

Beta Theta Pi
176th General Convention
August 6 – 9, 2015

Frequently Asked Questions

**Undergraduates, Advisors,
and House Corporation Board
Members**

General Information

What is General Convention?

Beta Theta Pi Convention is our annual reunion where the Beta family cultivates new and old relationships, celebrates individual and chapter achievements and inspires attendees to continue to live Beta's values. Leadership College, Symposium and the Housing Summit provide enriching educational experiences, while our chapter delegates, Fraternity Trustees, and Foundation Board conduct the business of the Fraternity.

When is Convention?

Beta's 176th General Convention will be held August 6 – 9, 2015, in Orlando, Florida.

Where will it be held?

Convention will be held at the Renaissance Orlando at SeaWorld. Click [here](#) to visit the hotel website. The hotel is located at 6677 Sea Harbor Drive, Orlando, FL 32821; 407.351.5555.

What is the schedule for Convention?

Every day of Convention includes time for legislation, celebration and education. An overview schedule is located [here](#) on Beta Theta Pi's website. Check back periodically for updates, as we'll be adding more details throughout the summer.

Who goes to Convention?

Everyone is invited! Alumni, family and guests are invited to attend all of Convention or just a few events as their schedules allow. There are special receptions and excursions planned for alumni and guests. The hotel is a family-friendly resort with lots of ways to relax and fun activities for kids.

Convention Registration

How do I register?

Everyone coming to Convention needs to register online by visiting Beta's [Convention homepage](#).

What does it cost?

In February 2015, your chapter president selected a "package" – a set price for a certain number of people coming to Convention on behalf of your chapter. This package number includes all undergraduates, advisors and house corporation volunteers. Chapters were billed for their package on March 1, 2015. If you're unsure which package you selected, ask your treasurer to check the March statement. If you're still not sure, call 800.800.BETA and ask to speak to someone on the Convention team. The package indicated the number of people your chapter is sending to Convention. Now you need to register actual people to fill those slots.

- If you register fewer people than your package, you will not get a refund. So, it's important to fill every one of those slots.
- If you register more people than your package, that's great! The chapter will be billed for those extra people in September. This table shows what your original package cost and what bringing extra people will cost:

Package Selection	Total Package Cost	Cost Per Extra Attendee
Delegate Only (1)	\$699	\$500
2 people	\$1,000	\$500
5 people	\$2,000	\$400
10 people	\$3,500	\$350
20 people	\$6,500	\$325

Additional fees are in the table below, including costs for optional excursions on Friday afternoon. If you are bringing family or guests, please refer to the FAQ document for "Alumni and Guests."

The longer you wait to register, the more it costs! Registrations that occur after 4/15 and 7/1 will incur an additional fee charged to the chapter.

	Before April 15	4/15-7/1	7/1-7/10
Delegates & Leadership College Participants (all undergraduates)	package pricing	package pricing + \$25	package pricing + \$100
Advisors	package pricing	package pricing + \$25	package pricing + \$100
House Corporation Board Members	package pricing	package pricing + \$25	package pricing + \$100

	Before April 15	4/15-7/1	7/1-7/10
Friday Excursion: Universal Studios Base Ticket <i>Go behind the scenes, beyond the screen, and jump right into the action of your favorite movies at Universal Studios®, the world's premier movie and TV-based theme park. At this real, working film and TV production facility you'll find an amazing array of rides, shows, movie sets and attractions that put you right in the picture.</i>	\$100	\$100	\$100
Friday Excursion: Universal Studios Park to Park Ticket <i>Same as the base ticket, but includes the Hogwarts Express.</i>	\$80	\$80	\$80
Friday Excursion: Wet 'n Wild Waterpark <i>Wet 'n Wild, Orlando's premier water park, features signature thrill rides for a full day of fun for the entire family. For more information, click here.</i>	\$45	\$45	\$45
Friday Excursion: Downtown Disney <i>Downtown Disney area features waterfront dining, unique shops and exciting entertainment options at Walt Disney World Resort. A shuttle will leave the Renaissance at approximately 3:00 p.m. and return to the Renaissance at 10:00 p.m.</i>	\$10	\$10	\$10

When is the “really final” registration deadline?

As you can see in the table above, there are various registration deadlines. The FINAL day to register is **July 10, 2015**. We strongly recommend that you register early in the summer.

What does my registration include?

Your registration fee includes meeting expenses, many of your meals (at least one per day), and a shared hotel room (see below).

What if I have special needs or dietary restrictions?

During the online registration process you can indicate special needs, ADA or dietary restrictions. We will do our best to work with the hotel to meet those needs.

What if I’m graduating in May and want to go as an alumni member?

This kind of registration is a special case that requires a manual registration. Please call the Administrative Office at 800.800.2382 and ask for member of our Convention team for assistance.

What if I’m having trouble registering online?

Call 800.800.2382 and ask to speak with a member of the Convention team. We are happy to assist you.

Cancellations and refunds

There are no refunds available for package selections. If a package registrant can no longer attend, you may substitute someone else for that registration at no charge. To make a substitution, please contact the Administrative Office at 800.800.2382 and ask to speak to a member of the Convention registration team.

Hotel and Rooming

Where will Convention be held?

