We are excited to be back at the Minneapolis Convention Center this year! More information is available in the State Student Guide, but please reference this handout for the basic event information and major event changes.

General Event Spaces
We have consolidated the footprint of State History Day as much as possible within the Convention Center.
- **First Floor:** Student registration, Exhibit hall, Awards Ceremony
- **Second Floor:** Judging Rooms
- **Mezzanine Level (Morning only):** Judging Rooms

We will be using the Convention Center's digital signage for wayfinding, as well as staff and mentors to help navigate these new spaces. See the State Student Guide for a full list of rooms being utilized.

Parking
The Convention Center is conveniently located near I-35W and I-94. See the State Student Guide for full directions. The Plaza Parking Ramp and 11th & Marquette Parking Ramps provide closest event access and are accessible via skyway. There are several other ramps, additional surface lots, and metered parking in the surrounding area. Pricing for parking will vary, but range between $5-25 for the day.

Hotels
For students and families looking to stay overnight, there are several hotels connected to the Convention Center via skyway. We do not have blocks of rooms reserved at any venue and recommend contacting the hotel directly if interested in this. The closest hotels include:
- Hilton Garden Inn Minneapolis Downtown
- Holiday Inn Express & Suites Minneapolis
- Hotel Ivy, Minneapolis
- Millennium Minneapolis
- Hyatt Regency Minneapolis

Food
The Convention Center will open several internal concession areas with food and drinks for purchase during the day. We are working with the other events in the building to have more food options available throughout the day than last year. There are also several restaurants within walking distance.

Available Technology
- All Documentary rooms will be connected to projectors and screens via Chromebook. Students should have a link to their Documentary so they can pull up via a web browser at their judging time.
  - If a student wants to use a DVD or their own device, they are responsible for bringing their own device and necessary adapters.
- Website students are responsible for bringing their own devices to use as reference during their interview.
- Free wifi is available in all meeting rooms and public areas throughout the Convention Center.

Accessibility
The Convention Center is a fully ADA-accessible building. There are automated doors, stairs, escalators, and elevators as well as electrical mobility scooters and wheelchairs available for rent from Guest Services. There are two lactation rooms on the second floor and gender neutral restrooms on the first and second floor.

Other Events and Security
There will be two other events happening at the Convention Center at the same time as State. While our event will be consolidated within the Convention Center as much as possible, participants should not leave personal belongings or items unattended. There is 24/7 building security for the Convention Center but neither the Convention Center or Minnesota History Day are responsible for lost or stolen items.

Event Attendance
If students are unable to attend State in person either due to religious conflicts, illness, or another conflict they are still eligible to compete without an interview, except in the Performance category. This should be arranged in advance directly with the Minnesota History Day office.

General State History Day Reminders for Teachers

Online Registration System
State Qualifiers will receive an email from zFairs, when their entry is "promoted" to the State Contest. They can expect this information within a few business days of their Regional/District contest. **Each student must still login and complete their registration for State!** Promoting their entry within the registration system does **not** mean they are completely registered.

Teacher Registration
Since students have already connected their entry with their school/teacher, there is no need for teachers to log-in before their students. If teachers are planning on attending State, or want to monitor the progress of their students as they register, teachers should log back in and register for State as well.

Judging Schedules
A tentative judging schedule will be shared with teachers the week of April 14. Please be sure to share these tentative times with your students and alert us to any conflicts. A final judging schedule will be shared on April 23. No changes can be accommodated after that time.

Written Paperwork Procedure
Students in all categories must submit their Process Paper and Annotated Bibliographies in zFairs by 10:59 pm on Thursday, April 11. They may still make edits before coming to State. Students should bring **four printed copies.** This allows judges to review these documents in advance, and spend more time directly engaging with the students during interviews. There is no copy center at the event venue and limited printing from MN History Day at State is for emergencies only.

Changing Group Members
In accordance with the *NHD Contest Rule Book*, "Once a group project enters a competition (regional or affiliate), additional students may not be added or replaced at that or subsequent competitions within a contest year."

This most directly impact Group Performances. The Performance group members are locked in once a project enters a Regional/District contest. If the project advances to State and a group member drops out or is not able to participate, entries are **not** permitted to add a group member or replace that group member in the project. Students can rewrite the performance for the remaining group member(s) and still compete. This may result in a Group Performance with only one group member. This entry would still need to compete in the Group Performance category.

Topical Prize/Special Award Nominations
In order to accommodate different use of spaces and time at State History Day, Topical Prize judging will again take place virtually. Students that apply for these prizes must nominate their entry and submit **full copies of their projects** via Google Form by the registration deadline. Please remind students of this deadline and monetary prize opportunity. Prize winners will be announced at the Pre-Awards Ceremony.

Event Schedule Updates
To create a more celebratory atmosphere and positive judging experience for students, we are implementing several general event schedule changes for this year. More information is available in the State Student Guide.

Exhibit Hall	Awards and Pre-Awards
- Exhibits will have a **20 minute** judging time slot to allow judges more time to review projects. - The Exhibit Hall will be **closed** to public viewing during judging to minimize noise and distractions. - Public viewing hours will be 8–9am and 11:30am–1:30pm. - Exhibit removal for those that do not qualify for Final-Round **will be available** from 1:30–2pm. Remaining exhibits and those that qualified for Final-Round may be removed after Final-Round judging is complete, approximately 4:30pm. - Exhibit setup will only be allowed from 8–9am and during a judging break from 10–10:30 am.	- The **Pre-Awards Ceremony** will include Topical Prizes, Teacher Awards, and other recognition outside of contest results. This will now take place from **12:30–1:30pm** in the Auditorium. We will not announce First-Round results at Pre-Awards but will coincide the ending of the Pre-Awards Ceremony with the announcement of Final-Round entries in **Exhibit, Documentary, Performance, and Website** categories. - The **Awards Ceremony** will include category results and not being until at least 5:30pm in the Auditorium, pending the ending of Final-Round judging. - Due to space restrictions, we ask that you do NOT bring Exhibits or Performance props to either ceremony.