

NASEC 2026

USNA Information and Conference Logistics

<https://www.usna.edu/AcResearch/NASEC/index.php>

The following information is provided as guidance as you prepare to travel to Annapolis to join us for the 2026 Naval Academy Science and Engineering Conference – NASEC 2026. We look forward to your arrival and your conference participation!

General Information:

The United States Naval Academy (USNA) is the undergraduate university of the U.S. Navy and U.S. Marine Corps. In addition to being an academic institution, it is a Navy base and a National Historic Registry location. The scenic campus is known as the **Yard**, with contrasts in architecture reflecting the long and colorful history of the Academy. The student body at USNA is known as the **Brigade**, and it consists of ~ 4500 **Midshipmen (MIDN)**. The faculty at USNA is a team of military and civilian instructors numbering ~ 600. More information can be found at this link: <https://www.usna.edu/PAO/>. Directions to and map of the United States Naval Academy: <https://www.usna.edu/Visit/Directions.php>

INFORMATION & NASEC CHECK-IN:

10:30 AM to 12:00 PM on Sunday, 1 November @ The Fluegel Alumni Center

First Day of Conference: (November 1, 2026)

Each day of the conference, you MUST bring a (1) valid REALID OR a valid passport and (2) complete DBIDs paperwork as necessary, and keep it on you at all times.

The opening day of NASEC 2026 will take place at the Fluegel Alumni Center, located across from the Naval Academy. If you are driving in, please park at the Navy Marine Corps Stadium (\$11 per day, no overnight parking), and a bus will shuttle delegates to the Fluegel Center. If you are arriving via plane or train, a bus will pick up from the Baltimore-Washington International (BWI) Airport and BWI Amtrak Railway beginning early on Sunday morning and continuing until Sunday afternoon. **Please note:** we are not able to accommodate pick up or drop off from other airports or train stations.

All participants should arrive at the Fluegel Center between 10 am - 12:00 pm on Sunday, November 1st, 2026. Following the conference, a bus will return delegates to the Navy Marine Corps Stadium. A separate bus will take all ROTC, Service Academy, and international cadets to the Naval Academy for lodging. If you are lodging at the Naval Academy, please bring all luggage with you to the Fluegel Center.

Second and Third Day of Conference: (November 2, 2026 & November 3, 2026)

A bus will pick delegates up in the morning from the DoubleTree hotel and from the Navy Marine Corps Stadium. Please bring all items required for the day's activities, as it is not possible to leave and return throughout the day. A bus will similarly return to the DoubleTree Hotel and the Navy Marine Corps Stadium following the conference on Monday, November 2nd, 2026. On Tuesday, the same routine will be followed in the morning. On Tuesday afternoon, a bus will return delegates to the Navy Marine Corps Stadium, DoubleTree Hotel, and to the BWI airport. Buses may return to the hotel following the conference, but will be determined at a later date.

Please note: On Tuesday -- The earliest a bus from USNA & the hotel will get to the BWI airport is likely about 2:30 pm. Drop-off at the Amtrak train station will likely be after the airport, but the order of drop-off is left to the discretion of the bus driver. Please consider this projected time estimate as you schedule your flight and train departure times to return home.

Conference Hotel:

The 2026 conference is NOT partnered with a hotel this year, but the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel has kindly allowed discounted room blocks for civilian and officer participants. This is the conference preferred hotel. It is located at 210 Holiday Court, Annapolis, MD 21401. The conference hotel is NOT within walking distance of the Naval Academy, but it is within walking distance of several eateries and shopping. The hotel website and room block: *Please note: Personal vehicles (POVs) are not permitted on Naval Academy grounds.*

<https://www.hilton.com/en/attend-my-event/anpdttdt-91g-202fa75f-3be5-4684-9cb7-4c5859346dee/>

ROTC Students, International Military students, and Service Academy Cadets:

Lodging will be in Bancroft Hall, the USNA dormitory. NASEC Midshipmen Escorts will assist these military attendees in getting to/from their assigned rooms and to breakfasts in King Hall. NASEC Midshipmen Escorts will coordinate arrivals (times and locations) with the ROTC students, International Military students, and Cadets from other Service Academies. Those arriving on Sunday morning should report to the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel. The NASEC Midshipmen Escorts will coordinate getting the luggage of the ROTC and Cadet students from the hotel to Bancroft Hall on Sunday evening.

