

Program Directors Assembly (PDA) 2026 Winter Meeting

January 9-10, 2026
The Westin O'Hare
6100 N. River Road, Rosemont, IL 60018

Full Meeting Agenda

Friday, January 9, 2026

Pre-Winter Meeting Session

Location: Madison Room

4:30 pm-5:00 pm (30 minutes)

Pre-Winter Meeting Session Registration (location: Madison Room Foyer)

5:00 pm-5:45 pm (45 minutes)

A Year in the Life of a Program Director and Program/Associate Program Director Orientation Overview

Speaker: Drew A. White, MD

Moderator: Rebecca Scherzer, MD

- *Session Info: This session will include the annual responsibilities, challenges, and opportunities faced by Allergy and Immunology Fellowship Training Program Directors and Associate Program Directors. The session will explore strategies for managing accreditation, curriculum development, trainee evaluation, and recruitment. The session will also highlight helpful resources and best practices to support success in these leadership roles.*

5:45 pm-6:30 pm (45 minutes)

Ask Your Colleagues Panel

Panelists: Vivian P. Hernandez-Trujillo, MD, David A. Khan, MD, and Rebecca R. Saff, MD, PhD

Moderator: Rebecca Scherzer, MD

- *Session Info: This open forum will allow Allergy and Immunology Program Directors and Associate Program Directors to participate in a moderated panel discussion designed to address real-world challenges and share practical solutions. Participants can bring questions on topics such as recruitment, trainee remediation, curriculum design, wellness initiatives, and accreditation requirements. Panelists will share strategies, lessons learned, and resources to foster collaborative problem-solving.*

Winter Meeting Registration and Welcome Reception

Location: LaSalle Ballroom Foyer

8:00 pm-9:30 pm (1 hour 30 minutes)

Saturday, January 10, 2026

Winter Meeting Session

Location: LaSalle Ballroom

7:15 am-7:55 am (40 minutes)
Registration and Breakfast

7:55 am-8:30 am (35 minutes)
Meeting Welcome and Presidential Welcomes / Updates
Speakers: Frank S. Virant, MD, and Cherie Y. Zachary, MD
Moderator: Monica G. Lawrence, MD

- *Session Info: This session includes the meeting welcome and announcements from assembly chair, and annual update from the AAAAI and ACAAI Presidents.*

8:30 am-9:15 am (45 minutes)
Teaching Genetics in Allergy / Immunology Fellowships
Speaker: Manish Butte, MD PhD
Moderator: Rebecca Scherzer, MD

- *Session Info: As the fields of allergy and immunology continue to evolve, the integration of genetics into clinical practice is becoming increasingly essential. This session will provide allergy and immunology educators with strategies and tools to effectively teach genetics within fellowship programs. Participants will explore key genetic concepts relevant to immunologic diseases.*

9:15 am-9:30 am (15 minutes)
Break

9:30 am-10:45 am (1 hour and 15 minutes)
Burnout and Wellness Solutions for Faculty
Speakers: Theresa A. Bingemann, MD and Stuart Slavin, MD, Med
Moderator: Robbie D. Pesek, MD

- *Session Info: Burnout is a growing problem across medicine, especially in academics and those involved in education. While there have been multiple calls for action and attempts to address burnout at the institutional level, many of these interventions do not directly impact individual faculty. This session will discuss the impact of burnout on program directors as well as identify strategies to address burnout and improve wellness at the individual and section level.*

10:45 am-11:30 am (45 minutes)
How to Develop and Implement a Research/Scholarly Activity Committee Discussion
Speakers: Maureen Egan Bauer, MD and Rebecca Scherzer, MD
Moderator: Paneez Khoury, MD, MHSc

- *Session Info: This session will share practical strategies for creating and sustaining an effective scholarly oversight committee (SOC). Panelists will discuss committee structure, member roles, best practices for fostering scholarly productivity, and common pitfalls to avoid based on their experience in residency programs who currently utilize SOC's.*

11:30 am-12:15 pm (45 minutes)
Lunch

12:15 pm-1:15 pm (1 hour)
Leadership Skills: Managing Up for Program Directors
Speaker: Princess U. Ogbogu, MD
Moderator: Theresa A. Bingemann, MD

- *Session Info: Effective program leadership requires not only managing trainees and faculty but also navigating relationships within division and institution leaders and other stakeholders. This*

session will focus on “managing up” strategies to communicate priorities, align program needs with division/institutional goals, and influencing decision-making in ways that support program success.

