



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

In preparation for this year's Western Region Convention, your Western Region Leadership Team has compiled this list of frequently asked questions (FAQs) to help you successfully navigate this year's hybrid convention experience. If you have a question not listed on this document, please feel free to send your inquiry to: executivedirector@alphawest.org.

CONVENTION REGISTRATION:

Can I pay for my registration via check?

- No, all participants should have registered and paid for convention registration by the previously communicated deadline of April 25th on the [Eventbrite](#) platform.

Can I register after the Convention has begun?

- No, the previously communicated registration deadline was April 25th for both virtual and onsite registrations to allow sufficient time to generate the necessary virtual credentials and access as well as ensure proper World Health Organization, CDC and hotel guidelines are met regarding COVID-19 and social distancing for those participating in person.

GENERAL LOGISTICS:

In what time zone are sessions and experiences listed?

- All convention schedule times are listed in Pacific Standard Time (PST)

Will sessions be recorded and available after the Convention?

- Most non-business sessions will be recorded and the WR Leadership Team may make a selection of these recordings available for view or download at a later date. However, brothers should not plan to miss any sessions with the expectation that they will be able to view in an on-demand fashion at a later time.



In accordance with current CDC guidelines on public health measures to minimize contracting and spreading COVID-19, the following will be enforced during the WRC 2021:

1. Face coverings are required to include nose and mouth at all Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Western Region events; this includes in all hotel common space.
2. Physical distancing of at least 3 feet in all WRC events (inside or outside)
3. You should immediately leave all WRC events should you feel ill
4. Please use your arm, sleeve, handkerchief or tissue should you need to cough or sneeze
5. Wash your hands frequently and/or use the provided hand sanitizer
6. Lastly, we are a union of Brothers and guests, however during COVID protocols all greetings should be limited to fist bumps, nods, and waves.

PLEASE REMEMBER:

1. No vaccine is 100% in preventing contracting the SARs-CoV2 virus. Current EUA (emergency use authorized) vaccines were studied to prevent disease, not preventing contracting the virus. Vaccinated individuals may not only contract the virus but transmit it as well. Thousands of vaccinated people have contracted the virus, developed disease and a few have died.
2. Since there will likely be both vaccinated and non-vaccinated Brothers in attendance, face coverings and social distancing must be practiced at all sessions.

VIRTUAL PARTICIPATION:

When will attendees have access to the Convention platform?

- Attendees who have registered for virtual participation will receive access to the primary convention zoom platform on or before **April 28th, 2021**. These links and credentials will be sent to the email used to register within Eventbrite.

Will attendees who registered for onsite participation, receive virtual credentials for participation?

- Generally, No. Onsite registration does not include nor default to virtual registration de facto. However, onsite participants will receive links for portions of the convention which are being offered exclusively virtual to facilitate onsite participation

How do I join a Session in Zoom?

- Prior to the Convention, brothers will receive a list of zoom session links that correlate to the convention agenda. The convention will be best interacted with via the zoom application. If any brother does not already have zoom on his computer or personal devices, he can visit the [Zoom Download Center](#) to select the needed/desired application. If a brother would prefer to not download use he may simply just use his an internet browser. Recommended browsers include: Google Chrome, Mozilla Firefox or Safari.

Who do I contact if I have questions accessing virtual resources for, during or within the convention's zoom platform?

- Brothers experiencing issues with convention resources may visit the **Onsite** or **Virtual Logistics Desks** daily during the hours of 9AM – 12PM & 1PM – 4PM; TH, FR & SAT.
- The **Onsite Logistics Desk** is located at the Convention Registration Desk
- The **Virtual Logistics Desk** will be accessible via a link prominently displayed and communicated to brothers participating virtually each day.
- Additionally, brothers serving on the onsite or virtual logistics teams will have "convention ops" on their badge or "CON OPS" in their zoom name designation.

Will the zoom components of the Convention be zoom seminars or zoom meetings?

- Business Sessions, General Sessions, Plenaries, Luncheons, Public Program and the Black and Gold Awards Reception will all occur as Zoom Seminars. Workshops, Regional Caucuses, and some social events will occur as zoom meetings.

What is the difference between a Zoom Seminar and a Zoom Meeting?

