

**Office of Communications and Public Affairs  
American Psychiatric Association  
161st Annual Meeting  
Washington, D.C.  
May 3-8, 2008**

**Registration Guidelines and Press Policies for Working Press**

The American Psychiatric Association (APA) Annual Meeting Communications Center/Press Room serves as a media briefing room and a working press room for credentialed members of the media and credentialed non-profit organization public relations staff. The Center is managed and staffed by the APA Office of Communications and Public Affairs (OCPA). The location will be Room 206, Level 2 of the Washington Convention Center.

The Press Room offers Annual Meeting media registrants a location to arrange interviews, prepare copy, make telephone calls, and check email between sessions. Computers, internet access, and telephones are provided. APA news releases, event notices, meeting highlights and other information about psychiatry and mental illnesses are available in the press room. A schedule of press briefings will be posted daily in the press room.

**Press Room Hours of operation are:**

Saturday, May 3, 11:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Sunday-Wednesday, May 4-7, 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Thursday, May 8, 8:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

(all hours are Eastern Standard Time)

Members of the press are strongly encouraged to pre-register at <http://www.psych.org/MainMenu/Newsroom/OnlinePressRoom.aspx>. **Deadline for early registration is April 25, 2008.** Those who have not pre-registered may register onsite in the press room during scheduled press room hours and must provide documentation of their status in the form of a business card, publication masthead and statement of credentials on letterhead. **Press credentials will be required for registration.**

To pick up a press badge, each press registrant must provide **photo identification** issued by federal, state, or local government. Each registrant must pick up his or her own press badge. Registrants without proper identification will not be admitted. OCPA staff reserve the right to deny press passes and access to the press room.

**Limited work space is also available in the press room for public relations representatives for non-profit organizations.** For more information on registration for public relations representatives see

<http://www.psych.org/MainMenu/Newsroom/OnlinePressRoom/PRRepGuidelines.aspx>.

**Press and non-profit organization public relations staff registration at APA annual meetings is extended to:**

- Working journalists, photo journalists, videographers, producers, Web-based media, writers of the general, mental health and medical press, and news staff from journals.
- Journalism educators and students who are covering the meeting as part of their training in science/medical journalism, by prior arrangement.
- Up to two (2) non-profit organization public relations staff persons may sign up to serve as the press liaisons for their group or organization.

**Press registration at APA annual meetings is not extended to:**

- Exhibitors
- Advertising, marketing, or publishing staff
- Communications/public relations staff persons from a for-profit company or a public relations firm representing a group, organization, or company.
- Administrative personnel
- Organizations that primarily produce live, audio, or audiovisual continuing education resources.
- Non-news editorial staff of publications
- Non-news APA staff
- People who have successfully registered at previous meetings, without re-credentialing

**All press registrants must observe the following guidelines:**

- Information presented at the Annual Meeting is the responsibility of the presenting authors and is not intended to represent the views, policies or positions of the APA. Any press representative that has been hired or invited to cover an event not listed in the Annual Meeting program should not report its proceedings as happening in association with or as having any relationship to APA.
- Sessions are embargoed until local **DATE AND TIME** of presentation.
- Camera crews are not allowed in the convention center unless they are accompanied by an authorized member of the APA communications staff. All camera crews must report to the press room to obtain credentials prior to covering any event.
- Credentialed press may audio/videotape/photograph except when patient confidentiality might be compromised or a presenter specifically requests that no audio/videotaping/photography by the press be permitted.
- Credentialed press may attend scientific sessions (except those limited to APA members) as observers, not participants. Interaction with presenters and/or other attendees is permitted before and after the session.

Credentialed press who fail to comply with these guidelines will forfeit their press credentials and admittance to this Annual Meeting and possibly future APA meetings. APA reserves the right to deny or terminate press privileges to credentialed press or non-profit public relations staff at any time prior to or during the meeting.

For more information, please contact APA OCPA staff at: [press@psych.org](mailto:press@psych.org) or 703-907-8640.