

Checklist for Your Next Corporate Event

When planning a corporate event there are many decisions to be made and items to keep track of - all while trying to stay on budget. Use this checklist to help you stay organized.

Read the full blog here!

6-12 MONTHS BEFORE EVENT	
 Create An Event Budget Include all costs such as venue, AV, travel, F&B, supplies, marketing, etc. and revenue from ticket sales, sponsorships, etc. 	 Establish Revenue Stream Pricing (Ticket Sales/Sponsorships) Pick a Location & Contract an Event Venue Secure Hotel Room Block (if needed)
4-6 MONTHS BEFORE EVENT	
 Create your event website and registration page Include date, location, registration information, hotel information, agenda, speakers, sponsors, and contact information 	 Get a finalized event agenda (or finalize event structure and timing) Secure speakers and start coordinating their travel arrangements
 Start promoting your event & selling registrations Create a spreadsheet to track sales each week 	Start researching any outside vendors or service providers needed and get quotes
2-4 MONTHS BEFORE EVENT	
 Finalize and book any outside vendors Create exhibitor kits for exhibitors/sponsors with deliverable deadlines Create a spreadsheet and track received exhibitor deliverables (logos, company descriptions, registrations booth needs) 	 Request rooming lists and pick up reports from the hotel to track room block pickup Determine attendee flow for venue and start thinking about signage needs, brandings
1-2 MONTHS BEFORE EVENT	
□ Finalize your staffing needs	Request and proof artwork needed for any signage,

- $\hfill\square$ Send any staff and speaker reservations to the hotel
- □ Request a room audit from the hotel
 - □ This helps you keep track of any attrition
- □ Book travel (if any)
 - Flight pricing is typically lowest six weeks out
- Request and proof artwork needed for any signage, badges, onsite branding
- D Put together an onsite program (if applicable)
- Put together final meeting specifications for BEOs and send to the hotel
 - □ Include final menu choices, audiovisual needs, room setups

1 MONTH BEFORE EVENT

- Send hotel confirmations to staff, speakers
- Request hotel to run a room audit against your attendee list before the cutoff date
 - Make sure you are getting credit for all rooms booked for your event
- Order any signage, branded items to be delivered to the venue
- Finalize details with vendors (if applicable)
- Build out mobile app and share with attendees Make available before the event if possible
- □ Create an onsite guide for staff (remember, they don't know as much about everything happening during the event like you do)
- □ Include responsibilities, timing, FAQ attendees might have

1 WEEK BEFORE EVENT

- Schedule internal pre-conference meetings with onsite staff and stakeholders
- □ Make sure everyone knows their roles, answer any questions, let them know where to meet and when
- Review BEOs, adjust any food and beverage numbers, list any dietary restrictions, make sure all information and timing is accurate
- Send attendees a pre-event email reminding them about the event

ONGOING

- Be mindful of upcoming deadlines (room block cutoff, final menu selections, early bird registration deadline, etc.)
- Communicate with the venue, vendors, internal stakeholders, exhibitors, and attendees

- Pack and ship event supplies
- Create a post-event evaluation
- Print badges (if not printing on demand or ordering)
- □ Make sure you have all phone numbers and contact information in one place for staff, vendors, hotel, etc.
- Send venue tracking information of all boxes being shipped
- Track and report metrics
 - Registration trends
 - Revenue (exhibitor/attendee)
 - App downloads
- □ Manage, update, and track budget

POST-EVENT

- Collect Feedback
- Collect post attendee survey data
- Collect feedback from internal stakeholders and event team
- □ Collect feedback from onsite staff
- □ Collect feedback from vendors
- □ Collect feedback from sponsors
- □ Schedule post mortem with the event team
- Discuss best practices, any issues that arose, things that worked well, and things that could use improvement
- □ Share post-event feedback collected
- □ Schedule post mortem with Venue (optional)
- □ Share resources with attendees
- Send post-event email with how to access presentations and other resources
- Include next year's dates if possible
- Update Event Website with next year's information

- Finalize Budget Reconcile Event Financials
- □ Review final hotel bill for accuracy
- Review final invoices from vendors
- □ Make any outstanding final payments
- Record all final costs against estimated costs for budget
- Record any rebates/commissions from hotel against expenses
- Analyze Event Data
- □ The final number of registered attendees v. who attended the event
- Final room block pick up
- □ Final F&B numbers (did you need to order more food/ was there too much?)
- Number of app downloads/presentation downloads/ survey responses
- □ Make sure packages shipped from the venue make it back