

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 offered over several days in Oxford, Ohio. Seventy-five collegians 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 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 program!

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

You can expect brotherhood with other Betas that better connects you to Beta's Broad Domain. You will also experience team building experiences, values discussions, develop your leadership skills and have an opportunity to serve the Oxford community. Most importantly, you will gain a better understanding of what our Founding Fathers envisioned and a renewed sense of belonging in Beta Theta Pi.

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

5) Where do we sleep?

Everyone will be staying in either the Alpha house or our “219” facility next to Miami’s campus. Linens, blankets, towels and pillows *will* be provided, but you will need to bring your own toiletries. All collegians will share a room with another collegian.

6) Is it all work and no play?

No! Socializing naturally occurs throughout the Wooden Institute and free time is scheduled in the agenda. We realize that fun is an essential part of the experience.

7) Who attends?

- A) 75 collegiate members from chapters across Beta’s Broad Domain.
- B) 8 Beta alumni serve as facilitators.
- C) 8 Friends of Beta serve as facilitators.

8) What is an FOB?

FOB stands for “Friend of Beta” and is the title given to non-members who serve the Fraternity. 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,” each consisting 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**. This \$99 registration fee is billed on your chapter’s bill after you attend Wooden. Your chapter can then decide to cover the fee or bill you the registration fee as part of your local dues. The Beta Theta Pi Foundation will provide you with a sponsor who will cover the remainder of your \$650 total. This price pays for meals, lodging and the four-day experience in Oxford, Ohio.

Note: if you fail to attend after registering for the event or you cancel your registration after the deadline (May 24), you will be responsible for paying the full \$650 registration cost.

11) What should I pack?

Bring casual clothes and athletic gear. Jeans and **respectable** T-shirts are normal attire. Other notable items: extra Beta shirts to swap, extra spending money for personal items, closed-toed shoes (preferably tennis shoes).

12) What is the weather like in Oxford?

Temperatures can range from the 60s to the mid 90s.

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) by 11:00 a.m. on the start date of your session. 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 by 9:00 p.m. that evening. You can book your departing flight for anytime after 2:30 p.m. on 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 the first day of your session. On your first day, you will have time to check in and unpack before the experience begins. Lodging will be provided at a residence hall on the evening prior for early arrivals. Plan on departing no earlier than 1:00 p.m. on the final day.</p> <p>Participants submit your travel here.</p>
Small Group Facilitators	<p>Plan to arrive no later than 2:00 p.m. ET on 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 departing flight for anytime after 3:00 p.m. on the final day.</p> <p>Facilitators submit your travel here.</p>	<p>You should plan on arriving in Oxford by 2:00 p.m. on the day before the start of your session. Lodging will be provided at the hotel conference center on the evening prior for early arrivals. Plan on departing no earlier than 1:00 p.m. on the final day.</p> <p>Facilitators submit your travel here.</p>
Leads & Interns	<p>Plan to arrive so that you can be in Oxford no later than 9:00 a.m. ET one day prior to your session. You can book your flight for a departure time any time after 3:00 p.m. on the final day.</p> <p>Submit your travel here.</p>	<p>If you are driving, plan to arrive in Oxford by 9:00 a.m. ET one day prior to your session. Plan on departing no earlier than 1:00 p.m. on 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 prior to the start of your session. (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)

Cincinnati (CVG)

At CVG, a shuttle will be available to bring you to Oxford at 10pm the night before your session, and at 12pm the day of your session. This shuttle will be in the rideshare pickup area at the airport. 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.

Please note that shuttles will be running from the airport to Oxford at the following times only, so please be sure to schedule your flights so you don't miss your ride:

Night before session begins: Depart from CVG at 10:00 p.m. EST

Morning day of session start: Depart from CVG at 12:00 p.m. EST

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

The policies regarding cancellation and/or getting charged are outlined in the consent statement that each participant agrees 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 24, 2024**. The \$99 registration fee billed to the chapter after registering 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. *In any case where I am assessed the \$650 fee, I understand that I am responsible for paying the fee in full. I understand that I will **not** be offered options for a payment plan.*

17) What if I can't attend anymore?

We understand that sometimes life happens! We always encourage finding a chapter member to take your place. Prior to May 24, 2024, you can make a substitution with no penalty. Please let us know as soon as you know you cannot come and are going to send a replacement so we can make sure the right nametag is made!

18) Who should I contact if I have questions?

Kirby Fitzpatrick, Associate Director of Leadership and Education

Cell: 513-273-2205

Email: kirby.fitzpatrick@beta.org

Consent Statement

By registering for the Wooden Institute, I agree to the following:

I confirm that I am an initiated Beta (or will be by the time I arrive at the Wooden Institute.)

Travel: I agree to submit my travel arrangements by May 24, 2024, via the Wooden Institute webpage.

Please review the following Registration Policy:

1. 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 canceling after May 24, 2024.
2. The \$99.00 registration fee that is billed to the chapter after registering is non-refundable, even if I cancel before the cancelation deadline or have someone take my place.
3. Any substitutions after May 24, 2024, are subject to a \$25 change fee. This fee will be charged to the chapter which can then be billed through personal dues.

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.

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

Finally, in any circumstance where I am assessed the \$650 fee, I understand that I am responsible for paying the fee in full and at one time. I understand that I will not be offered options for a payment plan.

Note: All times are listed in the time zone of the event location. This event is in the Eastern time zone.

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 Hwy27, 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 Hwy27 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 or Running Late? Contact:

Associate Director of Leadership & Education: Kirby Fitzpatrick: 513-273-2205