



Physical Height Systems and International Height Reference Frame PhHS-IHRF2026

7-9 April 2026

Geoid School2026

12-16 April 2026

Riyadh, Saudi Arabia



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Important Dates

- ◆ **25 Oct 2025** | Website launch, session description, call for abstracts.
- ◆ **15 Nov 2025** | Abstract submission open.
- ◆ **30 Nov 2025** | **PhHS-IHRF2026** Registration open. *(will open soon)*
- ◆ **30 Nov 2025** | Call for abstracts.
- ◆ **20 Dec 2025** | **Geoid School2026** Registration open.
- ◆ **10 Feb 2026** | Abstract submission deadline.
- ◆ **28 Feb 2026** | Draft schedule and abstract acceptance notifications.
- ◆ **15 Mar 2026** | Final scientific program for PhHS-IHRF2026.
- ◆ **30 Mar 2026** | Registration deadline.
- ◆ **7-9 Apr 2026** | **PhHS-IHRF2026.**
- ◆ **12-16 Apr 2026** | **Geoid School2026.**

Format of the meetings

The PhHS-IHRF2026 Symposium will be held from 7 to 9 March April at Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. Daily sessions are scheduled between 8:30 and 17:00 with a lunch break between 12:00 and 13:00. three days following the PhHS-IHRF2026 Symposium, the GEOID School 2026 will take place in General Authority for Survey and Geospatial Information (GEOSA), Saudi Arabia.

Participation and Registration

The meetings will take place **in person only**; All colleagues working on the topics of PhHS-IHRF2026 or related themes are invited to submit an abstract before **10 February, 2026**. Registration is open from **January to 30 March 2026**.

By registering, the participants agree that their data will be stored internally in the conference records. The data will only be used for meeting-related organisational issues. Acceptance of abstracts will be confirmed by **28 Feb, 2026**.

Registration Fees

Category	Regular	IAG Member	Student/senior
Regular	\$ 150	\$100	Free
Gala Dinner on 08 Apr 2026 <i>(optional)</i>	\$ 80 <i>Limited number of places available. Register early to ensure one!</i>		

Registration fee for PhHS-IHRF2026 includes the conference kit, morning and afternoon coffee breaks, and lunch each day. PhD, MSc and undergraduate students will be required to provide a copy of their student ID card or a confirmation letter from the Head of Department/School/University to verify their status.



Cancellation Policy

No refund is available for cancellations.

You can apply for registration through [the Registration Form](#). (will be updated with a link)

Abstract submission and paper publication

All colleagues working on the topics of PhHS-IHRF2026 or related themes are invited to **submit an abstract** before **10 February, 2026**. Abstracts received after this deadline will not be accepted and will not be included in the final programme of the conference. **Authors will be informed of the acceptance/rejection of their abstract by email by 28 February, 2026**. By submitting an abstract, the author or one of the co-authors of a joint work is required to complete the online registration before 1 March, 2026. If no registration has been received by that date for one of the authors of the abstract, it will not be included in the meeting programme. If authors know that their presentation will not be presented, they are asked to withdraw their abstract as soon as possible (by contacting PHHS-IHRF2026@geosa.gov.sa).

There is intention to have conference proceedings for the PhHS-IHRF2026 conference, in the **IAG Symposia Series**. During abstract submission, authors will be asked whether they intend to submit a full proceedings article, after the conclusion of the conference. The **IAG** Symposia Series is published Open Access. All presentations, poster and oral are eligible. All Symposia Series volumes are peer reviewed and submitted for indexing.

Submitting an abstract to the PhHS-IHRF2026 conference bears the obligation for at least one of the co-authors to register for the conference. If no registration for the conference is received, the respective abstracts will be removed from the conference scientific program.

Abstracts cannot be submitted by fax or email.

When submitting an abstract, authors are required to provide the following information:

- ◆ Title
- ◆ Author(s)
- ◆ Affiliation(s)
- ◆ Main body of the abstract (up to 500 words).
- ◆ Keywords (please include 3–5 keywords).
- ◆ Topic (select one of PhHS-IHRF2026 topics)
- ◆ Presentation preference (oral/poster)
- ◆ Intention to submit a paper to the **IAG** Symposia Series (yes/no)

The abstract can be submitted through [the abstract submission form](#), and Authors can use the [PhHS-IHRF2026 Abstract Template](#) as a guide to draft their abstracts.



Licence and copyright

The following licence and copyright agreement are valid for any abstract submitted to the PhHS-IHRF2026 Symposium:

In submitting the abstract, the authors certify that (1) they are authorised by their co-authors to submit the abstract; (2) they secure the right to reproduce any material that has already been published or copyrighted elsewhere; (3) they agree to the following license and copyright agreement:

- ◆ Copyright on any abstracts is retained by the author(s).
- ◆ Authors grant any third party the right to use the abstract freely if its original authors and citation details are identified.
- ◆ The abstract is distributed under the Creative Commons Attribution 3.0 Unported Licence.

Venue and travel information

The PhHS-IHRF 2026 Symposium and GEOID School 2026 will be held at the General Authority for Survey and Geospatial Information ([GEOSA](#)) in Riyadh.



