

DELTA GAMMA *Convention*

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Virtual Convention 2020 Frequently Asked Questions

Is Convention being cancelled?

No. Convention is not being cancelled, but instead being moved to an online platform so the Fraternity can conduct necessary business of the Fraternity that can only happen at Convention. Attendees should still reserve June 25-28, 2020, for Convention at this time; however, required voting delegates must reserve Saturday, June 27, 2020 to conduct the formal business of the Fraternity. In addition, the voting members of the Foundation will conduct their formal business.

Is the Fraternity Council authorized to transition Convention to a virtual event?

Yes. According to the Constitution, Article VIII, Section 1, "A biennial meeting to be known as a Convention shall be held at such time and place as shall have been designated by the previous Convention or by Council. Council may change a designation of the Convention under special circumstances. In a state of war or other national emergency, Council shall have the power to postpone a biennial Convention or otherwise modify this provision." After reviewing the current situation, Council unanimously approved the decision to move Convention to an online platform.

Has Convention ever been postponed or structurally altered in the past?

Yes, Delta Gamma has altered Convention plans twice before in its history. The first time was in 1917 as the U.S. entered World War I and President Woodrow Wilson requested groups to postpone conventions and events to help alleviate railroad congestion so that vital supplies could be transported quickly. The Delta Gamma Convention of 1917 was therefore deferred and the Council at the time voted to use \$1,000 of the unused Convention budget to be appropriated to war relief efforts.

The second postponement was in 1944, this time due to World War II. Council made the decision to cancel the Convention that was scheduled for June 1944 and instead called the Province Secretaries to Columbus, Ohio for a five-day training school from June 6-11. Most meetings were held with radio broadcasts in the background because June 6, 1944, was also D-Day – the long-awaited invasion of Europe, in which the Allied forces invaded northern France.

Why did it take so long for Delta Gamma to announce changes to Convention plans?

The health and well-being of our members, visitors, staff and vendors are our top priority and are the driving force behind this change of plans. We also had to consider the financial and logistical implications of transitioning our Convention from physical to virtual. It was important to the Fraternity Council and staff that all efforts be made to limit financial implications or obligations as a result of terminating contracted services for the live event.

Is moving Convention to an online platform the only option?

Council considered multiple options and ultimately endorsed the online platform as the most reasonable choice due to the current global pandemic. While we enjoy coming together in person and celebrating our Fraternity, the event at its core is a business meeting. There are many unknown factors related to travel, social distancing and local, state/provincial and federal restrictions that may affect gathering

DELTA GAMMA Convention

2020

together in St. Louis. Council also felt it was important for the business of the Fraternity to continue and believes this is the best decision given the current situation.

What does the new Convention schedule look like?

A revised [Convention Schedule of Events](#) can be found on the Delta Gamma website.

A variety of anchored events and supplemental events will occur from Thursday, June 25 – Saturday, June 27, 2020, for Convention; however, required voting delegates must reserve Saturday, June 27, 2020 to attend anchored events in which they will conduct the business of the Fraternity. In addition, the voting members of the Foundation will conduct their annual business meeting.

Additional information on some of the exciting, new virtual events can be found in the updated [Bulletin of Information](#).

Should I still proceed with registering for Convention?

Yes. All delegates, Leadership and other non-voting attendees should still proceed with registering for Convention by the deadline of Friday, May 22, 2020. If you are a required attendee who is unable to attend for any reason, you must follow the Travel and Event Policy by submitting your Event Waiver for approval. These instructions can be found in the updated [Bulletin of Information](#).

If you already registered to attend Convention, you do not need to register again. You would only need to register again if you cancelled your previous registration.

If I previously received approval for an Event Waiver but am now able to attend as my chapter's delegate due to the virtual nature of this event, what should I do?

Please email dgevents@deltagamma.org with your name, chapter and details surrounding your request. We will work to respond to all inquiries related to waivers/registration within three business days.

Is Delta Gamma going to provide collegiate chapter, alumnae chapter, and individual refunds for anyone who already paid to attend Convention in St. Louis?

All attendees and chapters received refunds of their previously paid registration costs for our 2020 Convention experience. The virtual Convention experience on June 25-28, 2020, will be free of charge.

Refunds from memberplanet could take 7-14 business days to fully process. Refunds will be shown to come from "memberplanet – Delta Gamma Fraternity – Events" although some bank/credit card company character limits may limit the ability for the full name to be displayed.

- **If you paid your Convention registration personally and were not reimbursed by your local group**, no further action is needed.
- **If you paid your Convention registration personally and have already been reimbursed by your local group**, please work directly with your local group to refund the reimbursement of your Convention registration back to the group.
- **If your registration fees were paid directly by chapter funds**, registration funds will be refunded to the chapter directly and no further action is needed.

DELTA GAMMA Convention

2020

What should I do about my flights to St. Louis if they have already been booked?

Click the hyperlink below that applies to your individual scenario.

- You **personally paid** for your flight and you were not reimbursed for the cost.
- Your flight was **paid by your local group** or you have already been reimbursed for your personal cost.
- You are a **Fraternity Cabinet** member.
- You are a **Foundation Cabinet** member.

Are other Delta Gamma events affected?

Yes. At this time, all Lewis Institute sessions for this summer have been cancelled. Summer 2020 Hope Serving trips and Mental Health First Aid Training sessions are cancelled.

What should I do if I am the voting delegate and I do not feel comfortable representing my chapter in this new virtual platform, given the technology requirements asked of me?

If you are not able to participate or do not feel comfortable participating in the virtual Convention platform, you should submit an Event Waiver. The link for the Event Waiver can be found in the **Bulletin of Information**.

Will Convention awards still be presented this year?

Yes, all Fraternity and Foundation awards will still be given this year. Though they may not be presented in the format we are all accustomed to, we are still excited to recognize and celebrate our award winners. More information will be forthcoming.

What is happening with the Delta Gamma Foundation's Regional Race 2020 Giving Challenge?

The Race is still on! This spirited online fundraising challenge between regions will take place through the month of June and culminate in an announcement and celebration of the winning region – the region which gives the largest dollar amount throughout this special campaign – near the official close of virtual Convention. More details will be coming about how you, your chapter or alumnae group can participate, but you can also support your region and sisterhood by making your Regional Race gift online now at **www.deltagamma.org/regionalrace**.

When is the credentials deadline for voting delegates to vote during Convention?

The deadline for credentials for voting delegates remains Sunday, May 31, 2020.

For more information, please visit the **[Events section of our website](#)**
or **[RSVP to our Convention Facebook event](#)**.