

The John and Nellie Wooden Institute for Men of Principle

Frequently Asked Questions

1) What is the Wooden Institute?

The Wooden Institute is Beta Theta Pi's hallmark leadership program. It is a transformative experience that is offered over several days in Oxford, Ohio. Seventy-Five undergraduates from across North America attend each session and learn the skills necessary to become effective and capable chapter leaders.

2) Why should I go?

Attending the Wooden Institute will broaden your horizons and challenge you to think "outside the box." Visiting the Administrative Office will amaze and inspire you. Everything you learned in the "Son of the Stars" comes to life. There is no better location than the Fraternity's founding place to recommit yourself to the principles and obligations of Beta Theta Pi.

3) Who is it meant for?

Anyone who wants to make a difference in his Beta chapter/colony or interfraternal community. It is not a requirement to be a chapter officer to attend. If you consider yourself an "up-and-coming leader," then this experience is meant for you. All chapters are encouraged to send men to the experience!

4) What can I expect to get out of it? What do we do?

You can expect brotherhood with other Betas that connects you to our North-American domain. You will also experience team building experiences, values discussions, develop your leadership skills, participate in the Beta Jeopardy lore competition, and do community service. Most importantly, you will gain a better understanding of what our Founding Fathers envisioned.

The Wooden Institute is intense. The programming begins early in the morning and goes late into the evening. **It is not** a "conference"-style experience where you can "pick and choose" what sessions you would like to go to. The curriculum pieces build off each other to deliver a progressive learning experience.

5) Where do we sleep?

Everyone will be staying in fraternity housing owned by Beta Theta Pi or Sigma Phi Epsilon. Linens, blankets, towels and pillows *will* be provided, but you will need to bring your own toiletries. Because you are staying in a facility that will have showers outside of your room, you may choose to bring additional items such as shower sandals, toiletry caddies, etc. Your sleeping rooms are air-conditioned.

6) Is it all work and no play?

Socializing naturally occurs throughout the Wooden Institute. Free time is scheduled in the agenda. Brotherhood events are a priority. We realize that fun is an essential part of the experience.

7) Who attends?

- A) 75 undergraduates from chapters/colonies across Beta's Broad Domain.
- B) 8 Beta alumni serve as facilitators.
- C) 8 Friends of Beta (men and women) serve as facilitators.

8) What is an FOB?

FOB stands for "Friend of Beta." These fraternity/sorority professionals and other volunteers lend their time and talent at the Wooden Institute. FOBs foster collaboration through interfraternalism, and they selflessly volunteer their time to benefit our organization. We are indebted to their service.

9) Who is responsible for us when we are on site?

Two lead facilitators guide the *large group* discussions. The two-person team consists of a Beta and an FOB. Brothers are divided into seven small group "chapters" that consist of 12-14 men. Each small group is guided through discussions led by two facilitators – a Beta alumni volunteer and an FOB.

10) How much is it? What does that include?

The cost is \$650, but you are only responsible for a \$99 non-refundable registration fee. The Beta Theta Pi Foundation will provide you with a sponsor who will cover your \$650 registration fee. This price pays for meals, lodging and the 5-day experience while in Oxford, Ohio.

11) What should I pack?

Bring casual clothes. Shorts, jeans and *respectable* T-shirts are the normal attire. Bring athletic gear. Other notable items: extra T-shirts to swap, extra spending money for personal items or Beta souvenirs, rain jacket in case it rains when we are doing outdoor activities.

12) What is the weather like in Oxford?

Temperatures can range from the 70s to the 90s. The Ohio humidity usually arrives in June.

13) How do I get there and when do I need to arrive?

	Flying	Driving
Participants	<p>Plan to arrive at the Cincinnati Airport (CVG) or Dayton (DAY) by 10:15 a.m. on Saturday. This will give you enough time to check in and unpack before Wooden begins. If your travel distance requires you to arrive the evening before, your flight must arrive before 9:00 p.m. Friday. You can book your flight for a departure time any time after 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, the final day.</p> <p>Participants submit your travel here</p>	<p>See below for directions. You should plan on arriving in Oxford by 1:00 p.m. on Saturday. On your first day you will have time to check in and unpack before the experience begins. Lodging will be provided for early arrivals. Plan on departing no earlier than 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, the final day.</p> <p>Participants submit your travel here</p>
Small Group Facilitators	<p>Plan to arrive no later than 12 p.m. eastern time on Friday (the day before the start of your session). Should you need to arrive the evening prior due to flight availability, you must arrive by 8:00 p.m. Lodging will be provided for early arrivals. You can book your flight for a departure time any time after 2:30 p.m. on Wednesday, the final day.</p> <p>Facilitators submit your travel here.</p>	<p>You should plan on arriving in Oxford by 1 p.m. on Friday, the day before the start of your session. Lodging will be provided the evening prior for early arrivals. Plan on departing no earlier than 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, the final day.</p> <p>Facilitators submit your travel here.</p>
Leads & Interns	<p>Plan to arrive no later than 2:00 p.m. eastern time Thursday, two days prior to your session.</p> <p>Submit your travel here.</p>	<p>If you are driving, plan to arrive in Oxford by 3:00 p.m. eastern time Thursday, two days prior to your session. Plan on departing no earlier than 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, the final day.</p> <p>Submit your travel here.</p>
IMPORTANT	<p>The Wooden Institute policy is that you are present the entire time. Arriving late or leaving early (before 1:00 p.m. on the last day) is unacceptable. You will be asked not to come if you are scheduled to arrive late or leave early, and you will be billed the registration fee.</p>	

14) I am traveling from the West Coast. Can I come a day early?

