

ICFP 2025



3-6 NOV • BOGOTÁ • COLOMBIA

Dear ICFP 2025 Participant,

*This guide includes key information to help you prepare for your trip and enjoy your stay.
Please read carefully. We look forward to welcoming you to Bogotá!*

Best, ICFP 2025 Secretariat

BEFORE YOU GO

Travel Documents

- Ensure your passport is valid. All participants traveling from outside Colombia must ensure that they have the necessary travel documents to enter the country.
- Print your Colombian visa (if required).
- The Colombian government requires all Colombian and foreign nationals to complete the immigration registration form 72 hours before their trip and up to one hour before departure. You can do this at the following link: [Check-mig - Migración Colombia](#)

Copies & Insurance

- Bring printed and digital copies of your ID, visa, and insurance. The event organizers are not responsible for the loss of passports or valuables.
- We recommend that you have travel insurance in case of an emergency.

Money Tips

- You can exchange USD for COP at the airport, hotel front desks, or banks such as **Bancolombia** or **Davivienda**.
- Most restaurants and shops accept **credit/debit cards (Visa, MasterCard)**.
- ATMs are common but may charge small international withdrawal fees.
- We recommend that you bring cash, preferably USD if you are coming from outside Colombia or COP (Colombian pesos) if you are traveling within the country.
- Please also consider bringing cash to pay for the guided tours scheduled for November 1, which have a cost. Payment will be made directly on the bus that will transport you to the selected guided tour. Please note that the guided tour of the ProFamilia clinic is free, but you must register in advance.

Stay Connected

- Free Wi-Fi will be available at **Agora Convention Center** and **Hilton Corferias Hotel**.
- Public Wi-Fi is also standard in shopping centers and some public parks.
- If you wish to purchase an e-SIM, we recommend doing so before your trip so you can activate it upon arrival in Colombia.
- In the e-SIM section (at the bottom of this document), you will find more information about the cards available in Colombia, as well as general recommendations.

Cultural Tips

- Colombians are friendly and polite — greetings are important. A handshake or a light cheek kiss is typical among acquaintances.
- Punctuality is appreciated for business events (like ICFP!).
- Avoid discussing Colombia’s political history unless invited to.
- Spanish phrases that go a long way:
 - “Gracias” (Thank you)
 - “Por favor” (Please)
 - “¿Cuánto cuesta?” (How much does it cost?)
 - “¿Dónde está el baño?” (Where is the bathroom?)

Accessibility

- Agora Bogotá is wheelchair accessible, with elevators and ramps throughout.
- If you need accessibility assistance during the conference, you can contact the ICFP help desk at the venue.

Social Media & Hashtags


Encourage engagement!

- Share your ICFP experience on social media using **#ICFP2025** **#FPNNSolutions** and **#EquityThroughAction**
- Follow and tag **@theICFP** on Instagram and LinkedIn for live updates and official announcements.

ARRIVAL AT EL DORADO AIRPORT

If you arrive on an international flight, upon reaching the airport, immigration authorities will ask for information and specific documents, including:

- Valid passport
- Printed Colombian visa (if a visa is required)
- Printed return airline tickets
- Letter of participation in ICFP (printed). *This is the letter you downloaded from the Dryfta platform for your visa application. You can download it directly from your account on the platform.*
- Printed accommodation reservation confirmation

 **Tip: Printing is not available at the airport—bring all copies with you!** We understand that printing all these documents is not very environmentally friendly. Still, we would appreciate it if you could print them and have them ready to facilitate your entry into the country.

It is also essential that you are clear about how many days you will be staying in Colombia, as this will be one of the questions immigration officials ask upon your arrival.

TRANSPORTATION

From El Dorado International Airport to Hotels

The conference organizers will provide **free transportation from the airport to the official conference hotels on October 31, November 1, 2, and 3** (on November 3, only until noon).

The **ICFP staff will be waiting for you** at the airport, **wearing red T-shirts and holding paddles with the ICFP logo** to help guide you to the waiting area and transport.

➡ **It is essential that your travel itinerary has been completed in the database or in Dryfta**, as this information is used to plan your airport pickup and hotel transfers.

🕒 The **airport logistics team will be available 24/7** from **October 31 to November 3** to assist with all arrivals.

🚌 All **ICFP buses will be clearly branded with the ICFP logo**, making them easy to identify at the airport and hotels.

If you arrive on an **international flight**, once you have collected your luggage and passed through customs, follow the **conference signage** to the ICFP waiting room. From there, logistics personnel will guide you to the buses located near the elevators or escalators in **Terminal 1**.

If you arrive on a **domestic flight**, find the logistics staff at the **domestic gate exit**. They will guide you to the ICFP waiting room or directly to the buses, depending on the logistics situation at the time of your arrival.

Below is a reference image of the T-shirts, jackets, and paddles that ICFP logistics staff will be wearing at the airport.



From the Agora Convention Center to El Dorado Airport and from hotels to El Dorado Airport

The conference organizers will also provide **free transportation**:

- From the **Agora Convention Center to the airport**
- From the **official ICFP hotels to the airport**

📅 Available on **November 6 and 7**.

Round-Trip Transportation: Hotels ↔ Agora Convention Center

Between **November 3 and 6**, free **round-trip shuttles** will run between the **official ICFP hotels** and the **Agora Convention Center**:

- Morning: **6:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.**
- Evening: **6:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.**

REGISTRATION

You can pick up your badge beginning November 1 at 11:00 a.m. at Agora Bogota, ICFP 2025 Convention Center, during the specified hours.



