

BBYO Liberty Region (LBR) | Winter Convention 2021
Frequently Asked Questions

IMPORTANT DATES + REGISTRATION

- **When is Winter Convention 2021?** Winter Convention takes place **Friday, December 10 through Sunday, December 12**. 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?**
 - **Tuesday, October 26th:** Early bird registration opens at a discounted price of \$235 through November 11th. [Register here!](#)
 - **Monday, November 8th:** Scholarship applications due by 11:59pm. [Apply for scholarship here!](#)
 - **Tuesday, November 9th:** Scholarship allocations announced.
 - **Saturday, November 13th:** Regular registration pricing of \$260 begins until Wednesday, November 24th at 11:59pm.
 - **Thursday, November 25th:** Late registration price goes into effect. The cost will now be \$285.
 - **Monday, November 29th:** Registration closes at 11:59pm. After this date, partial refunds are available, but not guaranteed.
 - **Wednesday, December 1st:** As of this date, no refunds will be given.
 - **Sunday, December 5th** Anyone arriving late or leaving early, [must fill out this Google Form.](#)
- **Are there scholarships?** Need-based scholarships are available. Applications are due by Monday, November 8th at 11:59 PM.
 - [You can apply for scholarship here.](#) Applying for a scholarship confirms your registration. Late applications will not be accepted for any reason. 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 Tuesday, November 9th.
- **What is the cancellation/refund policy?** The deadline to cancel with a full program refund is the final registration deadline (Monday, November 29th). Until that date, full refunds will be granted for cancellations in writing (email is acceptable) for any reason. After the registration deadline (Monday, November 29th) partial refunds may be available based on convention expenses already paid (venue, transportation, etc.). Within ten days of convention (Wednesday, December 1st) 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.
 - 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 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 Winter Con. Additionally, we are not able to offer any prorated rates if a participant must miss parts of the convention.
 - Anyone who is arriving late or leaving early must fill out this [Google Form](#) by **Sunday, December 5th.**
- **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), guest speakers and workshop programming, 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 Winter Convention for?** Winter 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. Teens must be [registered members](#) of BBYO to attend the convention.
- **Why should I attend Winter 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.
- **Where will I be?** At Camp Harlam in Kunkletown, PA
- **How will I get there?** Buses will be available from 6 different locations: Allentown, Harrisburg, Plymouth Meeting, Wilkes Barre, and Wilmington DE. Participants are **not** permitted to drive themselves to/from Winter Con. Final information about bus times and locations will be provided the week of convention.
- **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?**
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 - 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 Winter 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 [complete this form](#) 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 Winter Con, parents will need to sign off on BBYO's [vaccine acknowledgement form here](#). 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 Winter Con, unless they have been approved by BBYO's medical advisors for a medical exemption.