



NEWS

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Executives say the decision

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TVB

Today's Veterinary

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San Diego was supposed to play host to the 2020 AVMA Convention.

For only the third time in history, the AVMA has canceled its annual convention due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The event had been scheduled for November 15-19, 2020, in San Diego.

The cancellation was announced by the AVMA's board of directors chair, Dr. Donlin, DVM, CAE.

“Our top priority has always been the health and safety of our community,” they wrote. “With the current COVID-19 pandemic, we believe this is the best decision for our attendees, vendors, speakers and the community. We believe it’s the right one.”

“We know that many people planned to attend the convention, and we wanted to let you know of our necessary changes to your schedule. We will be happy to refund your registration fee, and we will be happy to

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and anyone who booked a room independently should “follow up with the hotel directly.”



The AVMA also canceled the Cannabis Symposium, which had been set for Aug. 3 and 4. The National Veterinary Scholars Symposium, which would have taken place July 31 to Aug. 2 at the University of California, San Diego, was called off April 24 by the Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges.

Previous convention cancellations occurred in 1914 and 1945. The first, AVMA spokesman Michael San Filippo said, was “due to an epizootic of foot-and-mouth disease” and the second was “to comply with a war-time request from the federal government that all organizations do so to relieve transportation problems.”

According to an AVMA financial statement, the 2018 convention, held in Denver, was the organization’s third-largest moneymaker, bringing in \$4.36 million, or nearly 11% of total revenue. The biggest contributors to the AVMA’s \$40 million in 2018 revenue were **member dues**, at \$25.2 million, or 63%, and the Career Center, at \$5.7 million, or 14%.

The 2021 convention is sched

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