Conference Attire:

Khakis / slacks with open collared shirts (comparable for women); no shorts or jeans.

Usual November temperatures: Overnight lows of 30-40's and daytime high of 50-60's.

Recommendation: Bring a sweater and/or jacket and an umbrella (50% precipitation).

Uniforms for Military Attendees:

Navy – Service Dress Blues

Army – Class “A”

Air Force – Service Dress

Coast Guard – Service Dress Blue “A” or “B”

Space Force – Service Dress

International – Service Dress or equivalent

Poster size, content and display information: <https://www.usna.edu/NASEC/poster-guidelines.php>

It is recommended that the poster be no larger than 32" x 40". Presenters must arrive at NASEC with the poster ready to display. An easel and binder clips will be provided by NASEC for display purposes.

All posters must prominently include authorship and institution information, and the poster must also feature acknowledgements dependent on the nature of the project. For course projects, the instructor(s) of the course must be acknowledged. For capstone and research projects, the project advisor(s) must be acknowledged. Any other people (TAs, technicians, faculty, etc.) who supported the project in a tangible way should be acknowledged as well.

Posters will be submitted closer to the conference, via the Travel Intention form. Once your poster has been approved, you will be notified of approval.

Meals:

All delegates staying on the Yard will have breakfast provided in the USNA dining hall. For all participants, lunch will be provided. Please see the NASE 2026 Agenda linked on the website for more details.

Internet access:

WIFI internet connectivity will be available throughout the conference – both at the Fluegel Center and on the Yard. Directions to access this service will be provided on Sunday.

NASEC 2026 Badges:

Conference badges & lanyards and session information will be distributed on Sunday at the start of the conference. **The badge (on the lanyard) must be worn & visible at all times while on the Yard.**

Midshipmen Store Access:

During your time at NASEC 2026, there will be an opportunity for NASEC attendees to shop in the “MidStore” (Navy gear, souvenirs). Your NASEC 2026 badge will be required for access to the store and to make purchases. NASEC Midshipmen Escorts can direct you to the MidStore.

Coming on the Yard:

As a federal installation, everyone coming on the Yard (walking or in a vehicle – even on a USNA bus) is required to have a **valid picture REALID**, or a valid passport. Foreign nationals must show a valid, unexpired passport. You must also complete all DBIDs base access paperwork as instructed via email. You must keep a valid ID and proof of DBIDs access at all times. Please see emailed instructions for more information or inquiries.

Vehicle access to USNA:

Driving POVs onto the Yard is **not permitted without prior approval** of USNA. (If you have this approval, you have already been notified by the NASEC conference organizers.)

Pedestrian access to USNA:

Enter the Naval Academy via the pedestrian / visitor entrance at Gate 1 between 9am - 5pm.

USNA Buses:

USNA buses will run between the DoubleTree hotel and the Navy Marine Corps Stadium, and the Naval Academy (via Gate 8) according to a schedule based on the conference agenda. The drop-off & pick-up location at USNA is expected to be at the parking lot in front of Alumni Hall. The NASEC Midshipmen Escorts will guide you to an alternate location if there are variations to this plan. Departure times from the hotel and stadium are firm, so please be on the bus!

NASEC 2026 Agenda:

<https://www.usna.edu/NASEC/Agenda.php>

Changes and adjustments to the agenda will be updated on-line at this site. An “as of” date notation will be added on the web-posted version so that you will know that you are always looking at the most recent agenda.

Using Laptops at USNA:

NASEC 2026 wireless connectivity to a guest network will be via an access-point hub system. More information on connecting to the internet via this system will be provided at the conference.