Convention will be held at the Renaissance Orlando at SeaWorld. Click [here](#) to visit the hotel website. The hotel is located at 6677 Sea Harbor Drive, Orlando, FL 32821; 407.351.5555.

What are check-in and check-out times for the hotel?

Check-in time is 3:00 p.m.; check-out time is 11:00 a.m.

How do I book my hotel room?

- *Undergraduates*: You have no action. Your room will be booked by the Administrative Office. You will share a room with three other undergrads but have the option to upgrade to a double or single (see below).
- *Advisors*: You have no action. Your room will be booked by the Administrative Office. You will share a room with one other volunteer but have the option to upgrade to a single (see below).
- *House corporation volunteers*: You have no action. Your room will be booked by the Administrative Office. You will share a room with one other volunteer but have the option to upgrade to a single (see below). We expect some house corporation volunteers to arrive on Thursday and some on Friday. Your room costs are included either way, we just need you to indicate during online registration when you're arriving.

What if rooming is included in my package but I would like a single or double room?

For participants that would like to upgrade to double or single room, you can select this option while registering online. Please reference the chart in the "Convention Registration" section for prices. Note: if you are bringing a guest and he/she is staying in the hotel with you, you must register for a room upgrade. If no upgrade is selected, undergraduate registration includes four to a room and advisor/volunteer registration includes two to a room.

Attendee Type	Total Cost of Room Upgrade
Undergraduate (upgrade to double)	\$225
Undergraduate (upgrade to single)	\$340
Advisor (upgrade to single)	\$225
House corporation board member (upgrade to single)	\$225

How do I pay for my hotel room?

Your shared hotel room cost is included in the package registration fee – so your chapter has already paid for it. If you choose an upgrade, you will pay the extra fee during registration. You are responsible for paying for any extras charged to your room during convention (e.g., room service meals).

What if I'm coming early or staying late?

If you are arriving early or staying late (please see arrival/departure information below), you are responsible for making reservations directly with the hotel and paying for the extra nights.

- Renaissance SeaWorld Reservations: 407-351-5555
- Special rate / group name: Beta Theta Pi Convention
- Convention rate = \$129 / night, plus tax
- The special room rate is available beginning August 3 and continuing through August 12, if you'd like to extend your stay.

Transportation/Travel

When should I arrive?

Delegates (chapter and colony presidents)	All chapter delegates should arrive at the hotel property no later than 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 6, 2015 . This will ensure ample time for hotel check-in before the opening session at 3:00 p.m.
Leadership College Participants (all other undergraduates)	All Leadership College participants attend each session of Leadership College. Missing a session will result in a minimum \$100 charge. Therefore, Leadership College participants should arrive at the hotel property no later than 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 6, 2015 . This will ensure ample time for hotel check-in before the opening session at 3:00 p.m.
Chapter Advisors	Advisors should arrive at the hotel property no later than 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 6, 2015 . This will ensure ample time for hotel check-in before the opening session at 3:00 p.m.
House Corporation Volunteers	The Cornerstone Housing Program is sponsoring workshops for house corporation volunteers throughout Convention, starting on Thursday evening. The core of the workshops will start at 2:30 p.m. on Friday, August 7 and continue through Saturday, August 8.

When should I plan to depart?

Convention officially ends late Saturday night. Plan on leaving any time on Sunday, August 9.

What airport should I fly into?

Participants that are flying to the General Convention should fly into Orlando International Airport (12 miles from hotel, airport code: MCO).

How do I get from the hotel to the airport?

Beta is not providing transportation from the airport to the hotel, but Orlando has several local transportation options, including taxis and scheduled shuttles. A taxi costs approximately \$35. For more information, please review the local transportation options [here](#).

If I'm driving, where do I get directions to the hotel?

Directions to the hotel property can be obtained by using MapQuest or Google Maps for directions. If you are using MapQuest or a navigation device, the hotel address is 6677 Sea Harbor Drive, Orlando, FL, 32821.

Is there parking at the hotel?

Beta Theta Pi has secured discounted on-site parking for Convention attendees. Self-parking is available for \$9.00 per day with in-and-out privileges during the following dates: August 3 – August 12. You must pay for your own parking.

Other Helpful Info

Are there dining locations close to the hotel?

The Renaissance Orlando is a resort-based setting without many dining options within walking distance. In addition to the meals included in your registration, there are a handful of restaurants onsite from which to choose. Click [here](#) to learn more.

Is there a golf tournament?

There is no formalized golf tournament scheduled, however the convention allows time on Friday afternoon for those who would like set up a round of golf. All fees and transportation are the responsibility of the participant. Click [here](#) for a list of courses in the local area.

What should I bring to wear?

Thursday and Saturday evenings' banquets are coat and tie events for men and comparable attire for women. Other events, including Friday's Awards Luncheon are casual (shorts and polo shirt are appropriate). Outside activities will be limited, but please plan for high temperatures.

How does the travel reimbursement for chapter delegates work?

Per The Code of Beta Theta Pi, each chapter delegate will receive a check for \$.09 per mile from his home address to the hotel address. Checks will be distributed at Convention.

Who do I contact if I have further questions?

The Administrative Office staff is eager to answer your questions. Please call 800.800.BETA during regular business hours and ask to speak to someone on the Convention team.