Rooming is available and will be provided for those needing a room on Friday night. (Please share this information when submitting your travel information!). Please note you need to inform us in advance of your early arrival. Any changes in arrival date 10 days prior to your session will incur a \$25 change fee.

15) How do I get from the airport to Oxford (participants only)?

Dayton (DAY)	Cincinnati (CVG)
<p>At DAY, you will meet outside of the last baggage claim. A shuttle will be circling baggage claim at the times listed below. The shuttle driver cannot stop and wait, so please find the other Betas in the baggage claim area and be waiting outside. Travel time between the Dayton airport (the only airport you can fly into) and the campus is about one hour. If you arrive early, you may have to wait at the airport.</p> <p>Please note that shuttles will be running from the airport to Oxford at the following times <i>only</i>, so please be sure to schedule your flights so you don't miss your ride:</p> <p>Night before session begins (Friday): depart from DAY at 9:30 p.m. EST</p> <p>Morning session begins (Saturday): depart from DAY at 11 a.m. EST</p>	<p>At CVG, you must be outside on the curb of the main DELTA baggage claim (the first level of Terminal 3). A shuttle will be circling baggage claim at the times listed below. The shuttle driver cannot stop and wait, so please find the other Betas in the baggage claim area and be waiting outside. Travel time between the Cincinnati airport (the only airport you can fly into) and the campus is about one hour. If you arrive early, you may have to wait at the airport.</p> <p>Please note that shuttles will be running from the airport to Oxford at the following times <i>only</i>, so please be sure to schedule your flights so you don't miss your ride:</p> <p>Night before session begins (Friday): depart from DAY at 9:30 p.m. EST</p> <p>Morning session begins (Saturday): depart from DAY at 11 a.m. EST</p>

16) What is the policy on cancellation or getting charged?

The policies regarding cancellation and/or getting charged were outlined in the consent statement that each participant agreed to at the time of registration:

I understand that I will be personally billed the Beta Theta Pi Foundation subsidized amount of \$650 if I do not attend the event as planned — this includes arriving late, leaving early, missing any session or cancelling for any reason after May 1, 2017. The \$99 registration fee collected online during the final step of this registration process is non-refundable/non-transferable, even if I cancel before the cancellation deadline or have someone take my place. I understand that the Wooden Institute is a substance free event, and I agree not to bring, consume or be in the presence of alcohol or illegal drugs. I understand that violating this agreement will result in being sent home at my own expense and being charged the full registration fee. This policy is in effect upon arrival at the airport (for those flying) or Oxford (for those driving). Finally, I understand that I am representing Beta Theta Pi at the Wooden Institute. My conduct will be in such a manner that it brings honor to me, my chapter and to Betas everywhere. I understand that failure to do so will result in being sent home at my expense and that I will be responsible for the full registration fee of \$650.

17) Who should I contact if I have questions?

Mandi Dilling, Director of Leadership & Education

Cell: 913-963-2604

Email: mandi.dilling@beta.org

The Wooden Institute *Driving Directions*

219 East Church Street, Oxford, OH 45056

To “219” from the South on I-275 (Cincinnati Loop)

Exit at Highway 27 (Colerain Avenue) and proceed north. Continue about 30 minutes on Hwy 27, through Millville (where you turn left at the stop light) and follow Hwy 27 to Oxford. As you come up the hill into Oxford, you will continue straight onto Patterson Ave. In about $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile you will turn left on E High Street. Turn right onto University Avenue. Turn left on E Church Street. “219” is on the left.

To “219” from the West on Hwy 27

Entering on Hwy 27, continue going straight (onto W Church Street) at the intersection of Locust Street and Hwy 27/W Church Street. “219” will be on your right.

If you are driving from the North or West and entering Oxford on Hwy 27 (please note that Hwy 27 becomes High Street when in Oxford).

To “219” from the East on Hwy 73

Follow Hwy 73 into Oxford until the road “T’s” at a stoplight. Turn right at the light onto Patterson Avenue/Hwy 27 and then immediately turn left onto W High Street. Turn right onto University Avenue. Take the next left onto E Church Street. “219” will be on the left.

Lost? Contact Mandi Dilling:

(913) 963-2604