

The
INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE for **NOV 15-20**
HIGH PERFORMANCE COMPUTING
CHICAGO, IL NETWORKING, STORAGE, & ANALYSIS

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SCC and SCC Connect Final Approach

30 October 2026

Abhinav Thota (SCC Chair)

Steve Leak (SCC Connect Chair)

- What to know before you go
- When you get to Chicago
- Competition schedule and review
- FUN stuff
- Q&A

- Reach out to your **liaisons**
 - For changes in your travel plans
 - Make sure you've shared your shipping information with them
- If you're not yet in the **Google Group** make sure you're getting on there now!
 - You will soon receive invitations to the **Students@SC Slack space** too, this will be for real-time, at-the-conference communications

When you get to Chicago

Teams travelling **internationally** arrive **Friday, 13 November**

Teams travelling **domestically** arrive **Saturday, 14 November**

All teams and advisors will be staying at either

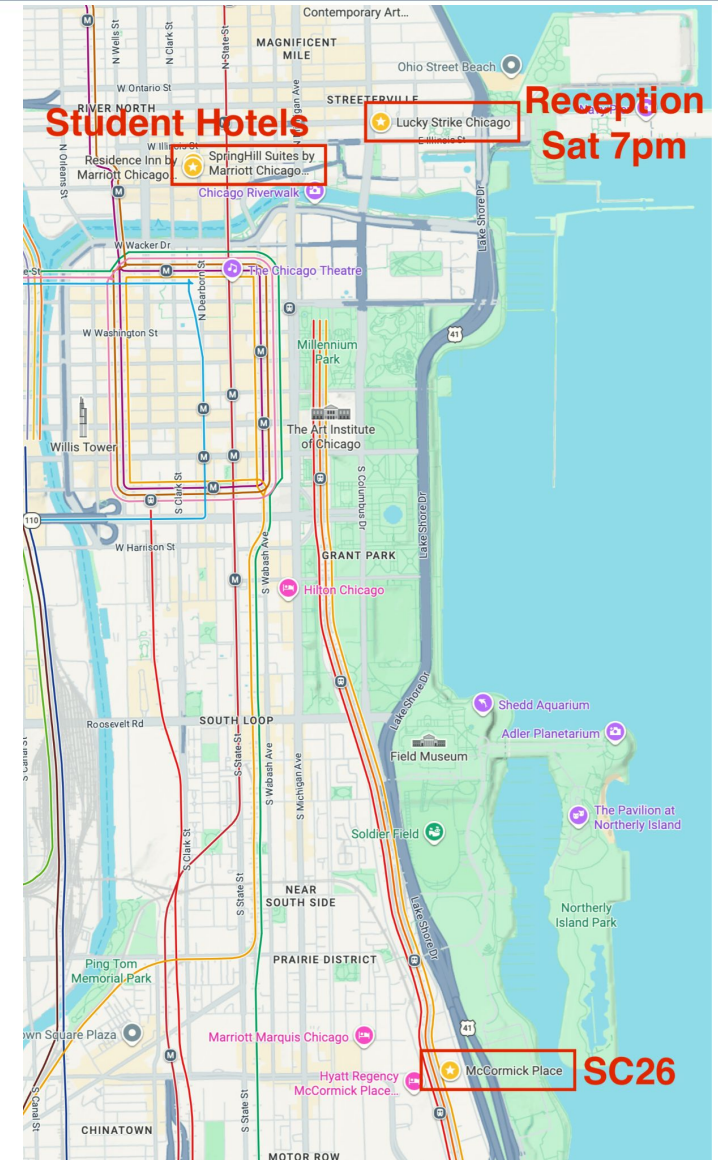
SpringHill Suites by Marriott Chicago Downtown/River North or
Residence Inn by Marriott Chicago Downtown/River North

They are both at the same address:

410 North Dearborn Street, Chicago, Illinois, USA, 60654

Teams should be prechecked in the hotels - **you will be responsible for incidentals!**

Buses between student hotels and CC will run overnight Sat-Wed
Don't take the train at night



We'll first meet on **Saturday, 14 November** at the **SCC Orientation and Safety Briefing**

- **2:00pm-3:00pm, Room W183A** in the MPCC
- This is a mandatory event - all team members need to be present
 - Teams will need to be briefed separately if they miss the orientation
- We'll walk to the SCC Area (around **booth #1800**) (your new home) after
- There will also be a mandatory **Students@SC orientation and reception!**
- The reception will be at the Lucky Strike 
 - 322 E Illinois St, Chicago, IL 60611

Finding room W183A



- The SCC and SCC Connect areas are right off the main entrances to the show floor, one on each side
- It's prime placement, expect a good number of visitors to stop by
- Do your best to keep your areas presentable

It's been posted - but let's take a speed tour

Sunday

- Teams can continue building clusters
- SCC pictures – WEAR YOUR VESTS

Monday

- Benchmark your clusters!
- Dinner and the gala
- Kickoff and Mystery App reveal

Tuesday

- Competition continues

Wednesday

- App Interviews
- Competition ends!!!!