NASEC attendees are expected to bring their laptops and tablets to USNA. Internet use will be restricted to the conditions defined by the Academy's Information Technology Services Division (ITSD) for the guest network.

Personal supplies:

Please bring pens with you to NASEC.

Conference Theme for NASEC 2026:

The Science and Technology of Strategic Competition

Working Groups:

1. *Challenges of Ship Building and Design*
2. *Integrating AI and the Warfighter*
3. *Defending Critical Supply Chain Security*
4. *Semiconductor Sovereignty*
5. *New Space Race*

Forrestal Lecture:

Monday evening, November 2nd, 2026 in Alumni Hall at USNA

Once per month, the Brigade of midshipmen is assembled to hear from high level speakers. NASEC has the privilege of hosting the November Forrestal Lecture speaker, where delegates will sit with midshipmen and USNA faculty and staff to hear from our selected keynote.

Points of Interest at USNA:

During your time at NASEC 2026, there may be opportunities for attendees to informally visit other locations on the Yard beyond the designated meeting spaces. Locations which may be of interest are below. If you are interested in visiting these locations, ask a NASEC Midshipman Escort for information.

Naval Academy Museum in Preble Hall: <https://www.usna.edu/Museum/>

Open 9 am - 5 pm on Monday and Wednesday through Saturday.

Open 10 am - 4 pm on Sunday.

CLOSED on TUESDAY and on all federal holidays.

Second deck of the Museum: *Gallery of Ships*, considered one of the world's finest collections of warship models from the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries.

Naval Academy Chapel and John Paul Jones Crypt: <https://www.usna.edu/Chaplains/index.php>

The Naval Academy Chapel is open for visitors most weekdays, except when the Chapel is being used for weddings, funerals and memorial services, and other special events.

Virtual tours of the Chapel and Crypt: <https://www.usna.edu/Chaplains/virtualTour/index.php>

Armel-Leftwich Visitor Center & Gift Shop at Gate 1: <https://www.usnabsd.com/for-visitors/>

Open daily 9 am - 5 pm. The Gift Shop closes at 5 pm.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Q: Do I need to prepare any materials beforehand for the Theme Working Groups?

A: No preparation is needed, other than your poster presentation. You may be contacted via e-mail by your breakout group moderator for any read-ahead materials they would like you to read prior to arrival. Hard copies of any read-ahead material will **not** be distributed / available at NASEC. Please download materials to your personal laptop and/or bring hard copies for your use.

Q: Will I have to pay for parking?

A: Parking POVs at the DoubleTree Hotel parking lot is free.

A: ROTC Cadets/Midshipmen and Foreign Military Personnel residing in Bancroft Hall will be given directions by NASEC organizers as to where to park POVs during NASEC.

Q: Will I receive reimbursement for my transportation to the Naval Academy?

A: There is no reimbursement by USNA for any travel costs the attendee incurs to travel to and from the conference. On Sunday and on Tuesday, the Naval Academy will provide limited bus transportation from/to the BWI Airport and BWI Amtrak station and the DoubleTree Hotel. Information on the bus schedule will be provided by the NASEC MIDN Coordinators.

A: On Tuesday, at the conclusion of the conference, USNA buses will depart the front parking lot of Alumni Hall at approximately 1300. Buses may return to the hotel following the conference, but will be determined at a later date.

Q: I am presenting a poster. Can I print my poster at the Naval Academy? At the hotel?

A: Printing your poster at USNA will not be possible. *Presenters should arrive at USNA with their posters printed and ready to display.* There is a FedEx Office Print Center located close to the DoubleTree Hotel, if such services are required. Any expense remains the responsibility of the delegate.

Q: I need to visit a grocery store or a big box store while I am at NASEC. Is one close-by?

A: A shopping center, with a variety of stores including a Target, is within walking distance from the DoubleTree hotel. <https://www.festivalatriva.com/>