

ULCC | CHLC

**UNIFORM LAW CONFERENCE OF CANADA
CONFÉRENCE POUR L'HARMONISATION DES LOIS AU CANADA**

ULCC Guide

**ULCC ATTENDANCE
AT THE
U. S. UNIFORM LAW COMMISSION
ANNUAL MEETINGS**

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ABOUT THE UNIFORM LAW COMMISSION (ULC)

The Uniform Law Commission (ULC) in the U.S. was established in 1892 to provide states with non-partisan, well-conceived and well-drafted legislation that brings clarity and stability to critical areas of state statutory law.

ULC members must be lawyers, qualified to practise law. They are practising lawyers, judges, legislators (politicians) and legislative staff and law professors, who have been appointed by state governments as well as the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Part of their role is to promote the enactment of uniform state laws in their jurisdiction.

The ULC does not have an equivalent to the ULCC's Criminal Section.

More information about the ULC and its processes can be found at <https://www.uniformlaws.org/home>

ULC PROCESSES

Drafting Committees meet throughout the year in an open process that draws on the expertise of state-appointed commissioners, legal experts, and advisors and observers. All committee drafts are posted on the ULC website for review and comment.

Draft acts are submitted for initial debate of the entire Uniform Law Commission at an annual meeting. The ULC commissioners, sitting as a Committee of the Whole, closely consider each act on a section-by-section basis. Each draft act receives a minimum of two years of consideration.

Once the ULC Committee of the Whole approves an act at an annual meeting, the final step is a vote by the states, with each state having one vote. A majority of the states present, and no fewer than 20 states, must approve an act before it is officially approved.

Upon final approval, ULC uniform acts are then submitted for consideration by the state legislatures for enactment.

The ULC has a Committee on Scope and Program, which recommends to the ULC Executive Committee what work the ULC should undertake. It assists in the planning of a project, along with defining the project scope.

INVITATION TO THE ANNUAL MEETING

ULC annual meetings are normally held in July, and the ULCC is often invited to send a representative to attend the meetings. That representative has historically been the ULCC President or Past President, or the Chair of the Advisory Committee on Program Development and Management (ACPDM).

If an invitation has not been received by late spring, the President may want to enquire with the ULC Executive Director about whether an invitation will be forthcoming.

Upon receipt of an invitation, you must complete an online registration. In the past, ULC has waived the registration fee for the ULCC representative attending the annual meeting. Once registered, you will have access to annual meeting materials.

ANNUAL MEETING MATERIALS

The ULC has developed an app that holds all annual meeting materials, including agendas, draft acts, and information about social events and local amenities. Only registered annual meeting delegates have access to the materials on the app.

ANNUAL MEETING PLENARY SESSION

The ULC President chairs the meeting and is responsible for its agenda. The annual meeting may open with an address from the President and other formalities, such as a welcome from the host state, remarks from special guests, and the acknowledgement of special achievements that have happened over the past year.

The ULCC representative is sometimes invited to address the floor, providing a general description of the ULCC, how it works, its recent notable work, and work underway.

After the opening formalities and greetings are done, the focus turns to substantive agenda items. The President will call each agenda item and invite members of the committee responsible to come to the podium. Each committee will have a Chair and a Reporter. The Reporter is usually an academic with a good deal of experience with the topic and, generally speaking, the Reporter and the Chair undertake the bulk of the work.

When a proposed Uniform Act is presented, the committee reads it through section by section. Commissioners may make comments and ask questions. All those who speak are required to provide their name and the state they represent.

ANNUAL MEETING: INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE

There may be a meeting of the ULC International Committee during the annual meeting, to which the ULCC representative would be invited. The ULCC representative may be asked to deliver a short speech, which could focus on current projects or project ideas that may be of interest to other uniform law organizations.

In addition, the ULCC representative may be invited to a lunch or dinner for international guests, at no cost.

HOW LONG YOU STAY

The ULC annual meeting may extend for a week or longer. The ULCC's Executive Committee will determine the duration of the ULCC representative's attendance, based on relevance of the agenda items, timing of speeches (if requested), and the costs associated with travel. Typically, the ULCC representative would attend two or three days of the ULC annual meeting.

RECEPTIONS AND SOCIAL EVENTS

The ULC normally organizes numerous optional social events during its annual meeting. They can be expensive.

Normally there is no cost associated with attending the opening reception, although there may be a fee for a spouse/companion to attend.

The ULCC does not reimburse for attendance at social events or spousal/companion fees.