



You're Invited to the

2022 ACJA-LAE NATIONAL CONFERENCE

in Kansas City, Missouri

Announcing the 2022 ACJA-LAE National Conference

We're thrilled to invite our members to the heart of the Midwest: Kansas City, Missouri. Please join us for the annual ACJA-LAE National Conference from March 20 to 24, 2022 in KCMO.

[SAVE THE DATE](#)

MARCH 20-24
2022

- **Theme:** Current Issues in Criminal Justice & Policing
- **Location:** Kansas City, Missouri
- **Registration:** Pre-Registration will open on November 15th. Member pre-registration will be \$200. Keep an eye on our website for further details and registration.
- **Updates:** We're always striving to improve the conference experience and foster valuable opportunities for professional development. Today we're announcing several important updates relating to the conference, including a new academic research poster event, an increased portfolio of new academic tests, and our commitment to safety and fairness. Please view the full details below. Please send any conference questions, suggestions, or feedback to President@acjalae.org.

Hotel Information

- **Venue:** Embassy Suites by Hilton – Kansas City International Airport
- **Address:** 7640 NW Tiffany Springs Pkwy, Kansas City, MO 64153 **Phone:** (816) 891-7788
- **Room Rate:** \$139.00/night (taxes and fees included) – must be booked by February 26, 2022 for group discount rate.
- **Booking Link:** <https://www.hilton.com/en/book/reservation/deeplink/?ctyhocn=MKCPDES&groupCode=CESACJ&arrivaldate=2022-03-20&departuredate=2022-03-25&cid=OM,WW,HILTONLINK,EN,DirectLink&fromId=HILTONLINKDIRECT>

Pre-Registration Will Open on November 15, 2021

- Be on the lookout: Pre-Registration will open on November 15th and will close February 26th, 2022. This year, it's easier than ever to register: we'll be accepting both online and mailed payments. Paper and online registration will be available on [ACJALAE.org](https://www.acjalae.org).
 - Member Pre-Registration | \$200 Guest Pre-Registration | \$150
 - Member On-Site Registration | \$250 Guest On-Site Registration | \$175

Health & Safety

- The American Criminal Justice Association is committed to upholding the highest health and safety standards to protect our members and our community. ACJA is closely monitoring the CDC's guidance regarding COVID-19 protective measures. We will take every reasonable protective measure to safeguard the health and safety of our conference attendees and guests.



Introducing Two New Academic Subjects

Piloting Two New Academic Subjects in 2022

- ACJA-LAE strives to be at the forefront of criminal justice training and education—and that means expanding our horizons as the field of criminal justice progresses. We are excited to announce two new academic exam subjects: **Homeland & National Security** and **Forensic Psychology**.
- As a direct result of member feedback, we are piloting these new subjects at this upcoming conference. This allows us to try something new based on member feedback without making it permanent right away. We'll continue to seek member input on these and future pilots.
- These exams, like all the academic exams, are entirely optional and are available for all participations at no additional cost.
- Additional time will be made available to complete the academic exams.
- These will not count towards Sweepstakes or Top Academic in 2022 since this is a pilot/trial run.

New Academic Research Poster Event

An Opportunity to Conduct Unique Research and Present Your Findings

- We are enthusiastic to announce the addition of an **Academic Research Poster Event** to our portfolio of professional development opportunities at the National Conference.
- This event offers an unprecedented opportunity to conduct research in an area of interest and publish your findings. Posters will be **on display at the Career Fair**, offering a superb chance to network with employers, professionals, and members with shared interests.
- Posters will be judged in-person by a panel of external professionals from various agencies, departments, and organizations present at the Career Fair.
- This event will not count towards Sweepstakes or Top Academic.
- Further details regarding the Academic Research Poster Event, including the rubric and submission guidelines, will be available on our website shortly. This is a new pilot event for 2022.

Safety First

Affirming Our Firearms Safety Standards

- Safety is of the utmost importance. There's no question: **safety is the top priority** in all aspects of our conference, especially when firearms are considered. We have a successful track record and continue to affirm the safety standards that have been outlined in the National Competition Standards. There are **no changes** to the firearms events, course of fire, trophies, or standards.
- **The National Competition Standards, since at least 2008, has required that all firearms competitors pass a basic firearms course prior to the conference.** Historically, this has been inconsistently interpreted and enforced, so we've clarified our expectation in the broadest possible sense—mindful of the availability of firearms safety courses across the states:
- **All participants** in the Firearms competition must have completed **a nationally or state-recognized firearms safety course and/or carry a state firearms license or permit.**
- We will follow-up early and often to ensure all competitors planning to compete in the firearms event are aware of the safety prerequisite. Again, this is not a new rule: but we are clarifying so it can be consistently interpreted and enforced. We want everyone to have a fair experience and know exactly what's expected when it comes to firearms safety.



Fairness and Equal Opportunity

Update on Sweepstakes

- Fairness and equality are paramount to our competitive events. In reviewing our competition standards ahead of the conference, the Board identified an opportunity to improve fairness.
- Many members who attend the conference are simply not able or eligible to carry a handgun, travel across state lines, and compete in the firearms event. Members of certain ages and geographies are disproportionately restricted by the various gun laws across the fifty states.
- Therefore, the Board—in majority—found it most sensible to comprise the Sweepstakes of the competitions in which everyone is equally eligible to compete: academic testing, crime scene, and physical agility.
- This decision was based solely on equality and fairness, giving every chapter a level playing field for the Sweepstakes.

Update on Military & Veteran Competitor Level

- The Board removed an outdated policy which mandated that any current or former military serviceman/servicewoman are required to compete at the Professional level in all competitions, even if they are an undergraduate student with no work experience in the criminal justice field. On the basis of fairness and inclusion – to avoid putting our veteran students at an unfair disadvantage – the Board removed this stipulation. Military students and veterans are free to register with the level that corresponds with their academic standing (Upper/Lower) if they do not otherwise classify as a Professional member.

Questions & Feedback

Please let us know how we're doing – member feedback is vital to our collective success. Please address questions and feedback to President@acjalae.org. Please continue to monitor ACJALAE.org for additional updates, registration forms, speakers, and additional resources. Thank you!