

FAQs

AAIDD 2024 Delegation to the Czech Republic

What are the dates of the Delegation?

The dates of the program are **September 29 – October 9, 2024**. Delegates should plan to arrive in Prague, on Sunday, September 29, 2024. Delegates should plan to depart from Prague on Wednesday, October 9, 2024.

What is included in the program fee?

The program fee of **\$3,399 double/\$4,399 single occupancy** includes all arrangements for professional visits, in-program travel, pick up from the airport in Prague on September 29th and transfer to the airport in Prague on October 9th, lodging, local guides, emergency health/evacuation insurance, and admission to cultural attractions on the itinerary, most meals, and tips.

What is not included in the program fee?

Air travel between Delegates' home city to Prague, three dinners and one lunch during the program, excess baggage fees, vaccinations, and trip cancellation insurance are not included in the program fee. Pocket money for souvenirs is at each Delegates' discretion.

Are scholarships or discounts available from AAIDD to participate in the Delegation?

No. AAIDD Delegations are offered "at cost"; no discounts are available, nor does AAIDD offer scholarships for its Delegations.

When should I apply?

The Delegation is limited in size, and once all the slots have been filled, no further applications will be considered. Past Delegations have been fully subscribed to within a few weeks of each program announcement.

Applications are reviewed as they are submitted, and applicants will be contacted by phone for additional information before a determination is made on their application. Individuals are strongly encouraged to apply as early as possible and to respond to any requests for additional information as quickly as possible.

When are payments due?

A deposit is required at the time their application is accepted and the final payment is due to AAIDD by July 5, 2024. AAIDD accepts all major credit cards.

How strenuous will the trip be?

Each day of the Delegation has been structured to provide a full day of group activities. Delegates are informed that public accommodations, historic sites, and walking pathways outside the US are typically not optimally accessible to those who have mobility impairments.

The Delegation will be based in three cities (**Prague, Brno, and České Budějovice**) with travel each day to various



destinations, which will require entering/exiting motor coaches and buildings, crossing streets, walking on uneven ground, and climbing stairs. **Based on planned destinations for this trip, Delegates will be expected to climb up to 3 flights of stairs and walk up to 2.5 miles each day over uneven ground.**

Is a visa required for this trip?

The Czech Republic is in the Schengen area. Tourists from the U.S. and Canada may stay up to 90 days in the Czech Republic **without** a visa.

Will I need vaccinations for this trip?

For travel to the Czech Republic, [the CDC recommends](#) that travelers be up to date on routine vaccinations. Delegates with special health concerns should consult their physician.

Can I share this invitation with other professionals in our field?

Yes. The Delegation is designed to be a **professional exchange** ("study tour") in the field of intellectual and developmental disabilities. Delegates are encouraged to let others in the field know about this delegation; however, **all interested individuals must individually apply, be at least 18 years old, and commit to participate in the entirety of the program.**

Can I bring a spouse or other traveling companion on this Delegation?

No. Other than support staff necessary for a Delegate's participation, no personal guests or traveling companions will be included. Delegates are informed that the arrival of a Delegate's personal guest or traveling companion at any time during the Delegation will result in their immediate dismissal from the program without a refund.

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Will there be opportunities to present my work?

The itinerary of every Delegation is different. For the Delegation to the Czech Republic, no formal presentation opportunities by Delegates are planned.

What kind of lodging can I expect?

Delegates can expect to stay in three-star hotels equipped with WIFI and offering full breakfast service.

Why am I asked about my health/How will my health information be treated?

Delegates are asked to disclose health information (conditions, medications, etc.) for the purpose of assessing reasonable accommodations and assisting medical professionals in the event that emergency care is required during the Delegation. This information is treated confidentially prior to and during the trip and will be destroyed after the Delegation.

How should I pack for this trip?

For professional meetings, participants are encouraged to dress “business casual” and wear comfortable walking shoes. In addition, Delegates are strongly encouraged to dress appropriately for the climate.

Over the period of the Delegation, the weather is typically moderately cool (40s-50s F) and rain is likely on several days. Delegates are encouraged to pack clothing that could be layered for warmth.

Delegates are encouraged to bring a voltage converter. Although complimentary WIFI will be available at the hotels, Delegates are encouraged to check with their cell provider about international calling/data plans.

Delegates are expected to manage their own bags onto and off buses throughout the Delegation. Delegates are encouraged to check the baggage policies for their international flights to familiarize themselves with the cost of excess baggage.

Will AAIDD provide supports for people with disabilities to participate?

AAIDD encourages people with disabilities to apply. AAIDD requires that all applicants disclose any condition or need that may require *reasonable accommodations at the time of this application to the program.*

Delegates that require personal support staff to fully participate in the program must provide such supports (including salary, travel, program costs, etc.) at their own expense and provide the same information required on the Delegation application for their support personnel.

Failure to disclose any condition or need that would require reasonable accommodation may result in the inability of AAIDD and its representatives and agents to provide accommodations, and further, Delegates are informed that should they fail to disclose such information, they may be dismissed from the program without a refund.

Can I get a refund if I cannot go/Is trip cancellation insurance available through AAIDD?

No. AAIDD will not refund deposits or program fees. Trip cancellation insurance is **not** included in the program fee but may be purchased (at your discretion) from your airline and/or travel insurance companies such as [Allianz](#). The program fee includes a group insurance policy that covers emergency health and medical evacuation costs (up to a cap) while on the trip.

When should I plan to arrive in Prague and how do I get to the hotel?

The Delegation will begin with an orientation dinner on September 29th; Delegates should plan to arrive in Prague on the 29th in the late morning or early afternoon. Delegates will provide AAIDD with their flight information to AAIDD so their airport transfers on September 29th and October 9th can be arranged.

Delegates who wish to arrive one or more days earlier may arrange extra nights at the hotel at their own expense; however, Delegates who arrive prior to the 29th are responsible for their own transportation to their hotel. Uber is available at the airport.

When should I plan to depart from Prague?

A full day of activities and a farewell dinner are scheduled for Tuesday, October 8, 2024. Transfers will be provided to the airport in Prague on Wednesday, October 9 as part of the program fee. Delegates who plan to depart Prague after this date are responsible for making their own arrangements at their own cost.

Who should I contact for more information?

For more information on the AAIDD Delegation, contact Gabrielle Herald at 301-392-2485 or gherald@aaidd.org.

