

COST SAVINGS AT MCCORMICK PLACE

Take advantage of the following opportunities when planning the setup of your booth.

BOOTH SETUP

Exhibitors can perform the following work in a booth of any size using ladders, hand tools and power tools designated safe by McCormick Place. An "exhibitor" is defined as a full-time employee for at least six months.

- Setting-up and dismantling exhibits using ladders, hand tools and power tools (deemed safe by McCormick Place).
- Assembling and disassembling materials, machinery or equipment.
- Installing signs, graphics, props, drapery, and skirting exhibitor tables.
- Delivering, setting-up, plugging in, interconnecting and operating electrical equipment, computers and audio visual devices.
- McCormick Place will have various hardware supplies available for purchase on Show site starting on Wednesday, March 4. If you need last minute items, save time by purchasing what you need for booth set up and tear down right at the FedEx Office located in the South Building, Level 2.5. Commonly used items such as tool kits, batteries, tape, cleaning products, hanging supplies, light bulbs, ladders, shelving, etc. will be available.
- Reduce your material handling and drayage costs by eliminating special handling charges. Special handling charges can increase your expenses by 30% but can be avoided if shipments are packed correctly and do not require special handling to be unloaded. Learn more by reviewing the material handling form and special handling instructions.

BOOK YOUR HOTEL THROUGH ONPEAK, IHA'S OFFICIAL HOUSING PROVIDER

IHA not only negotiates the lowest rates in the city, but also secures Housewares only incentives and amenities for your stay in Chicago. Book through onPeak, IHA's official housing provider, to secure your Show accommodations at www.onPeak.com/TIHS26.

Early-Bird rates expire on Wednesday, December 31, 2025 – be sure to book your hotels today! Hotel loyalty points can be earned when loyalty number is given at the time the reservation is made.

OFFICIAL SERVICE CONTRACTOR (FREEMAN)

- Be sure to order your Freeman provided services online and prior to **Friday, February 6th**. Paper forms will incur additional costs and is not recommended. By online ordering, you could save 10% off the discounted rate for select items.
- To make your online ordering experience faster and more efficient, Freeman online allows you to take your 2025 order and duplicate it for the 2026 Show. This is assuming that your booth configuration has stayed the same from the previous year.

DISPLAY LABOR RATES

- Make sure to check the display labor rates your company is being charged. If you are not using the Show's General Contractor, Freeman, as your booth installer, please review the display labor rates your company is being charged to see if they are comparable to the display labor rates IHA has negotiated listed below.

Straight Time - \$138.30

Time-and-a-Half - \$207.50

Double Time - \$276.75

ELECTRICAL AND PLUMBING SERVICES

- IHA has chosen Freeman to provide all electrical and plumbing services for the 2026 Show. Please see the below rates.

Electrical Labor

Straight Time	\$121.30
Time-and-a-Half	\$182.10
Double Time	\$242.65

Plumbing Labor

Straight Time	\$133.90
Time-and-a-Half	\$198.15
Double Time	\$261.60

- Exhibitors with inline or peninsula booth types that order 120-volt electrical services totaling 20amps or less have the option for general placement along the back line of their booth space with no labor or material charges. Inline or peninsula booths that require custom placement of any 120-volt services will be subject to labor and material charges. Island booths that order 120-volt services will be subject to labor and material charges.
- Exhibitors that order 208-volt or 480-volt services will be subject to labor and material charges regardless of booth type.
- All electrical installation labor (regardless of type) comes with a corresponding dismantle fee. This dismantle fee is based on 50% of the installation time, not on the electrical rate. For example, 1 hour of installation time would be billed ½ hour of dismantle time, 2 hours of installation time would be billed 1 hour of dismantle time, etc.
- A Frequently Asked Questions guide for electrical service has been developed to help your company save money and streamline the setup process. Please review the IHA's Electrical FAQ available in the online Exhibitor Services Kit.
- Labor rates increase **30%** if ordered onsite.



March 10-12, 2026 | Chicago, USA
TUESDAY - WEDNESDAY - THURSDAY

Tuesday, March 10	8:30 am - 5:30 pm
Wednesday, March 11	8:30 am - 5:30 pm
Thursday, March 12	8:30 am - 4:30 pm

POWER HOUR:

5:30 - 6:30 pm

Tuesday & Wednesday!

