

The CENS First Timer's Guide to ENAR 2026



Plan your schedule in advance



Before sessions get started, browse the scientific program and conference schedule to map out the sessions you want to attend. It's also smart to pick a backup session for each time slot in case your first choice doesn't work out!

The ENAR conference app makes it easy to build your personal schedule and get reminders throughout the day. You can download it before you arrive!

What to do on your first day



Welcome to ENAR! We're so glad you're here! On your first day, start by visiting the registration desk to pick up your credentials! There will be maps nearby to help you get oriented with the conference venue. Look out for the spots that you'll need to find later in the conference.

Stay connected



Try to meet someone new each day! Conference connections can be long-lasting and turn into mentorship, collaborations, or career opportunities.

In the digital space, don't forget to follow the CENS and ENAR social accounts for live updates during the conference and to learn more about opportunities we offer throughout the year!

Dress for success



Wear business casual or smart casual attire to leave a positive first impression in both academic and industry settings. Be sure to bring comfortable shoes for walking and a weather-appropriate jacket or layer for air-conditioned areas.



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Don't miss these opportunities



Sunday, March 15

- 8:00pm-11:00pm **Opening Mixer & Poster Session:** Enjoy refreshments, catch up with colleagues, meet new people, and visit poster displays.

Monday, March 16

- 1:45pm-3:30pm **CENS Invited/Spotlight Session:** Learn the dos and don'ts for using AI as an early-career statistician at this panel discussion, entitled "Converting AI from a Buzzword to a Tangible Skill".
- 5:30pm-6:30pm **CENS Networking Mixer:** This fun event is a perfect chance to meet fellow early-career statisticians. Food and activities are included!



Tuesday, March 17

- 10:30am-12:15pm **Presidential Invited Address:** This event features an exciting debate on "AI Alone Is Not Enough: Advancing EHR Research Demands Statistical Rigor." ENAR awards will also be presented!
- 12:30pm **CENS Networking Lunch:** *Register in advance* to join small-group lunches for students and early-career attendees.
- 5:45pm-6:30pm **IDEA & CENS Townhall:** This townhall provides a forum to hear from ENAR leadership and contribute to ongoing conversations.

Additional opportunities

- **Career Placement Center:** Interested in a career in biometrics? Register in advance to explore job opportunities and connect with employers.
- **Affinity groups:** Affinity groups bring together ENAR members who share common interests, identities, or goals and serve as an important channel for community-building. Be on the lookout for affinity group events announced closer to the meeting.

Let your plans be flexible



Don't feel pressured to follow your pre-planned schedule to the letter. If you find yourself in a great conversation or presented with the chance to meet someone you admire – go for it! That said, if your schedule includes a formal commitment like chairing a session or presenting a talk, it is important to stick to those plans.





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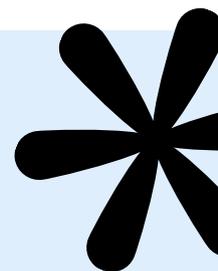


Explore the city

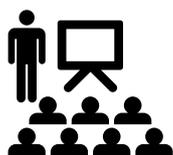


Pick out restaurants or places to explore in Indianapolis while you're in town. A local favorite for breakfast and lunch is Cafe Patachou. If you're looking for an Indianapolis-exclusive activity, take a tour of the Indianapolis Motor Speedway. You'll get to ride around the 2.5 mile track!

Don't forget to invite the new friends and connections you made at ENAR!



For speakers



If you're presenting at a session, congratulations! Practice your talk with a timer and upload your presentation before your session. Look for an email from your session chair with specific instructions and deadlines for submitting slides, brief introductions, and other necessary info for your talk.

Follow up on your connections



Don't let your new connections slip away after the conference! Be sure to follow up with the people you met by connecting on social media or sending a quick email. These connections could lead to future collaborations, internships, job opportunities. It also makes it easier to reconnect at future events!

Be confident about your work!



The ENAR community is so excited to learn about the work you do! Your research contributions bring variety and depth to the field, and we encourage you to share them with well-earned confidence.

We hope you enjoy ENAR 2026!

