

# // CHICAGO MEANS BUSINESS

With nearly 10 million residents in the city and its surrounding suburbs, the area offers a built-in attendance base for every industry and specialty. Its well-educated population provides you with forward-thinking attendees and delegates, and Chicago's diversity means it's a no-brainer for foreign-based companies. All of this means when it comes to hosting your event in Chicago, attendees will be ready and eager to engage.

## // SETTING THE CURVE

Chicago plays second to no city when it comes to intellectual capital. Two of the world's top business schools, more than 60 colleges and universities, 95 Nobel Prize winners, and more than 250 corporate research and development facilities boast a Chicago home and are reflected in the city's skilled and diversified workforce. This demonstrates the city's vibrancy and forward-thinking, especially significant for international conferences that draw on foreign audiences.

● The city is an intellectual capital.

## // BUILT-IN ATTENDANCE BASE

Chicago's built-in attendance base is beyond compare. While other cities can boast of thick population numbers, only Chicago offers such a breadth of industries – all within close proximity.

Drawing on a rich collection of mature and emerging industries, Chicago is indeed an essential industry hub. **Manufacturing, finance, transportation, healthcare, biotech, and green energy** – these and dozens of other industries are thriving in and around Chicago.

The healthcare and life science fields, for instance, employ more than 317,000

professionals in every conceivable specialty. And with 47 teaching hospitals, six medical schools, and more than 5,000 medical and dental residents, every healthcare-related conference will benefit from this sizable industry presence.

Plus, no fewer than 30 ethnic groups are represented here, and the city's 28 international sister-cities demonstrate Chicago's commitment to cooperation. As a result, 1,500 foreign-based companies have operations in Chicago, attracting more than \$40 billion in direct foreign investment. 🇺🇸

## // 2009 Employment BY INDUSTRY



● Chicago provides industries with built-in attendance.

