



Alpha Epsilon Delta

National Honor Society for Health Pre-Professionals

What to Expect at the Biennial National Convention - Members

Why attend the biennial convention?

First and foremost, to participate in the decision-making process for the national society! Beyond that essential aspect, attend for the bonding with your chapter members, networking with other members from across the nation, learning from workshops and speakers about reaching your professional goals and about how to make your chapter more vibrant and engaging, for access to professional school representatives, and fun!

What are the costs to attend convention?

REGISTRATION FEE: This fee covers meals and activities. Register early for the lowest fee. Remember that each chapter that attends is eligible for a \$1000 travel grant from the national office to help with expenses.

HOTEL ROOM: Conventioneers enjoy a reduced rate for each room. Four students in a double room keeps cost per student low.

TRANSPORTATION: Conventioneers are responsible for their own transportation. Work with your chapter for possible group rates on airfare or buses.

How do you prepare for convention?

CHAPTER BIENNIAL REPORT: Your chapter will work together to generate your Biennial Report, which is a way to share your chapter's events and activities with the national society. Note that this report is due to the national office at least 2 weeks before convention.

PACKING: Bring business casual clothing and comfortable shoes for the daily activities and a more formal outfit (if you have one) for the final banquet and awards ceremony.

What happens when you check in on the first day?

CONVENTION CHECK IN: You will check in with the AED staff and get your credentials.

HOTEL CHECK-IN: If you arrive before the hotel check-in time or if the check-in line is really long, leave your luggage in the designated storage room and either A) report to your committee assignment, or B) familiarize yourself with the hotel layout.

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS: If you agreed to serve on a committee when you submitted your convention registration form, report to the committee's meeting space and participate in their work. *(We recommend that you volunteer to be on a committee because doing so gives you excellent pre-professional experience and helps you make your first connections with other society members!)*

NOTE THAT YOU WILL FEEL LIKE EVERYONE ELSE KNOWS WHAT TO DO AND WHERE TO GO. IN REALITY, THEY DO NOT. MOST MEMBERS FEEL EXACTLY THE SAME WAY!

What happens during convention?

MEETINGS: Attend your regional meeting and the national business meeting. Attend the latter even if you are not your chapter's voting delegate – make your voice heard during discussion of chapter business and advise your delegate on your chapter's preferences.

ACTIVITIES: Workshops on applications, interview skills, exam prep, suturing, chapter photos, and more. Attend as many activities as possible. Be open to meeting as many other members and advisors as you can at the convention.

ROLL CALL: Have your chapter ready for the "Roll Call", in which all chapters convene and present themselves with a cheer. A cheer can be as simple as calling out your college's name and cheer (e.g., "Go, tigers!") or as elaborate as singing a chapter song.

SAFETY TIP: Maintain contact with your chapter – exchange cell phone numbers and make sure someone knows where you are at all times.

What happens after convention? What are the take-aways?

You will take the knowledge and experience gained at the convention back to your chapter, and stay in contact with your new AED friends.