

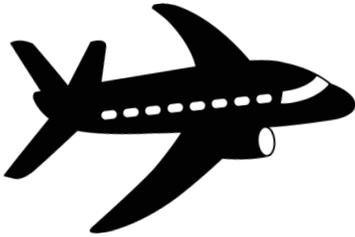
PLANNING FOR YOUR TRIP

All Gold Medalists and family/guests are responsible for their own transportation, accommodations, and tours. June is one of the busiest tourist seasons in Washington, D.C. and prices reflect that. Please plan accordingly.

GETTING TO DC

By Plane:

Major airports in DC area:



- Washington Reagan National Airport/DC
(<http://mwaa.com/reagan/reagan.htm>)

- Dulles International Airport/IAD
(<http://www.metwashairports.com/dulles/dulles.htm>)

- Baltimore-Washington International Airport/BWI
(<http://www.bwiairport.com>)

Services from the Airport:

Average cab fare for a family of four:

- \$ 18 from Reagan National
- \$ 70 from Dulles
- \$ 90 from BWI

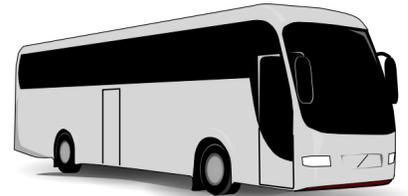
Bus/Shuttle Services:

- Airport shuttles (www.supershuttle.com)
- Check out airport websites for details on shuttle services

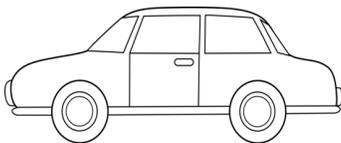
If you have the Uber or Lyft application on your phone, these are also two means of transportation to consider. Prices vary based on time and distance.

By Bus:

Greyhound buses service DC (<http://www.greyhound.com>). The bus terminal is located at 1005 1st Street, NE. The nearest Metro station is Union Station on the Red line.



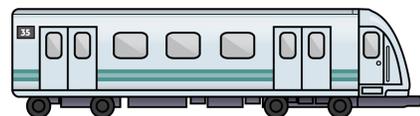
By Car:



The closest place to park near the Capitol is Union Station. Although we do not recommend driving, parking here would be your best bet. Capitol Hill is 4-5 blocks from Union Station, so you can take a taxi or the Metro to the event. (<http://www.unionstationdc.com>).

By Train:

Amtrak trains arrive and depart from Union Station. From here, you are just four blocks from the Capitol Building. The Metro Red line also runs through Union Station so you can easily get around the city. From the Capitol South Metro Station, off the Blue/Orange/Silver lines, you are just three blocks from the U.S. Capitol. (www.unionstationdc.com or www.amtrak.com).



TRANSPORTATION WHILE IN DC

METRO

The Metro is the best and most convenient way to travel around DC. It is easy to navigate, safe, and clean. The average fare per person to take the Metro is about \$3.00; this is subject to change depending on the time of day and length of the ride.



If you and your guests are planning to explore the city by Metro, you will need to buy a SmarTrip card. This is a permanent, rechargeable fare card that offers discounts for riders, and is the only fare method available. There is an initial \$2 charge for the card, but it can be registered online in case of loss or theft, and is easily reloadable. You can buy a SmarTrip card in advance online (wmata.com), or from select CVS or Giant Food stores as well as Metro stations once you arrive in DC. If you buy a SmarTrip card online, please be sure to factor in at least 7 days for shipping. There are also unlimited ride passes available for purchase (see website for details).

For more information on the SmarTrip card, please visit www.wmata.com/fares/smartrip/

For more information about the Metro, please visit www.wmata.com.



CIRCULATOR

The Circulator bus system is another great way to get around the city. It hits all of the big areas: Georgetown (which does not have a Metro stop), Dupont Circle, and the Smithsonians. The Circulator also accepts SmarTrip Cards. For more information please go to www.dccirculator.com.

ACCOMMODATIONS

We do **NOT** make reservations for Medalists traveling to DC for the ceremony. We have listed some accommodations below. However, these are just options that are close or affordable. We recommend visiting travel discount sites like kayak.com, priceline.com and expedia.com. Please note that Washington, DC is a tourist destination and the prices will reflect that. The closest hotels to the Capitol are:

The Phoenix Park Hotel
520 North Capitol Street, NW
202-638-6900
(6-7 blocks from the Capitol)

The Washington Court Hotel
525 New Jersey Ave., NW
202-628-2100
(5-8 blocks from the Capitol)

The Holiday Inn Capitol
550 C Street, SW
1-800-315-2621
(5-6 blocks from the Capitol)

The Marriot Resident Inn
333 E Street, SW
202-484-8280
(3-4 blocks from the Capitol)

*Note that the above hotels may be expensive due to their proximity to the Capitol. Here are some options that are farther away but may be a little more affordable.

Travelodge Silver Spring
8040 13th Street
Silver Spring, MD
301-495-0808
Metro: Red Line

Holiday Inn Rosslyn at Key Bridge
1900 North Fort Myer Drive
Arlington, VA
703-807-2000
Metro: Blue & Orange Lines

Inns of Virginia-Falls Church
421 West Broad Street
Falls Church, VA
703-533-1100
Metro: Orange Line

Quality Inn & Suites
7200 Baltimore Ave
College Park, MD
301-276-1000
Metro: Green Line

WEBSITES TO CHECK OUT

www.congressionalaward.org/2017gold | Stay up to speed with event information and updates.

www.congress.org | Contact your Representative or Senator before arriving in DC if you could like a private tour of the Capitol or a group tour of the White House.

www.wmata.com | Washington Metropolitan Transit Authority's site can help you navigate the city.

www.yelp.com | YELP will help you find awesome places to eat and things to do in DC.

www.tripadvisor.com | Trip Advisor is a good resource for planning itineraries in and around the city.

EVENT INFORMATION

Photography

No flash photography is allowed during the ceremony. A photograph of each participant will be taken as they receive their medal and will be sent free of charge to the participant. All other guests are to remain seated during the duration of the ceremony. Additional photos will be available to purchase.



Attire

The Gold Medal Ceremony is a business formal event and we encourage conservative clothing choices. Business attire should be worn by all participants (coat and tie for men, business suit/dress for women). Formal gowns or prom dresses, however, will not be appropriate. We ask that the participants do not wear flip flops or tennis shoes for the Ceremony. Considering you will be walking during the ceremony, young ladies should keep a conservative heel height.

Hydration and Humidity

Washington, DC can have temperatures of 90°F and higher, with high humidity, in the month of June. Although we will only be outside for a short while, you should consider bringing a bottle of water. Take a look At www.weather.com for updated local weather information.

