

Calendar of Events

ista@ista.org

April 7, 2026

Packaging Dynamics Professional (ISTA PDP) Certification Pre-Forum Training

Sheraton Phoenix Downtown

08:00 AM - 05:00 PM EST

This in-person event covers all six (6) courses required to obtain your ISTA Packaging Dynamics Professional (PDP) Certification. Once you complete these courses and pass the exam, you will receive your certification as an ISTA Packaging Dynamics Professional.

PDP 101: Principles of Distribution Packaging is an introduction to various topics that affect distribution package design. ?Topics include understanding the various levels of packaging, corrugated fundamentals, sustainability, and the implications of packaging decisions. ?The hazards of supply chains, transportation modes, and different commerce channels will also be discussed.

The training objectives for this course include:

*A better understanding of the roles of the different layers of packaging in distribution
An understanding of the fundamentals of corrugated and making sustainable packaging decisions*

An understanding of the importance of preshipment testing and the role ISTA plays in the development & implementation of test standards

An understanding of various commerce and supply chain channels

A better understanding of the decision-making process related to packaging design and sustainability

PDP 101 is the first of 6 courses in ISTA's Packaging Dynamics Professional (PDP) certification program.?

PDP 101 is followed by 5 additional 200-level courses:

PDP 201: Atmospheric & Compression Hazards in Transit

PDP 202: Shock & Drop Hazards in Transit

PDP 203: Vibration Hazards in Transit

PDP 204: Test Laboratory Operations & Instrumentation

PDP 205: Test Procedures & Enhanced Simulation Testing

PDP 201 through 205 build on what is learned in PDP 101 to examine the hazards packages experience in our global distribution environment. ? The morning session will focus on packaging design, optimization and testing challenges associated with atmospheric, compression, shock, drop & vibration hazards in transit. ? The afternoon session will examine the importance & process of using test procedures in the lab to simulate shipping hazards in the environment. ? PDP coursework will emphasize techniques to get accurate & reliable data using test instrumentation. ?Finally, trainees will learn about the latest technology in test planning & reporting. PDP 201 through 205 are the continuation of ISTA's Packaging Dynamics Professional (PDP) certification program.?

In order to receive ISTA's Packaging Dynamics Professional (PDP) Certification, trainees must participate in all six (6) PDP trainings on April 07, 2026 as well as take and pass the exams for all six (6) of these courses. ?

Instructor:

Larry Dull, ISTA Lead Instructor

Rates to attend:

With Forum Registration:

ISTA Member Discounted Rate: \$1050

Non-Member Rate: \$1650

Student Rate: \$950 (Students may register for PDP 101 on for \$75)

Without Forum Registration:

ISTA Member Discounted Rate: \$1350

Non-Member Rate: \$1950

Student Rate: \$1,200 (Students may register for PDP 101 on for \$75)

April 7, 2026

CC 301 | User Requirement Specification (URS) to Operational Qualification (OQ) Pre-Forum T

Sheraton Phoenix Downtown

01:00 PM - 05:00 PM EST

The How of Cold Chain – Taking the fundamentals of the first class and putting it into practice

How to create a robust URS

Highlight both major and minor attributes of a URS

How to design and implement your OQ process

Highlight the design qualification tests

Execution of an OQ protocol

Documentation

Test Protocols and Reports

Temperature Recording Device Settings

Operational SOP/WIs

Staff training

How to select and implement a pre-qualified shipper

Navigating Change Control to Implement your Qualified System

Lessons Learned on Implementing a Qualified Shipping System

Case Studies

Additional fee to attend. Registration is available through the Forum registration.

Registration includes lunch and break. This course qualifies for 20 points towards ISTA PDP recertification.

This course will be instructed by industry expert and ISTA Pharma Committee Officer, Carolyn Williamson.

Schedule:

Lunch: Noon – 1:00pm

Instruction: 1:00pm – 3:00pm

Mid-afternoon break: 3:00pm – 3:30pm

Instruction: 3:30pm – 5:00pm

Rates to attend:

With Forum Registration:

ISTA Member Discounted Rate: \$450

Non-Member Rate: \$575

ISTA Member Discounted Rate | Both Introduction to BioPharma Cold Chain AND URS to OQ: \$850

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Non-Member Rate| Both Introduction to BioPharma Cold Chain AND URS to OQ: \$995

Without Forum Registration:

ISTA Member Discounted Rate: \$495

Non-Member Rate: \$625

ISTA Member Discounted Rate | Both Introduction to BioPharma Cold Chain AND URS to OQ: \$950

Non-Member Rate| Both Introduction to BioPharma Cold Chain AND URS to OQ: \$1200

April 7, 2026
- April 9, 2026

2026 ISTA Forum USA | TransPack, TempPack & Trainings

Sheraton Phoenix Downtown

April 07-09, 2026

We're thrilled to announce the 2026 ISTA Forum USA, including TransPack and TempPack events, will be held April 07-09, 2026 at the Sheraton Phoenix Downtown in Phoenix, Arizona.

