

NORFOLK

July 23, 2026

ACHE CONFERENCE NEWSLETTER #1

QUICK REMINDERS

BEFORE YOU ARRIVE

- ✓ Register for the conference.
- ✓ Book your hotel accommodations.
- ✓ Plan your travel to Norfolk.
- ✓ Review the conference agenda and plan your time in Norfolk.

CALL FOR AWARD NOMINATIONS

This is your opportunity to recognize outstanding faculty, staff, programs, and students who are making a meaningful impact in continuing higher education.

Individual Awards

- Leadership Award
- Meritorious Award
- Emeritus Award
- Rising Star Award

Nominations are due by August 28, 2026, at 11:59 p.m.



*Navigating Uncharted Waters:
Leadership, Resilience & Renewal*

ALL ABOARD!



The ACHE Annual Conference is more than a conference, it's where leadership comes to life. If you're looking for a meaningful, energizing, and relevant professional development experience, the ACHE Conference is where you need to be. Here's why: You'll experience engaging, relevant content, real connections with real peers, join a strong professional family, fuel your leadership journey, and trust ACHE to help you lead with confidence, connection, and purpose. We can't wait to welcome you!

ACHE Conference Team

SCHEDULE HIGHLIGHTS

The schedule is shaping up to be full of opportunities for learning, growth and connection. And in ACHE fashion - plenty of fun! The schedule will be updated with concurrent sessions soon. Check out the current [schedule](#).

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT CAN BE FUN

Leadership growth doesn't have to be all business. At ACHE, we believe in developing leaders through connection, inspiration, and community.

Now is the perfect time to:

- **Sharpen your skills** - and uncover new ones along the way
- **Grow into the leader you're meant to be** - with guidance and support
- **Be part of the transformation** - help shape the future of ACHE
- **Make a lasting impact** - your voice and leadership matter

Whether you're just starting your leadership journey or ready for the next step, there's a place for you at ACHE.



ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A CONCENTRATED AREA FOR RECRUITING NEW STUDENTS?

Norfolk, Virginia could be your pot of gold! This area is home to the largest naval installation in the world, [Naval Station Norfolk](#). The base serves as the strategic headquarters for the U.S. Navy's Fleet Forces Command and is the primary deepwater home port for all U.S. Navy aircraft carriers on the East Coast.

The broader Hampton Roads military presence peaks at 485,000 people including 83,000-100,000 active-duty service members, 40,000 civilian personnel, 125,000 military dependents and 220,000 veterans and retirees.

According to data tracked by the [Hampton Roads Chamber](#), The U.S. Department of Defense accounts for 45.6% of all regional economic activity. This translates to over \$15 billion in annual federal contracts flowing into the area, supporting roughly 330,000 defense-related jobs.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

➤ NEED HELP GETTING APPROVAL?

Use our [Make the Case to Attend Template](#) to communicate the professional value of the conference and request institutional support. ACHE offers leaders at every level valuable learning opportunities, peer networking, and connections that extend well beyond the conference.

➤ WILL THERE BE OPPORTUNITIES TO NETWORK?

Yes. The conference includes dedicated networking events, receptions, and informal opportunities to connect with colleagues from institutions across the country.

Share your stories, big or small, and let's inspire each other at [#ACHEcon26](#).

ACHE