

The Conference that Can't be Missed

DATIA Announces 2019 National Conference in Chicago, Illinois

Washington, D.C. – **February 26, 2019**– The Drug & Alcohol Testing Industry Association (DATIA), the premier association for professionals involved in drug and alcohol testing, is gearing up for its 2019 Annual Conference and Exposition – "Building a Foundation for the Future" – being held April 10-12, 2019 at the Sheraton Grand Chicago in Chicago, IL. More than 800 attendees are expected to attend to discuss topics such as legalized marijuana, the opioid abuse crisis, and recent regulatory and legislative changes that impact the industry and employers.

Over the past decade the country has been impacted by issues due to the legalization of marijuana in over 33 states and the District of Columbia. Some of our sessions will address these issues as well as the current opioid epidemic and how they have influenced many employers' drug and alcohol testing practices. Many regulatory questions have surfaced across multiple industries as a direct result, and there are a lot of discussions surrounding changes that need to be made and how to confront these issues.

A key mission of DATIA is to provide quality education to the drug and alcohol testing industry. This mission is accomplished through numerous means, and the DATIA Annual Conference and Exposition is the single largest educational event for the industry. This year, DATIA will bring together key decision-makers in the drug and alcohol testing industry, within a carefully-crafted and insightful forum of hot-topic programs that are of the greatest interest so that participants may be best-positioned to effectively guide, ensure, and grow their industry and business interests.

One of DATIA's primary goals at the Annual Conference this year is to make sure that providers take part in educational sessions in the drug and alcohol testing process and understand the importance of maintaining a safe, drug-free workplace. These opportunities will not only help providers stand out professionally, but also ensure that they stay on top of cutting-edge information in the industry.

Last year's attendee, Angela McCloskey with Bio-Med Testing Services, Inc. mentioned that "even though I have been working in the field for 12 years and this was my first conference, I still learned a lot."

For the complete schedule, session descriptions or to register, for this year's conference and expo, visit the <u>DATIA website</u>.