1:15 pm-2:00 pm (45 minutes)

Test Takers: Assisting and Identifying Testing Issues

Speaker: Eric N. Goren, MD

Moderator: Thanai Pongdee, MD

- *Session Info: Issues with exam performance may hinder trainees from reaching career goals including board certification. This session will explore strategies for assisting test takers and identifying potential barriers to test performance. Participants will also review methods to provide feedback to trainees about their exam performance and needs for improvement.*

2:00 pm-2:15 pm (20 minutes)

Break

2:15 pm-3:00 pm (45 minutes)

Evolving Implementations of AI in Teaching

Speaker: Paneez Khoury, MD, MHSc

Facilitators: Christopher Chang, MD, PhD, David I. Hong, MD, and Gerald B. Lee, MD

Moderator: Maureen Egan Bauer, MD

- *Session Info: In this interactive session, participants will delve into the evolving landscape of artificial intelligence (AI) in the field of education and will explore the various ways AI is being integrated into teaching practices. Participants will gain insights into the benefits and challenges of implementing AI for teaching and will review how these technologies can enhance both teaching and learning outcomes.*
- **Note for Attendees:** Interactive session, please bring your own laptop, iPad or smartphone to the session.

3:00 pm-3:15 pm (15 minutes)

ITE Review and Guidance

Speaker: Gerald B. Lee, MD

Moderator: Monica G. Lawrence, MD

- *Session Info: This session will provide brief information on test result guidance and best practices on approaching areas of need from committee leadership.*

3:15 pm-3:45 pm (30 minutes)

American Board of Allergy and Immunology (ABAI) Update

Speaker: Michael R. Nelson, MD, PhD

Moderator: Monica G. Lawrence, MD

- *Session Info: This session will include the annual update from the ABAI President regarding the Board examination, recertification, Board/ITE comparison, MOC and other related information.*

3:45 pm-4:00 pm (15 minutes)

Closing Comments and Open Forum

Speaker: Monica G. Lawrence, MD

- *Session Info: This closing session will include final reminders and comments, and opportunity for assembly members to bring a question or comment to the full assembly.*

OTHER MEETINGS

Friday, January 9, 2026

7:30 am-4:00 pm

- AAAAI Foundation Strategic Planning Meeting (closed meeting) in LaSalle Ballroom B

7:30 am-5:00 pm

- AAAAI In-Training Examination (ITE) Committee Meeting (closed meeting) in LaSalle Ballroom A

Saturday, January 10, 2026

7:00 am-4:00 pm

- Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) Meetings (appt. only) in Division Room
- American Board of Allergy/Immunology (ABAI) Meetings (appt. only) in Dearborn Room

7:15 am-3:30 pm

- AAAAI Federation of Regional, State and Local Allergy, Asthma & Immunology Societies (RSLAAIS) Meeting (closed meeting) in Madison Room

3:30 pm -4:15 pm

- AAAAI Academic Leaders Meeting Registration (closed meeting) in Michigan Ballroom Foyer

4:30 pm-7:30 pm

- AAAAI Academic Leaders Meeting (closed meeting) in Michigan Ballroom

7:30 pm-9:00 pm

- AAAAI Academic Leaders Reception (closed reception) in Michigan Ballroom Foyer

Sunday, January 11, 2026

7:00 am-11:30 am

- AAAAI Academic Leaders Meeting (closed meeting) in Michigan Ballroom