By Air

Riyadh is served by King Khalid International Airport (RUH), which offers numerous regional and international connections operated by major airlines. The airport is located approximately 35 km north of the city centre and is well connected to Riyadh by taxi, private transfer, and the Riyadh Metro. Typical journey times to central Riyadh are about 30–40 minutes, depending on the mode of transport and traffic conditions.

From King Khalid International Airport (RUH) to Riyadh city centre

Several options are available to reach the city:

- ◆ **Taxi / ride-hailing services**

Taxis are available 24/7 at all terminals and operate with meters; the trip to central Riyadh usually takes about 30–40 minutes.

Ride-hailing services (such as Uber) are also widely available and can be booked via mobile apps.

- ◆ **Riyadh Metro**

King Khalid International Airport is connected to the city by the Riyadh Metro network. The Yellow Line (Line 4) provide direct services between the airport and key areas such as the King Abdullah Financial District (KAJD), where passengers can transfer to other lines (e.g. Blue Line/Line 1) towards the city centre.

The metro typically operates from around 06:00 AM to 12:00 AM, with trains running every few minutes and a total travel time of around 35–55 minutes to central stations, including transfer time.

Tickets can be purchased at the metro stations using ticket machines or via the official Riyadh public transport mobile application (darb). Further information on routes and fares is available on the Riyadh Public Transport Authority website (<https://www.rpt.sa/>) and related platforms.

To get to the conference venue

The PhHS-IHRF 2026 Symposium and GEOID School 2026 will be held at the General Authority for Survey and Geospatial Information (GEOSA) in Riyadh.

The symposium venue might be changed to other location. If so, the new location will be updated with the participants through PhHS-IHRF website.

The venue can be reached by Metro, Bus, taxi or ride-hailing services from anywhere in the city, the closest metro stations is [Alinma Bank](#) which lies on Blue line (line 1) of Riyadh Metro. Participants are encouraged to use taxis, ride-hailing services, or metro connections where convenient, as road traffic in Riyadh can be heavy during peak hours



Saudi Arabia is a member of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC). As such, GCC citizens do not require a visa. Colleagues from other nationalities may need an entry visa for Saudi Arabia. Please check the available options for VISA for Saudi Arabia through [KSA](#)



[Visa services platform](#) and for further queries, you can contact the nearest Saudi embassy or consulate (see <https://www.mofa.gov.sa/en/embassies/Pages/default.aspx>).

It is recommended that all guests start the visa process as early as possible to allow sufficient time for appointment scheduling and document processing. Travel and medical insurance, if required, are the sole responsibility of the participant.

Travel Award

The **IAG** provides the opportunity for young scientists from developing countries to receive a travel award for the PhHS-IHRF2026 Symposium.

Please, refer to the **IAG** website (<https://geodesy.science/iag/awards/iag-travel-award/>) for the detailed rules and procedures to apply for an IAG travel award.

Contact

<https://geosa.gov.sa/en/Pages/phhs-ihrf-2026.aspx>

Conference Coordination Team: PHHS-IHRF2026@geosa.gov.sa

Geoid school 2026

Event Details

- Date:** April 12-16, 2026
Location: General Authority for Survey and Geospatial Information (GEOSA), Saudi Arabia
Language: English.

About the School

The intensive week-long Geoid School is aimed at training students, early-career scientists, and professionals from national agencies, universities, and research institutes by providing them with the knowledge and skills necessary for computing and applying gravimetric geoids in various scientific and technical geodetic applications. Participants will gain valuable insights into the latest advancements in geoid determination and have the opportunity to establish international collaboration and interaction with experts in gravity field modelling.

Moreover, the School emphasizes the importance of interaction between the scientific community and cartographic agencies responsible for the development and modernization of national geodetic infrastructure. This collaboration ensures the



effective translation of scientific research into practical applications for the improvement of regional and local geodetic networks.

Attendees should have basic knowledge of the following topics:

Attendees should have basic knowledge of the following topics:

- ◆ Concepts of Physical Geodesy
- ◆ Concepts on gravimetric measurements
- ◆ Altimetric data concepts
- ◆ Concepts on calculation and use of Digital Elevation Models
- ◆ Concepts on Global Geopotential Models

Prior to school it is suggested to consider reading on of these books:

- ◆ Heiskanen, W.A. and Moritz, H. (1967) Physical Geodesy. W.H. Freeman and Company, San Francisco.
- ◆ Torge, W., & Müller, J. (2012). Geodesy. In Geodesy. From Gruyter.

Registration for GEOID School 2026

Thank you for your interest in participating in the GEOID School 2026 to be held in Riyadh from 12 to 16 April 2026.

Please note that the number of seats is limited (Max: 45 seats), and early registration is highly encouraged to secure your spot. Registration will officially open on **20 December 2025** through the [Registration form](#).

Additional details including course content, Lecturers and participation requirements will be provided soon.

Once all available seats are reserved, the registration process will be closed.

Be tuned, follow-up the registration process and secure your place!

Note

The registration in GEOID School is for free, meanwhile the participant is responsible for VISA, flight and accommodation costs.

