar

This transit system connects passengers to major attractions in downtown Atlanta. The Streetcar is fully accessible to wheelchair passengers and welcomes service animals. There is a \$1.00 fare per person. See <http://streetcar.atlantaga.gov/> for general information; click “Accessibility” under the “How to Ride” tab for specific accessibility features.

MARTA (Bus)

The MARTA bus system services 91 routes throughout Atlanta. All buses are equipped with wheelchair lifts, kneeling capabilities, lowered floors, and wheelchair securement straps. There is a one-way \$2.50 fare per person. See <http://www.itsmarta.com/bus-schedules.aspx> to access MARTA’s bus schedules.

If you require assistance boarding, riding, or departing from a MARTA bus, you may schedule assistance through MARTA Mobility (see above).

Sidewalks and Streets

Here is what you should expect if you travel around Atlanta without public transportation. The following information is provided by <http://wheelchairtravel.org/atlanta-ga/#sidewalks>

“Atlanta’s sidewalks are well kept in most areas of the city. The smoothest sidewalks in the best condition are located in the Midtown district and in the areas surrounding Centennial Olympic Park. Due to the damaging effects of winter ice and snow, certain sidewalk areas may have large cracks or an uneven surface. Certain sidewalks may have large potholes and broken areas. Sidewalks are passable for users of all wheelchair or scooter types.

Some parts of the city are elevated, which may cause some difficulty for users of manual wheelchairs. Streets and sidewalks in the city, including within the downtown districts, can rise sharply, making for a steep grade. In these instances, wheelchair users may wish to take the city bus at times in order to prevent fatigue or save wheelchair battery power.”

During Your Time at RSA 2016 in the Hilton Atlanta

The RSA16 conference program will be available in print and through a conference app.

RSA encourages session organizers and presenters to take steps to make their presentations accessible to attendees with permanent or temporary disabilities. We invite all presenters to visit the incredibly helpful site [Composing Access](#) to learn more about how to create presentations that are accessible to all conference attendees.

The Hilton provides the following accessibility features, as indicated on the hotel website. See <http://www3.hilton.com/en/hotels/georgia/hilton-atlanta-ATLAHHH/about/amenities.html>

- Accessible Rooms
- Accessible business center
- Accessible concierge desk
- Accessible exercise facility
- Accessible guest rooms with mobility features with entry or passage doors that provide 32" of clear width
- Accessible hotel restaurants
- Accessible parking
- Accessible parking spaces for cars in the self-parking facility
- Accessible public entrance
- Accessible registration desk
- Accessible route from the accessible public entrance to the accessible guestrooms
- Accessible route from the accessible public entrance to the registration area
- Accessible route from the hotel's accessible entrance to the meeting room/ballroom area and business center
- Accessible route from the hotel's accessible public entrance to the exercise facilities and swimming pool
- Assistive listening devices for meetings upon request
- Closed captioning on televisions or closed captioning decoders
- Public Areas/Facilities accessible for physically challenged
- Service support animals welcome
- TTY for guest use

Areas of the Hilton NOT Accessible:

- Accessible route from the hotel's accessible public entrance to the spa
- Van-accessible parking in the self-parking facility

Parking:

- Self-Parking available for \$22 a day
- Valet parking available for \$35 a day

Out and About in Downtown Atlanta

The Hilton Atlanta is near a variety of attractions that RSA attendees may visit during their time in Atlanta. See below for accessibility information for some of the most popular downtown venues. The information is provided by each venue's official website.

Centennial Olympic Park:

Right in the heart of Downtown Atlanta, Centennial Olympic Park is 21 acres of history commemorating the 1996 Olympic Games. Admission is free into the park and is open from 7am-11pm. A new playground, built in 2008, was designed for universal accessibility for children of all physical capabilities. The park is within walking distance of the Georgia Aquarium, the World of Coca-Cola, and many other local attractions. See <http://www.centennialpark.com/>.

Center for Civil and Human Rights:

The Center for Civil and Human Rights is wheelchair accessible and meets all ADA requirements. Please feel free to bring your own wheelchair. Limited numbers of courtesy wheelchairs are available upon request at the main entrance for use at The Center. A photo ID will be required in order to use a courtesy wheelchair. See <https://www.civilandhumanrights.org/>.

College Football Hall of Fame

"The College Football Hall of Fame and Chick-fil-A Fan Experience offers many hospitality options for its guests. Fan Ambassadors are available to assist our guests with questions or assistance you may need once you arrive at the Hall. The College Football Hall of Fame and the adjacent parking garage are disabled accessible and meet all A.D.A requirements. If you need to use a wheelchair for any reason, they are available by asking any Fan Ambassador. All exhibits inside the College Football Hall of Fame include closed captioning for the hearing impaired. If you need additional assistance, our Fan Ambassadors can assist you." See <http://www.cfbhall.com/>.

Georgia Aquarium:

The Georgia Aquarium currently is the second-largest aquarium on the planet, and everyone is promised the full aquarium experience. The Aquarium has golf carts available to transport guests to and from the parking deck, and wheelchairs are available free of charge. The Aquarium also has accommodations for guests with visual and hearing impairments. Visit the information desk for more information. See <http://www.georgiaaquarium.org/>

World of Coca-Cola:

"The World of Coca-Cola and our parking garage are disabled accessible and meet all A.D.A. requirements. Please feel free to bring your own wheelchair. Courtesy wheelchairs are available at the World of Coca-Cola ticket windows located at the main entrance. A photo ID will be requested in order to use a courtesy wheelchair." Power chairs and mobility scooters are welcome and braille guide maps are available at the ticket window. See <https://www.worldofcoca-cola.com/>.