



31st Annual ASE Scientific Sessions Attendance Justification Toolkit

This step-by-step guide is designed to assist you with outlining the benefits of attending this premier cardiovascular ultrasound educational conference to your employer.

The ASE 2020 program is designed to benefit all healthcare providers interested in the application of cardiovascular ultrasound imaging in the care of patients and in research. The program includes a variety of learning options including hands-on sessions, how-to sessions, case-based presentations, information on new techniques, and intimate question-and-answer sessions. The 2020 ASE Scientific Sessions allows you first-hand access to the latest innovations, science, and best practices in cardiovascular ultrasound, as well as numerous opportunities to network with experts from all around the world. Attendance at this three-day conference can fulfill certification and accreditation requirements for echo-specific CME content.

The curriculum is designed for varying levels of medical knowledge. Sessions are intended to enhance knowledge and performance for adult and pediatric cardiologists, cardiothoracic and vascular surgeons, cardiac anesthesiologists, cardiac sonographers, and emergency and critical care physicians, as well as hospitalists, radiologists, research scientists, veterinarians, residents and fellows in training, students, and nurses. [Click here to peruse the sessions.](#)

This toolkit includes:

- General Tips
- Reasons Why Your Employer Should Send You to the 2020 ASE Scientific Sessions
- How to Justify Conference Attendance
- Education Program Listing
- Sample Expense Worksheet
- Sample Cost Benefit Worksheet
- Sample Justification Letter

“One of my favorite meetings to attend. I recommend this meeting to all echocardiographers as a career must to keep up on all progressive echocardiography advancements.”

ASE 2019 Attendee



General Tips

- Review the registration rates and see if you qualify for any discounted rates. If you have never been an ASE member, your nonmember registration includes ASE membership through December 2020. ASE member benefits are valued at more than \$1,500 per year.
- Focus on specific benefits/value that you will bring back to your employer as a return on investment. ASE 2020 includes several sessions on how to incorporate ASE guidelines into your practice.
- Review the [program](#) in advance and share a list of the educational sessions you plan to attend and explain their relationship to your goals.
- Encourage your supervisor to review the [program](#) and make suggestions of sessions that might be of particular interest to your organization as a whole.
- Share your experience. Propose to deliver a short presentation upon your return to your colleagues to share what you learned and offer possible applications and recommendations relevant to your office.
- Prepare a plan that will show your supervisor who will cover for you and how your workload will be handled while you are attending the meeting.
- Remind your supervisor that the 2020 ASE Scientific Sessions is a great meeting to fulfill echocardiography specific continuing education credit requirements for licensure, accreditation, and certification. Depending on what you attend, you can earn up to **30.25 hours of CME credit***. This ASE course is also qualified to award MOC points for attendance. You can receive up to **30.25 MOC points*** toward ABIM recertification. ASE has received the highest commendation from the ACCME for the quality of its medical programming.

"This conference was sublime and far exceeded my expectations in all areas."

2019 Attendee

**Total CME and MOC hours pending approval*



Reasons your employer should send you to the 2020 ASE Scientific Sessions

- ASE 2020 brings together approximately 3,000 domestic and international participants from over 50 countries. This provides a fantastic opportunity to interact with cardiovascular ultrasound professionals and learn best practices from your peers.
- Expert faculty offer an innovative and creative educational program designed to appeal to novice, as well as experienced echocardiography users. The program includes hands-on sessions, how-to sessions, case-based presentations, information on new techniques, and intimate question-and-answer sessions. There are also Episodes of Care sessions each day that will feature sonographers, echocardiographers, emergency physicians, vascular medicine, CT/MRI/Nuclear experts, anesthesiologists, interventional cardiologists, cardiac surgeons and critical care medicine and the collaborative role of all specialties in patient management.
- Sessions are appropriate for all levels of cardiac and vascular ultrasound professionals, including experts, intermediate learners, sonographers, fellows, and nurses.
- Extensive learning opportunities with more than 100 educational sessions to fulfill echocardiography specific continuing education credit requirements for licensure, accreditation, and certification.
- Peer networking opportunities, including free receptions, provide invaluable opportunities to make connections with professionals in your area of expertise. The conference brings together professionals in every field – clinicians, researchers and academicians, practice managers, fellows, and other health professionals.
- The exhibit hall features approximately 55 companies showcasing the latest technology in cardiovascular ultrasound. You can see, touch, and learn right there. Science and Technology Theater sessions provide in-depth analysis of the latest advances in the marketplace.
- Over 450 posters are presented featuring cutting-edge research on the latest advances in cardiovascular ultrasound or clinical cases illustrating evolutions in patient care.

“ASE 2019 was the best experience I have ever had. All the lectures provided were relevant and eye-opening. I can’t wait to come back next year.”

ASE 2019 Attendee



Cost Benefit Worksheet

You should clearly understand your meeting expenses to justify allocation of funds from your organization and prove a return on investment (ROI). To help you calculate your meeting expenses, complete the attached Cost/Benefit Worksheet.

Use this sample worksheet to calculate your major meeting expenses.

