## BBYO Liberty Region (LBR) | Spring Convention 2022 Frequently Asked Questions

## **IMPORTANT DATES + REGISTRATION**

- When is Spring Convention 2022? Spring Convention takes place Friday, May 13th through Sunday, May 15th. Programming will begin Friday evening, continue through Saturday, and conclude on Sunday, with plenty of breaks in between.
- What are the important dates to know?
  - **Friday, March 25th:** Early bird registration opens at a discounted price of \$235 through April 9th. Register here!
  - Wednesday, April 6th: Scholarship applications due by 11:59pm. <u>Apply for scholarship here!</u>
  - Thursday, April 7th: Scholarship allocations announced.
  - Sunday, April 10th: Regular registration pricing of \$255 begins until Sunday, April 24th at 11:59pm.
  - Monday, April 25th: Late registration price goes into effect. The cost will now be \$280.
  - Sunday, May 1st: Registration closes at 11:59pm. After this date, partial refunds are available, but not guaranteed.
  - Wednesday, May 3rd: As of this date, no refunds will be given.
- Are there scholarships? <u>Need-based scholarships are available</u>. Applications are due by Wednesday, April 6th at 11:59 PM.
  - You can apply for a scholarship here. Applying for a scholarship confirms your registration. <u>Late applications will not be accepted for any reason.</u> Your scholarship serves as your registration- you do not need to pay anything until you have received your scholarship allocation. Scholarship awards will be announced by Thursday, April 7th..
- What is the cancellation/refund policy? The deadline to cancel with a full program refund is the final registration deadline (Sunday, May 1st). Until that date, full refunds will be granted for cancellations in writing (email is acceptable) for any reason. After the registration deadline (Sunday, May 1st) partial refunds may be available based on convention expenses already paid (venue, transportation, etc.). Within ten days of convention (Wednesday, May 3rd) we've already confirmed final counts with our vendors, and no refunds will be given. "No shows" will not receive a refund.
- Are there an unlimited number of convention spots? Yes, we have ample space at the camp to accommodate teens.
- What are the precautions BBYO is taking to protect participants from COVID-19?
  - Our top priority is to keep everyone healthy and safe. Based on the CDC and BBYO guidelines, and our own experience and ability, we are moving forward with convention by doing the following:
    - All convention participants, staff, volunteers, and speakers are required to have the COVID-19 vaccine and booster.
    - Masks will be optional, besides on busses to and from camp (this is subject to change based on CDC quidelines)
    - Hand washing and sanitizer will be abundantly available (and encouraged frequently).

- What if someone needs to arrive late or leave early? We understand that members have other activities and commitments throughout the weekend. Participants are allowed to arrive late, leave early, or leave and come back, as long as they are picked up by a parent or guardian, as participants are not permitted to drive themselves to/from Spring Convention. Additionally, we are not able to offer any prorated rates if a participant must miss parts of the convention.
- Why does a convention cost money? Great question! The convention fee helps cover the facilities, six meals (Friday dinner, Saturday breakfast, Saturday lunch, Saturday dinner, Sunday breakfast, and Sunday lunch) and plenty of snacks, convention supplies (programming materials, software purchased for convention, etc), staff, transportation, and more.
  - Extensive scholarship is available, and we strongly encourage you to apply. There is an
    opportunity to list why you are applying for a scholarship (COVID-related barriers, teen
    paying for convention, family expenses, etc.) that may paint a bigger picture than your
    AGI.

