



Attendee Justification Toolkit

*NAGC26, The National Association for Gifted Children's annual convention, taking place November 5-8, in Milwaukee, WI, provides a **collaborative and welcoming environment** where **more than 2,000 educators**, gifted coordinators, psychologists, researchers, and caregivers will share strategies and best practices for supporting high-ability children.*

We know you're busy educators, and we recognize that taking time away from your school or classroom requires planning, justifying costs to your supervisors, and changing your plans. But we also recognize the importance of participating in **professional development that advances your skills** and inspires you with new ideas you can bring back home.

So, why should you attend NAGC26?

This justification toolkit provides you with the many reasons why NAGC26 will benefit you as a gifted educator, along with a **breakdown of fees**, a **customizable letter** you can share with your supervisor, and more.

If you have any questions about this toolkit, or need additional information to help you justify your attendance at NAGC26, please don't hesitate to reach out to us at nagc@nagc.org and we'll do our best to assist you.

We look forward to welcoming you to Milwaukee in November!

Sample Letter to Your District/Administrator

[Date]

Dear [Supervisor's name],

I am requesting approval to attend **NAGC26**, the 2026 National Association for Gifted Children Annual Convention, taking place November 5-8 in Milwaukee, WI.

NAGC26 provides a collegial, welcoming, and safe environment where more than 2,000 educators, gifted coordinators, psychologists, researchers, and caregivers will share strategies and best practices for supporting high-ability children. Widely recognized as the premier national conference for gifted education, NAGC's annual convention brings together leading voices in the field and offers a robust, research-informed program.

The event includes 250+ sessions across 16 specialized tracks, allowing me to tailor my learning to our school's goals—whether that's differentiation, student mental health, access to services, or instructional design. I plan to attend sessions most relevant to our needs, such as [insert topics or session tracks of interest—see .

One of the most valuable aspects of the convention is the opportunity to bring back practical, evidence-based tools to our team. I will return with concrete strategies, downloadable resources, and key takeaways to enhance our gifted services. These sessions are designed around **evidence-based teaching strategies** and instructional methods to meet the needs of high-ability learners. If other staff members attend, it also provides an opportunity for shared professional learning, allowing us to more **effectively collaborate**. [For Wisconsin-based educators, this national convention is local this year—offering access to high-quality learning with significantly reduced travel expenses.]

By attending, I will:

- **Earn up to 18 professional development hours**
- Gain strategies I can immediately apply in our classrooms
- Connect with other schools to learn what's working across the country
- Bring back resources and materials to support our team

After the convention, NAGC will provide me with an attendance certificate that I can share with you, in addition to the resources, materials, and new ideas that I plan on bringing back to share with my colleagues.

Thank you for considering my request. I'm confident that my participation in NAGC26 will positively impact our students and school.

Sincerely, [Your Name]

Attendee Expense Worksheet

Expense	Cost Savings Tips	Costs
Registration for four days	Register by July 15 to save up to \$70	Early bird rate/members: \$549 Early bird rate/non-members: \$699 Group, student, and retired rates available! Contact nacc@nacc.org for details
	Register by September 15 to save up to \$50	Advanced rate/members: \$619 Advanced rate/non-members: \$769 Group, student, and retired rates available! Contact nacc@nacc.org for details
	Register by November 5	Regular rate/members: \$669 Regular rate/non-members: \$819 Group, student, and retired rates available! Contact nacc@nacc.org for details
Preconvention Sessions	These in-depth sessions are hosted on Thursday, November 5.	\$150, includes breakfast for that day
Hotel	A variety of price points are offered within walking distance.	Headquarters hotel: \$219/night for conference attendees
Travel	Book early for best rates.	insert your estimated transportation costs
Parking	Garage parking	\$15/day
Breakfast	On my own each day (meals are not provided)	\$20 (some hotel options include breakfast)
Lunch	On my own each day (meals are not provided)	\$25
Dinner	On my own each day (meals are not provided)	\$30
Daily networking events	Included each day of the convention	Included with registration
Premier membership dues	Premier. Joining allows me to save up \$150 on Advance Registration and \$180 on Regular Registration	\$129