

## **A note on the rationale of conference registration pricing for ACCUTE 2026**

Due to the exceptional fact that this year's ACCUTE conference is not part of Congress, ACCUTE has had to take over the task of determining and processing conference registration fees.

### **Registration Platform**

This has entailed exploring multiple registration platforms and selecting the one we feel will be most beneficial in terms of its technical affordances and related costs. We have opted to use the *Zeffy* registration system which is offered free (with prompts for *optional* fee payments by users) to non-profit organizations such as ACCUTE. The savings we will make in using this platform has allowed us to keep registration fees lower than they would have had to be otherwise and will allow us to direct more funding support to graduate student participants once the conference has ended.

### **Fees: Criteria and Principles**

We have also had to determine the early and late registration fee amounts for different member registration categories. Our guiding criteria and principles in deciding on this year's fees have been

1. to maintain affordability for all members as much as possible, and especially for students, underemployed, and Black and Indigenous members;
2. to ensure that we will recoup enough through registration fees to support our core conference activities, and to cover significant costs of this year's conference without jeopardizing the financial standing of the association;
3. to explain our rationale to membership so the reasoning behind the registration fees is clear to all.

### **Fees: Breakdown**

When our conference takes place in affiliation with Congress, members pay two registration fees, one to Congress (of which ACCUTE later recoups a portion that varies year to year) and another to ACCUTE. We began our work on devising this year's registration fees by identifying these two categories of costs, doing a side-by-side comparison of the three registration categories Congress uses (Early-Bird, Regular, On-site), and then determining registration fees (combining previously split Congress and ACCUTE fees into a single fee) that meet the goals of our criteria and principles described above.

We first decided to collapse the three fee categories –Early-Bird, Regular, On-Site – into two categories: Early and Late. We used what was previously the "Regular" fee as a basis for the early fee which results in an increase in overall "Early" registration fees in the Regular and Reduced member categories (by \$30 and \$45 respectively). The "Early" fee for the Special