CC 201 | Introduction to BioPharma Cold Chain Pre-Forum Training

Sheraton Phoenix Downtown

08:00 AM - 01:00 PM EST

The Who, What, Why, Where of Cold Chain

Basics of a cold chain program

Attributes of a gold standard cold chain program

Guiding standards for the industry

Introduction to the Shipping Qualification Process Flow

Lessons learned on selecting test labs and suppliers (labs, packaging, recording devices, etc.)

Additional fee to attend. Registration is available through the Forum registration. Registration includes breakfast, lunch, and breaks. This course qualifies for 15 points towards ISTA PDP recertification.

This course will be instructed by industry expert and ISTA Pharma Committee Officer, Carolyn Williamson.

Schedule:

Registration & Breakfast: 7:30am – 8:00am

Mid-morning break: 10:00am – 10:30am

Lunch: Noon – 1:00pm

Rates to attend:

With Forum Registration:

ISTA Member Discounted Rate: \$450

Non-Member Rate: \$575

ISTA Member Discounted Rate | Both Introduction to BioPharma Cold Chain AND URS to OQ: \$850

Non-Member Rate| Both Introduction to BioPharma Cold Chain AND URS to OQ: \$995

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ISTA Member Discounted Rate: \$495

Non-Member Rate: \$625

ISTA Member Discounted Rate | Both Introduction to BioPharma Cold Chain AND URS to OQ: \$950

Non-Member Rate| Both Introduction to BioPharma Cold Chain AND URS to OQ: \$1200

Supporting the Next Wave of Packaging Industry Leaders! ISTA Educational Foundation (ISTAEF)

06:30 PM - 08:30 PM EST

The ISTA Educational Foundation (ISTAEF) is hosting a special fundraising event on April 7, from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm. Tickets are \$150. The ISTAEF is a tax-exempt 501(C)3 charitable organization dedicated to the support and service of the packaging community by raising and distributing funds to foster educational growth in the transport packaging space. This registration is for both attendees and sponsors.

We need Sponsors for this event! Consider sponsoring the event to support our cause by helping cover the costs associated with the dinner. Sponsorship of the event is \$2,800. Beyond supporting the ISTAEF's overall mission, sponsoring the fundraising dinner offers several benefits:

Elevated Brand Exposure: Visibility through logo placement across all event marketing materials, including social media promotions, press releases, and on-site event signage.

Networking Opportunities: Every sponsor receives 4 complimentary registrations for the dinner. Bring colleagues, guests, customers, or anyone of your choosing to engage with a diverse audience comprising students, educators, industry professionals, thought leaders, and community stakeholders—expanding your network and forging invaluable connections.

Undergraduate Research Grants: Helping ISTAEF cover the costs of the dinner will allow the Foundation to focus more funds on our commitment to undergraduate research grants, offering innovative opportunities for budding researchers to explore and pioneer in our field.

May 19, 2026

CC 101 | Principles of Cold Chain Packaging

Virtual Training

10:00 AM - 05:00 PM EST

ISTA CC 101 | Principles of Cold Chain Packaging

Join Dr. William Pelletier on Tuesday, May 19 from 10:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. ET (16:00 – 23:00 CET) for a Live Virtual Training on ISTA's CC 101: Principles of Cold Chain Packaging. This course provides a broad overview of cold chain packaging used to ship temperature-sensitive products in bio, pharma, food & industrial markets.

CC 101 is a perfect introduction to basics for technicians, designers, engineers and those working in research & development, sales, marketing and management who can benefit from a strong foundational understanding of the principles of cold chain packaging. Please consider adding this course to your new employee onboarding checklist!

Course topics:

*Hazards in the Distribution Environment
Introduction to Cold Chain Packaging
Fundamentals of Heat Transfer
Temperature-Sensitive Products
Phase Change Materials
Cold Chain Packaging Solutions
Cold Chain Packaging System Testing
Cold Chain Packaging Temperature Monitoring
Pre-Qualified Cold Chain Solutions
Quality Control for Cold Chain Solutions*

Rate:

Member discounted rate: \$395

Non-member rate: \$525

The instructor for this training is William Pelletier, Ph.D. from the University of Florida. Dr. Pelletier teaches multiple undergraduate and graduate courses associated with biological and packaging engineering. He has been involved in the field of heat and mass transfer, packaging, as well as cold chain technologies and operations for more than 25 years. He worked on the development and data analysis of the ISTA 7E temperature profiles.

September 16, 2026
- September 17, 2026

Save The Date | 2026 ISTA China Packaging Symposium

Hilton Hotel | Fengxian, Shanghai China

September 16-17, 2026

We are excited to announce that the 2026 ISTA China Packaging Symposium will take place from September 16-17 at Hilton Hotel in Fengxian, Shanghai China. More details coming soon!

October 7, 2026
- October 8, 2026

Save The Date | 2026 ISTA Forum Europe

Amsterdam Marriott Hotel

October 6-7, 2026

We are excited to announce the 2026 ISTA Forum Europe, will be held on 7-8 October at the Amsterdam Marriott Hotel in Amsterdam, Netherlands! The ISTA Forum Europe features our flagship events, TransPack and TempPack. TransPack focuses on research and solutions for optimizing packaging for transport, while TempPack covers technical insights on global temperature-controlled performance packaging. More details coming soon!