



15 WAYS TO MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR CONFERENCE EXPERIENCE

Here are 15 tips to make the most of your conference experience, from the staff at ABA Tech, many of whom are your favorite co-instructors at Florida Tech ABA Online!

WHY ATTEND CONFERENCES?

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Further your professional development in the field of ABA.


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Maintain your awareness of the latest scientific breakthroughs and best practices.


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Earn CEUs and meet BACB standards.



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Network with your peers and experts within the field.




BEFORE THE CONFERENCE


- 1 CONFERENCE**



Take a look at the conference program beforehand, and select events that are interesting to you. Don't just choose talks in your area of practice, either!
- 2 CITY**



Conference locations are chosen to provide opportunities for attendees to do a little sightseeing, so take advantage of the opportunity!
- 3 SOCIAL**



If you'll be catching up with old friends and colleagues, or meeting with potential employees or customers, think about reaching out beforehand to schedule. Time flies!

DURING THE CONFERENCE

- 4 BE PREPARED**



Bring your conference bag, pen and pad of paper, iPad/laptop, business cards or resumes, and a sweater/jacket for those cold conference rooms.
- 5 DRESS FOR SUCCESS**



Business casual at least, and more formal if you're presenting.
- 6 ARRIVE TO SESSIONS EARLY**



10 minutes beforehand minimum, and have a back-up session in case it's standing-room-only!
- 7 BE PRESENT**



Attend to the speaker, take notes, and ask questions either during the talk, or afterward.
- 8 PRESENT!**



On your own research, or consider putting together a panel discussion on a hot topic, present on ethics, supervision, or other practice issues, or come up with a research question and plan a poster!
- 9 ENGAGE WITH SPEAKERS**



Go introduce yourself after a great presentation and give them some positive feedback.
- 10 NETWORK, NETWORK, NETWORK!**



Making contacts can come in handy in the future - for help with cases, looking for supervision or a job.
- 11 WORK IN YOUR DOWNTIME**



Explore the city, eat great food, socialize, and get in some time to decompress.
- 12 WORK (IN YOUR DOWNTIME)**



Keep up with emails and other responsibilities to avoid playing catch-up when you get back home.

AFTER THE CONFERENCE

- 13 CES/EXPENSES**



Taking care of filing expenses and submitting your CE's to the BACB portal as soon as possible ensures you won't forget them.
- 14 FOLLOW-UP**



Go through all those business cards you collected, read the notes you made on the back, and send a quick email expressing your appreciation for their insight on the topic you discussed.
- 15 NEXT YEAR**



If you enjoyed the conference, check the organization's website for next year's dates, and put them on your calendar. Watch for the call for papers and hotel group rate dates too!

SUMMARY

We hope these tips will help you make the most of your next conference experience. If your attending any conferences in the near future, make sure to watch out for our team at ABA Technologies, and Florida Tech ABA Online! We'd love to meet you.