## OTHER FAQ

- Who is Spring Convention for? Spring Convention is for every Jewish teen involved with Liberty Region BBYO. Chapter leaders, chapter members, new members, seniors, and all members in between are invited and encouraged to attend! No leadership role or prior program participation is required to attend. <u>Teens must be registered members of BBYO to attend the convention.</u>
- Why should I attend Spring Con? BBYO conventions are one of the things that teens look forward to most during the school year. Conventions are planned and led by teens and are an opportunity for our region to come together as a community. Conventions provide teens with meaningful Jewish experiences and friendships that they will remember for years to come. This convention in particular, teens will vote for next year's regional teen leaders and have the chance to decide who will represent them on a regional and international level next year.
- Where will I be? At Camp Green Lane in Green Lane, PA (45 minutes outside of Philadelphia)
- How will I get there? Buses will be available from 7 different locations: Allentown, Harrisburg,
  Newtown, Plymouth Meeting, Scranton, and Wilmington DE. <u>Participants are not permitted to
  drive themselves to/from Spring Convention.</u> Final information about bus times and locations will
  be provided the week of convention. Available bus stops are subject to change based on
  registration numbers. We will alert families prior to canceling at bus stops.
- What are BBYO's community standards? Linked here is BBYO's Code of Conduct.
- Do you take roommate requests? For this particular convention, we do not take roommate
  requests. The purpose of this convention is for teens to meet members outside of their chapters
  and home communities. Many older teens often remark that they made their best friends in BBYO
  because they were bunked together. We purposely put older members who are strong leaders in
  each bunk to assist with making each teen feel welcome and comfortable.
- Is the food Kosher? All food at conventions are kosher-style, meaning dairy and meat are not served together. However, the food served may not be cooked in a kosher kitchen. If you/your teens require strictly kosher food, please email Regional Staff at liberty@bbyo.org
- My teen has a dietary restriction and/or allergy. Can you accommodate? Yes similar to the
  strict kosher option, we will ensure vegetarian, vegan, gluten-free, dairy-free meals are available
  if the Office is notified in advance. Please make sure to note this in the appropriate field in
  registration to ensure we can accommodate for your teen. All BBYO programs and events are
  nut-free.

My teen takes medication. What is your process for handling medication? Teens are
expected to self-administer their own prescription medication throughout the course of the
convention weekend. We will not be collecting and distributing medication during the convention
unless we receive a specific request from a teen's parent. If you would like to speak about your
teen's medication needs, please contact us at liberty@bbyo.org.

## **COVID-19 QUESTIONS**

- What are the precautions BBYO is taking to protect participants from COVID-19?
  - Our top priority is to keep everyone healthy and safe. Based on the CDC and BBYO guidelines, and our own experience and ability, we are moving forward with convention by doing the following:
    - All convention participants, staff, volunteers, and speakers are required to have the COVID-19 vaccine.
    - Masks will be required throughout the weekend, in exception to when we are eating, and when participants are sleeping.
    - Hand washing and sanitizer will be abundantly available (and encouraged frequently).
- What is BBYO's COVID-19 vaccination policy? As of August 2021, BBYO is requiring all teens, staff, and advisors attending any overnight programs (chapter, city, council, regional, and international programs) based in the United States to be fully vaccinated (vaccination date plus two weeks). Currently, Moderna, Pfizer, Astra Zeneca, or Johnson & Johnson are the accepted vaccines.
- Can my child present a negative PCR test in place of a vaccination to attend Spring Con?

  No. A COVID- 19 vaccination is required to participate in overnight programs.
- Are medical exemptions allowed for the vaccination policy? Yes. Each request will be
  reviewed by BBYO's medical advisors. Parents will need to <u>complete this form</u> and submit
  documentation from a medical doctor providing the specific details preventing the participant from
  getting the vaccination.
- How will teens show proof of COVID vaccinations? As part of the registration process for Spring Convention, parents will need to sign off on BBYO's <u>vaccine acknowledgement form</u> <u>here</u>. This form will only need to be completed once, so if you have already completed it, you do not need to do so again. Teens with incomplete vaccine acknowledgement forms will not be permitted to attend Spring Convention, unless they have been approved by BBYO's medical advisors for a medical exemption.
- Are COVID-19 tests required to attend convention? At this time, per BBYO policy, if a
  convention has over 150 attendees, everyone must provide a negative test result from the day of
  Convention starting (May 13th). This is subject to change. We will continue to communicate the
  most up to date testing procedures.