



On behalf of the members of the Obesity Week Board of Managers and the Councils of the American Society for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery (ASMBS) and The Obesity Week (TOS), researchers, physicians and other healthcare professionals from around the world are invited to attend Obesity Week 2013. This meeting will be held at the Georgia World Congress Center in Atlanta, Georgia, USA.

Name and Title of Person Planning to Attend Obesity Week 2013:

Obesity Week 2013 is the inaugural event co-locating the Annual Meetings of ASMBS and TOS; we look forward to hosting the pre-eminent meeting focused on obesity. The agenda will feature scientific and educational session topics and presentations that will provide the latest information and resources in obesity to international scientists, clinicians, physicians, surgeons, policymakers, and others looking to learn more about the advances in the prevention, treatment, causes, and health consequences of obesity. The conference will include scientific and educational sessions, key lectures, pre-conference Continuing Education courses, policy and public health discussions, and abstract presentations.

Foreign nationals from some countries must obtain a temporary travel visa (B-1) in order to attend this meeting. This is normally done through the US Embassy or Consulate in their host country. Meeting attendees should visit the US Department of State Business Visa Center at http://travel.state.gov/visa/temp/types/types_2664.html for detailed instructions on visa application procedures. To assist foreign visitors in obtaining visas, The Obesity Society has registered this conference with the Department of State. A copy of this letter, along with copies of meeting registration and hotel reservation confirmations will help to speed up the visa application and approval process.

Travel visa applicants are encouraged to apply as early as possible. The Department of State recommends applying at least 3 months before the meeting. Some consulates may have backlogs in scheduling visa interviews, so applicants should first contact the consulate to find out how long the wait is for an interview. Contact the appropriate Consular section at the Embassy or Consulate at <http://www.usembassy.gov/> for answers to questions about procedures for scheduling interview appointments, required fees, and more.

In addition to obtaining travel visas, all foreign attendees are fully responsible for the costs of meeting registration, travel, lodging, and related expenses associated with attending this meeting.

Sincerely,

Gary Foster, PhD
Chair, Obesity Week

Philip Schauer, MD
Co-Chair, Obesity Week