- Nov 1: 11:00 AM–5:00 PM
- Nov 2–5: 6:00 AM–5:00 PM
- Nov 6: 6:00 AM–1:30 PM

CITY & CLIMATE

Bogotá, the capital of Colombia, is in the Andean highlands at over 2,600 meters above sea level, which results in a mild mountain climate year-round. Expect cool conditions!

Average temperatures range from approximately 9°C to 19°C. While it doesn't have marked seasons because it is near the equator, Bogotá experiences two rainy periods (April-May and October-November) and two drier intervals (January-February and June-August). As such, packing lightweight, waterproof, or hooded clothing is advisable, since brief rain showers or sudden temperature shifts are possible.

Some visitors may experience altitude sickness, which occurs when the body struggles to adapt to the reduced oxygen levels at high elevations quickly. This can cause symptoms like headaches, fatigue, nausea, vomiting, decreased appetite, sleep difficulties, and dizziness. To manage this, rest well, avoid vigorous activity initially, and stay hydrated. Drinking electrolyte-rich beverages, such as Coca Tea available at pharmacies, might also help.

LANGUAGE

The official language in Colombia is Spanish.

CURRENCY

The local currency in Colombia is the Colombian peso (COP). Approximately 1 US dollar (USD) is equivalent to 3,900 Colombian pesos (COP).

1 USD = 3900 COP

Please note that in Colombia, restaurants include a 10% service charge on the total bill. For this reason, it is not mandatory to leave a tip.

ELECTRICITY

In Colombia, type A and type B plugs and sockets are used. The mains voltage is 120 V at 60 Hz.





eSIM OPTIONS

Below is a list of companies that offer eSIMs in Colombia. We recommend choosing one based on your needs.

- Holafly: Ideal for those who need unlimited data and flexibility in duration.
- Airalo: A popular, reliable, and affordable option with a variety of plans suitable for general use.
- Claro: The best option if you want to get a local number with local calls and texts included. Claro has the most robust network coverage nationwide.
- Roamless: Offers a flexible pay-as-you-go model with no speed limits and funds that don't expire, making it ideal for frequent travelers.
- Saily: A good option if you want a VPN included in your data plan.
- Nomad: Offers excellent, easy-to-use apps and competitive prices.



GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

- If your abstract has been selected for presentation at the poster sessions, please remember to bring your printed poster.
- Some sessions will include translation via Zoom, so we recommend bringing headphones to connect from your phone and access this service.
- Tap water in Bogotá is safe to drink, but we suggest sipping bottled water, as water additives can sometimes irritate some people.
- Street food vendors are common in Colombia, but for your health, we recommend avoiding street food.
- You can dine at restaurants or order food through apps like Rappi or Uber Eats. If needed, the most well-known drugstores in Colombia are Farmatodo, Cruz Verde, and Drogas la Rebaja.



SAFETY TIPS

- Remain vigilant but calm: although Bogotá is largely safe for travelers, as in many large cities, petty crime (such as theft and pickpocketing) can occur; avoid these risks by being cautious.
- Avoid making yourself an easy target by displaying valuables, acting carelessly, or walking in poorly lit or isolated areas.
- Avoid going out alone; try to go out with someone else or in a group, especially at night.
- Some areas in the south or outside the center of Bogotá have a higher crime rate; it is preferable to stay in safer areas, especially when traveling in a small group.
- In the event of demonstrations or protests, avoid approaching them. These can cause transportation disruptions and risky situations.
- Preferably use app-based transportation services (such as Uber, DiDi, or other reputable companies) or authorized taxis. Avoid hailing random taxis on the street.
- During transfers, lock the vehicle doors, do not leave objects visible, and avoid stopping at traffic lights with open windows or distractions.
- Carry only the minimum amount of documents, cards, or cash necessary for each day. Keep





the rest in a safe place at the hotel.

- Do not display expensive jewelry, high-value cameras, or cell phones ostentatiously, or carry large amounts of cash in plain sight.
- Be especially careful at ATMs: preferably use those located inside banks, shopping centers, or well-lit areas during the day. Cover the keypad when entering your PIN.
- Do not accept drinks, food, or invitations from strangers or untrustworthy individuals, as there have been reports of substances being used to incapacitate victims and facilitate theft.
- Respect and always comply with Colombian laws and regulations regarding the consumption of alcohol and the use of psychoactive substances.

AT AGORA & HILTON CORFERIAS

- Check the venue, entry and exit routes, and locate medical or security assistance points within the premises.
- Carry essentials with you: identification, event badge, a secure means of payment, and keep other valuables in a safe place.
- When moving around the premises, make sure you know the evacuation routes and emergency exits.
- Stay alert to your surroundings, and if something feels wrong, move away or notify event staff wearing red T-shirts with the ICFP logo.
- Respect the event's security protocols: wear visible credentials, follow access controls, undergo bag checks, etc.
- Always keep your belongings with you.
- If you leave your seat during breaks, lunches, etc., remember to take your personal belongings with you.
- Respect the event's policies and rules, as well as those of its locations. This includes those relating to conduct, security, emergencies, and data protection. You can consult the ICFP participant code of conduct here [ICFP 2025 Participant Agreement EN FR ES June 2025.pdf](#)
- Follow the instructions of the Conference or the security personnel in the event of incidents or emergencies.
- Identify the designated meeting point in the event of an evacuation or emergency.
- If you notice anything suspicious (an abandoned bag, strange behavior, etc.), notify event staff immediately.

EMERGENCIES

-  At your hotel: Contact the front desk.
-  At Agora: Visit the 1st floor information desk.
-  I2 Marketing (ICFP Support): +57 310 215 5694
-  Police/Ambulance/Fire: Dial 123 (National Emergency Number).