Expense	Notes/Justification	Amount
Registration Fee <i>(include any additional fees associated with courses or events you wish to attend)</i>		
Roundtrip Airfare <i>(are mileage points available to offset airfare?)</i>		
Transportation Fees <i>(Taxi is approximately \$25.00 from the Denver airport to Gaylord Rockies. The RTD A-line is a public transportation option from the airport to Gaylord Rockies which costs \$10.50 one way.)</i>		
Meals <i>(Continental breakfasts, breaks, and one reception is included in your registration fees.)</i>		
Hotel rate per night plus taxes <i>(# of nights x Room Rate)</i>		
Parking reimbursement <i>(at airport or hotel)</i>		
Misc. reimbursable expenses <i>(tips, internet fees, etc.)</i>		
Total		



Sample Justification Letter for Your Supervisor

[Date]

Dear [supervisor's name]:

I would like to request approval to attend the American Society of Echocardiography's 31st Annual Scientific Sessions June 19-22, 2020 in Denver, Colorado.

My participation at ASE 2020 will allow me the opportunity to expand my knowledge of cardiovascular ultrasound and network with experts from around the world to enhance my performance at [workplace] _____. I have reviewed the education sessions in detail, and have attached a listing of sessions I feel can directly impact my work and will also benefit [workplace] _____. In addition, I plan to share the knowledge gained from these sessions with my colleagues.

I am seeking support of my attendance to this medical education conference, including registration fees, travel expenses, and miscellaneous expenses. A detailed cost breakdown is attached. I anticipate the total expense to be approximately \$_____.

The opportunity for me to attend sessions presented by expert faculty who will provide a comprehensive review of current echocardiographic methods is important to my professional growth. My knowledge base will expand by being exposed to the new advances in cardiovascular imaging technology, and sessions focusing on incorporating the new ASE guidelines makes my attendance at the 2020 ASE Scientific Sessions a very valuable investment.

Thank you for considering support of my attendance at ASE 2020.

Sincerely,

[your name]

**95% of ASE 2019 attendees said the ASE Scientific Sessions
helped them increase their overall competence.**



ASE 2020 Education Sessions

ASE 2020 education sessions are designed to give a comprehensive review of current echocardiographic methods, utilizing and incorporating new technology, general clinical utility, and new ASE guidelines. Faculty include the “who's who” in cardiology, heads of Echo Labs from across the U.S., and leaders from the echo societies in Europe, Asia, South America, and Australia.

ASE 2020 features 11 topic specific tracks to help guide your learning experience:

- **CIRCULATION:** These sessions will provide attendees with an excellent overview, as well as advanced topics on vascular ultrasound.
- **EARLY CAREER:** This track has been designed specifically for fellows in training and early career physicians.
- **IMAGING ESSENTIALS:** This track will instruct practitioners on techniques of assessment and quantitation that you can incorporate into your lab when you return home.
- **INNOVATION/TECHNOLOGY:** This track has been designed to communicate recent advances that improve quality and cutting-edge technologies that will be used for treating the patients of tomorrow.
- **ISCHEMIA:** This track covers a diverse spectrum inclusive of obstructive and non-obstructive coronary diseases and stress echocardiography.
- **MYOCARDIUM/FUNCTION:** This track addresses the core competencies of common cardiology pathologies and provides an update about standards of care.
- **PEDIATRIC/CONGENITAL:** This track is packed with cutting-edge science from fetus to adult that brings together cardiologists, PhDs, engineers, and sonographers with the unifying goal of improving care for those with heart disease.
- **PERIOPERATIVE:** Cardiac anesthesiologists, sonographers, cardiologists, and surgeons come together to share knowledge in cardiovascular care and perioperative/ periprocedural echocardiography.
- **POINT OF CARE:** This track focuses on this highly valuable modality that is of critical importance as healthcare practitioners become skilled in the use of point of care ultrasound.
- **SPECIAL SESSIONS:** The 2020 Program Committee has designed the Special Sessions Track to introduce different learning formats to entertain and educate.
- **VALVES:** This track was designed to bring together the expertise of sonographers, cardiologists, cardiac anesthesiologists, and surgeons to share knowledge in the diagnosis and management of patients with both simple and complex valvular heart disease.



Here is a sampling of the sessions that will be presented at ASE 2020. [Click here to download the Schedule at a Glance](#) to find the sessions most relevant to you.

- Today's Innovations, Tomorrow's Practice of Medicine
- IAC Echocardiography Bootcamp
- Fetal Workshop
- Circulation in Women
- Echo Saves the Day: Case-based Learning
- What I Love/Hate About Echo: The Legends Reminisce
- POCUS in Unstable Patients
- Episodes of Care: Coronary Disease, Mitral Valve Disease, and Cardiomyopathy
- Mechanical Circulatory Support Transplant
- Creating Your Niche as an Early Career Echocardiographer
- Simulated Heart Valve Team Cases
- Aorta Pathology and Complications
- Echo Technology at the Cutting Edge of Knowledge
- Multimodality Imaging in Adolescents and Young Adults
- Challenges Cases: Fetus to Adults with Congenital Heart Disease
- Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy
- Pulmonary Hypertension: What's Echo Got to Do with It?
- Assessment of Left and Right Ventricular Function: Left Atrial Disastology
- Applied Ultrasound Physics: What Clinicians Need to Know

Course topics are subject to change.

"I couldn't have been happier with the conference. It was my first ASE conference and it absolutely set me on fire! Very inspirational and educational. I will plan on attending next year or I will send a staff member. Every echo lab should be sending someone to this conference every year!! Absolutely loved it!"

ASE 2020 Attendee