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To attend - To participate

To attend: To be there, to wait/spend time for something

To participate: To be active in something, to perform

- We attended the meeting, even though we said nothing.
- You will find a car-park attendant there.
- How many participants are there in the competition.
- Everyone can attend, but only a few participate.

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Why You Should Attend a Conference in Your Field

Many people think that joining an organization is enough, but to capitalize on the return on your investment you need to be engaged and **participate** in the meetings.

Medical researchers and doctors are busy, so the thought of taking a few days away from work to **participate** in a conference, convention or seminar can seem like a waste of time. However, these live meetings might be just what you need to uncover new ways to grow in your field.

The value in meetings comes from the human-to-human connections that occur. Often people cite the serendipitous “hallway conversations” that they have with other **attendees** as the most valuable parts of **attending** an event. While these are not on the agenda, or mentioned in the breakout sessions learning objectives, when two or more people begin to discuss topics on a deeper and personal level, the success of the event to those involved becomes irreplaceable.

Vocabulary

Attendance

Attendee

Participation

Attendancy

Participant