Thursday

- SCC and SCC Connect Lunch
- Wrap up
- Awards
- Tear down
- Tech Program Reception

We'll have daily mandatory standups - each team should have at least one member present

SCC Committee file server

- **Data sets** will be provided to you
- Directories will be set up for **team submissions**

Power monitoring

- We'll have the **sirens** 
- And we'll also have the **dashboard**

Need help?

- There will be committee members available at the booth
- Security will be available (more to come)

Review the rules!

Penalties

- Power limit
- Noise exposure limits
- Not attending mandatory events
- Booths not staffed and advisor/external help
- Actions meriting disqualification (make sure you review the Code of Conduct)

Scored components

- Posters
- Benchmarks - HPL, HPL-MxP, MLPerf
- CORE
- Apps
 - WRF
 - MFC
 - Mystery Application

24-hour access will be available Monday and Tuesday night

Overnight snacks available, but **make sure you get real meals!**

- SCC Connect is **fully virtual**, but some teams will be onsite in booths in the Exhibits Hall (near SCC booths)
- Orientation **3pm CST Saturday** (9pm UTC) in room W183a and on Zoom
 - Same room as SCC
 - Zoom link will be posted in Google Group
 - Mandatory for onsite teams, highly recommended for all teams
 - If you will arrive onsite too late, let your committee/team liaison know, we will cover safety aspects with you when you arrive
- Students@SC Orientation **5pm CST Saturday**, room W183a
 - Mandatory for onsite teams
- Students@SC Reception **7-9pm CST Saturday**, Lucky Strike
 - Mandatory for onsite teams
 - Buses to Reception depart CC at **6:15pm**
- We will have a place to stash luggage if you need to come directly to CC from airport

- SCC Connect Benchmarks are due **before** SC26 (Nov 1), so your Sunday and Monday are mostly-free days:
 - **Sunday: in-person teams must be at W183a at 3pm**, with your SCC Connect Vests, for photos
 - Monday:
 - in-person teams must be **at your booths by 6pm** ready for the opening gala and competition start at 7pm
 - remote teams must be **in the Zoom room by 6:30pm CST** (12:30am UTC) ready for competition start (Link will be posted in Google Group)
- Full schedule is posted in the Google Group
- You have (virtual or in-person) Tech Program including Workshops - Workshops are on Sunday and Monday, take advantage of them!
 - Consider scheduling some time Tuesday-Friday to join conference sessions, explore Exhibits, etc
 - In person: Job fair, Tech reception and vendor parties too!

- Add CST (UTC-6, Chicago time) to your world clock!
 - SCC Connect is fully virtual, but we will use CST when talking about time
- Onsite teams: You have 24-hour access to your Booth in the Exhibits Hall.
 - Buses will shuttle between McCormick Place and the Students@SC hotel through the night on Monday and Tuesday nights (about 45-minute intervals)
 - Self-funded teams should plan and budget for transport between your hotel and McCormick Place (eg, Uber). Don't take the train late at night.
- Remote teams: Plan for timezone challenges! App experts and committee will be more responsive during Chicago daytime hours, questions after 9pm CST may not be seen until the next morning
- All teams: we will have a daily check-in at 9am CST on Tuesday and Wednesday, in-person and on Zoom. At least 1 person from each team must attend

- SCC Connect Zoom will start on the Monday afternoon, and run through to the competition end
 - Link will be posted in Google Group
- Onsite teams: same considerations as SCC
 - We are in a prominent position so keep your booth staffed and presentable during Exhibit Hall hours
- Your NVidia LaunchPad instance will run until Nov 30
 - Same instance for competition as you are using for preparation and practice, no (planned) interruptions to it
 - We may temporarily block access at the competition close while we collect your results, but you will have access again shortly afterwards. So you have time after the competition to retry tasks, backup results, etc

Plan ahead

- Workshops, tutorials and tech program sessions you will want to attend
- The JOB FAIR!!
- Talk with your teammates now!

Conference Receptions

- Students@SC reception at the Lucky Strike
- Tech program reception at Griffin Museum of Science and Industry

Chicago

- See the Willis Tower, eat some pizza, check out the “Bean” (Cloud Gate)

Meet the other teams

- Chat with the other students – both SCC and SCC Connect teams!

Any Questions?