- **Zoom Seminars:** In a zoom seminar, only the hosts and panelists are seen and heard verbally. For the audience to engage, they must submit a question via the Q&A system, participate in a real-time poll or enter their comments within the chat.
- **Zoom Meetings:** In a zoom meeting all participants enter the meeting with the ability to be seen via their personal webcam and to be heard via their device's microphone. All participants also have the ability to mute and unmute as well as show and disable their camera at any time.

Is there any particular protocol I should abide by when participating virtually? Yes.

- Download the [convention backgrounds](#) and enable them as your zoom background
- Keep your camera on during all business, general, training and workshop sessions
- Be dressed in a suit and tie during all business, general, training and workshop sessions
- Be sure you name identifications in zoom reflect your name as provided during registration and includes: your first name, your last name and your chapters spelled out without abbreviations (e.g. "Bro. John Smith, Iota Psi Lambda"). Chapter delegates should also include "// DELEGATE" following their chapter (e.g. "Bro. Tom Johnson, Iota Psi Lambda // DELEGATE")
- If a brother must step away from the convention for a period longer than 10 minutes, we ask that you leave the zoom conference and re-join upon your return

ONSITE PARTICIPATION:

What is the attire for the convention?

- The attire for this year's hybrid Western Region Convention will remain consistent with the attire for any other Western Region Convention. A shirt, suit and tie in professional tones and hues will be required for all brothers (onsite and virtual) for all business sessions, general sessions, trainings and workshops on Thursday, Friday and Saturday. The only departure from prior years, will be Saturday evening wherein business casual attire is suggested in lieu of a tux or other formal wear.

BROTHERHOOD FELLOWSHIP:

What brotherhood fellowship opportunities will be available at this year's Convention?

- There will be a number of opportunities to engage with fellow brothers both via Zoom and in-person. To peruse the detailed agenda with zoom links, visit: [WRC 2021 Agenda](#)

What will the Thursday, Friday & Saturday Evening Events include?

- For a detailed listing of all activities, visit: [WRC 2021 Agenda](#). For a brief summary see below:
 - **Thursday:**
 - Happy Hour feat. Brother Mr. Quick of Q20 Entertainment
 - 72nd WRC Public Program feat. Alpha Honorees
 - 72nd WRC Public Reception feat. Live Band Geibral Elisha Movement
 - **Friday:**
 - Cooking with the Callamans feat. Kitchen Curandera
 - Live Band Experience feat. Anu Sun & the Shedd All Stars
 - Adult Comedy Show feat. Chocolate Sundays
 - **Saturday:**
 - Black & Gold Awards Reception feat. PGP Harry Johnson, Sr.
 - Uncle Nearest Bourbon Tasting Experience

PROFESSIONAL NETWORKING:

When and how can I engage with our corporate sponsors during the Convention?

- This year, we are elated to share our corporate sponsors and partners include: **TRUIST BANK, ORGAMETRICS, GOLDMAN SACHS, BE THE MATCH, AIDS HEALTHCARE FOUNDATION & THE ALPHA COMMUNITY EDUCATION INITIATIVE (ACEI)**. To engage with these sponsors & partners, we ask brothers attend their workshops or identified times to address the brotherhood and then approach them during or after. For workshops in particular, corporate representative will be available in chat throughout their specified time. We encourage you to engage with them. Specified times & activities include the following:

THURSDAY

- **TRUIST BANK** – WORKSHOP (VIRTUAL) – 3-4 PM

FRIDAY

- **ORGAMETRICS** – FRATERNAL LUNCHEON – 1-2 PM
- **ORGAMETRICS** – BOOK SIGNING – 4-5 PM
- **GOLDMAN SACHS** – WORKSHOP (VIRTUAL) – 4-5 PM
- **TRUIST BANK** – WORKSHOP (VIRTUAL) – 4-5 PM

SATURDAY

- **BE THE MATCH** – COLLEGE BROS. LUNCHEON – 12PM-1:30 PM
- **AIDS HEALTHCARE FOUNDATION** – GEN. SESSION – 2PM – 3:30 PM
- **ACEI** – GEN. SESSION – 2PM – 3:30 PM