

IAVM Senior Executive Symposium: Frequently Asked Questions

1. Do I need to start with a particular year? Do I need to complete the program within three years?

No, you may start the program at any point, as the program does not need to be taken sequentially.

Since the program cycles through three years, most find it easiest to attend three consecutive years, but if you are unable to attend a particular year, you may take that year the next time it is offered. (e.g. if you attended “Strategic Planning for Leaders” in 2013 and “Visionary Management for Leaders” in 2015, you can then graduate by completing “Leadership Culture For The Future” in 2017.)

2. Who should take this program?

This program is recommended for anyone who works in the venue industry, manages multiple departments, and is interested in expanding and improving their leadership skills at one of the [preeminent hospitality schools in the world](#).

3. Does Senior Executive Symposium attendance count towards Certified Venue Professional (CVP) or Certified Facilities Executive (CFE) certification?

Yes, Senior Executive Symposium attendance can be included as continuing education for either Certified Venue Professional (CVP) or Certified Facilities Executive (CFE) certification. Please refer to the [CVP](#) or [CFE](#) websites for specifics.

4. Are there scholarships for the Senior Executive Symposium?

Currently, there are no scholarships available.

5. What is the best airport to fly into?

Ithaca Tompkins Regional Airport is the closest airport and offers service via American, Delta, and United. Also, the Statler Hotel offers complimentary transportation to/from the Ithaca airport.

Syracuse Hancock International Airport is about one hour away, but offers a wider array of nonstop flights and additional airlines, including Air Canada and JetBlue. Attendees will be responsible for arranging their own transfer from Syracuse to Ithaca through one of the various available options.

More details are available on the [SES Travel page](#).

6. Are there exams?

No, there are no exams.

7. What are the benefits of attending?

Beyond the Ivy League education and setting, the ability to network with others in the industry in similar positions is listed as one of the top reasons as to the success of the program.

8. How are the instructors and course content chosen?

The SES curriculum is developed for IAVM by Cornell's world-class School of Hotel Administration and is geared towards senior managers. Instructors are recommended by the School, with input and feedback from the Board of Governors.

9. What is the roll of the Board of the Governors?

The Board of Governors is the group of IAVM members who have attended the program and work with IAVM management to market and plan the annual Senior Executive Symposium (SES). The Board of Governors meets regularly via conference call and has face-to-face meetings at VenueConnect and SES. Members of the BOG are expected to register for and attend the SES program.

If you are interested in volunteering to be a member of the Board of Governors, please see the [IAVM Volunteer Opportunities page](#).