

Terms & Conditions for Participation in Higher Learning 2027

As applicable, these Terms & Conditions apply to all individuals participating in the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) Higher Learning 2027 conference (the “Conference”). This includes registered attendees, speakers and presenters, sponsors, and other invited guests (collectively referred to as “attendees”).

By registering for, attending, or otherwise participating in the Conference, I agree to these Terms & Conditions, which can also be found here.

Attendee Conduct Expectations

HLC reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to change the Conference program at any time and for any reason.

Consistent with its mission and values, HLC is committed to providing a safe, productive, inclusive, engaging, and welcoming environment for all Conference attendees.

The Conference provides numerous opportunities for exploring a broad range of differing ideas and opinions regarding higher education. As part of its commitment to intellectual inquiry, HLC supports and encourages a robust exchange of ideas and viewpoints.

Attendees are expected to conduct themselves in a professional manner and to treat all other participants with courtesy, respect and civility. Examples of unacceptable conduct include, but are not limited to, harassment, discrimination, verbal abuse, threats, intimidation, or disruption.

Attendees are expected to comply with any instructions of HLC staff or their designees.

Attendees are expected to abide by all applicable laws throughout their participation in the Conference, as well as any Conference rules and requirements set forth by HLC or its designees, the Conference venue or any affiliates, including rules and requirements related to health and safety.

Except as otherwise approved by HLC in advance, any presentations, postings, or other messages to other attendees may not contain promotional materials, special offers, job offers, product announcements, or solicitation for services.

Except as otherwise approved by HLC in advance, attendees may not organize or sponsor any activities (including, but not limited to, product presentations or hospitality activities) for attendees during Conference hours that conflict with the Conference program or sponsored events.

If an attendee becomes aware of conduct that is not aligned with these expectations, they should promptly inform HLC by contacting annualconference@hlcommission.org. As applicable, HLC will evaluate and address concerns in a timely manner.

HLC reserves the right to take any action deemed appropriate by HLC to address failures to comply with these expectations. This could include, but is not limited to, imme-

diating temporary or permanent removal from the conference without warning or refund. Depending on an attendee's relationship with HLC, other consequences may also apply. I agree to comply with these terms and conditions.

Photography, Recording, and Media

I grant permission to HLC and its designees to record the Conference and to photograph my image. I grant HLC the right to use, reproduce and publish such recordings and images in all media including digital media, for the purpose of promoting HLC and its programs and events, and other purposes in accordance with HLC's mission. I understand that I will have no approval rights with respect to the use of these images and will not be entitled to any compensation or royalties for their use.

Attendees are not permitted to (a) photograph for uses other than personal use or (b) record or transcribe (audio or video) Conference presentations and events without the prior written consent of HLC. This includes utilizing artificial intelligence (AI) note-taking tools.

Attendees understand that news media may be present at the Conference, including in individual sessions and at public networking opportunities.

Costs, Waiver, and Release

As applicable, I am solely responsible for all costs associated with my participation in the Conference, including any medical, health, or personal injury costs relating to my participation.

As applicable, I agree to abide by all cancellation policies related to the Conference.

The Conference is subject to acts of nature, government authority, disaster, or other emergencies, any of which may make it illegal or impossible for HLC or others to provide the services for the Conference or may make it illegal or impossible for attendees to attend the Conference. In the event that the Conference cannot be held or is postponed due to events beyond the control of HLC, HLC shall not be liable to any attendee for any damages, costs, or losses incurred.

I am participating in the Conference of my own free will. I hereby release, waive, discharge and hold harmless the Higher Learning Commission, its affiliates, predecessors, successors, trustees, officers, employees, agents, and representatives, past or present (the “Released Parties”) from any and all claims, suits, losses, liabilities, judgments, costs, fees (including attorneys’ fees) and expenses (“Claims”) for any personal injury or illness, epidemics and disease, death, property damage, loss and/or theft or any other occurrence during the Conference.

I also agree to defend, indemnify and hold harmless the Released Parties from and against any claims arising from or related to my own acts or omissions during the conference.