(appointments recommended)

An opportunity to extend
buyer meetings an additional
hour after the 5:30 pm close



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TheInspiredHomeShow.com

ELECTRICAL TIPS:

- 120V electrical services **totaling 20amps or less** can be ordered along the back line of your booth with no labor or material charges. If custom placement of any service is required, labor and material charges will apply.
- If you need electrical in a location other than the rear of your booth and want to avoid additional labor charges, bring your own UL approved extension cords (3 wire, 14 gauge minimum with a ground) to get power to the front of the booth without hiring labor. Most home improvement stores sell UL approved extension cords. **Any exhibitor bringing in their own extension cords cannot install them under carpet or flooring.** Extension cords must be taped on top of the carpet or flooring.
- Fire regulations require that booth power be disconnected at 4:30 p.m. Thursday, March 12, 2026. Electrical services to exhibits will be turned off at this time unless a special request for power has been placed with your Electrical Coordinator or the Freeman Service Desk prior to 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, March 12, 2026.
- During show move-in days, power is on from 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. During show days, power is turned on one hour prior to open of show and turned off one hour after the show closes. Power is turned off one hour after the close of the show and remains off. Any booth requiring power outside these windows during move-in or tear-out will need **extended power**. Any booth requiring power outside of posted show run hours requires **24-hour power**.
- Check your electrical order for scissor or condor lift equipment and/or crews. Most electrical on our Show should be pulled from the floor, not the ceiling. However, based on booth needs and power contained in electrical ports within any given booth space, electrical may be required to be sourced from the ceiling. Please contact Freeman Electrical with any questions.
- If using your own power strips, they must have circuit protection.
- Order your electrical and plumbing service(s) before the advance rate deadline of Friday, February 6, 2026 to ensure cost savings. If not, try to order at least 48-hours in advance to maximize the benefits of the extended straight time window. (The only guaranteed start time for labor is 8:00 a.m. and must be ordered 48 hours in advance. All other start times or will call labor is subject to wait times and availability at time of check-in.)
- Prices listed on the Freeman electrical forms are for the entire Show, not daily.
- There is only one connection point per outlet ordered. Power strips / quad boxes can provide additional plug-in locations. To calculate your electrical needs, take the wattage on the bulb and multiply it by the number of lights you will be using. For example, a track light with 4 lights, each requiring a 100-watt bulb, uses 400 watts of power. Therefore, you should order a 500-watt service and would still have 100 watts left for another item.
- 5amp services may not be split. 10amp services can be split between two locations. 20amp service can be split between four locations.
- Questions on any items listed here can be directed to chicagoelectrical@freeman.com.

FOOD AND BEVERAGE

OVG Hospitality is the authorized food service provider at McCormick Place. More information can be found within the online Exhibitor Service Kit.

- Exhibitors can bring their own food and beverage items into McCormick Place. However, any food and beverage items brought in from the outside must be for the exhibitors' personal consumption only. Keep an eye out for a list of local restaurants that welcome exhibitor orders.

LOADING AND UNLOADING - AUTOMOBILES AND SMALL UTILITY VEHICLES (ASUV)

- McCormick Place allows exhibitors to unload and load automobiles and small utility vehicles at the exhibit floor docks without hiring union labor. Please review the ASUV forms within the online Exhibitor Services Kit for locations.
- There will be no weight restrictions and exhibitors will be able to use manual carts and dollies to transport their materials.
- Exhibitors will have a maximum of 20 minutes to unload and load their materials.

	Dates	Hours
Inbound	Sunday, March 8, 2026	8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. & 12:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
	Monday, March 9, 2026	8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. & 12:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Outbound	Thursday, March 12, 2026	4:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

TIPS:

- Approved vehicles are defined as a family or small business owned vehicle used for light hauling including: automobiles, pick-up trucks, mini-vans, full-size vans and sport utility vehicles. Please see section 4 within the online Exhibitor Services Kit for examples of approved vehicles. This does not include multiple axle vehicles, flatbed trucks, box vans, trailers or recreational vehicles.
- Manual carts and dollies will not be available for rental/use on-site. Be sure to bring your own equipment.

THE
INSPIRED
HOME
SHOW IHA'S GLOBAL HOME +
HOUSEWARES MARKET

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