



2022 US Tzu Chi Collegiate Association Leadership Conference Conference Overview

Last updated: 6/22/22

We are excited to announce the 2022 US Tzu Chi Collegiate Association (TCCA) Leadership Conference, to be held in-person at San Jose, California! We sincerely invite all current Tzu Ching leaders and recent Tzu Ching graduates to join us. Please find below key information to help you register for this year's conference.

Registration Link

You can register for the 2022 US TCCA Leadership Conference at: bit.ly/2022TCCA. Registration for the 2022 US TCCA Leadership Conference concluded on 5/31/22. Please reach out to yl.tcca@tzuchi.us with any questions or if you would like to be added to the waiting list.

Conference Objectives

The 2022 US TCCA Leadership Conference aims to achieve three major objectives:

1. Provide a deeper understanding of Tzu Chi ideas and principles
2. Connect participants with other TCCA chapters and Tzu Chi USA
3. Empower participants to develop stronger TCCA chapters in their local communities

Conference Dates

2022 US TCCA Leadership Conference: Thursday, 8/11/22 to Sunday, 8/14/22

Planning Team Retreat (staff only): Wednesday, 8/10/22 to Thursday, 8/11/22

Conference check-in will be on Thursday, 8/11/22 from 2-5 PM. The conference will officially start on Thursday, 8/11/22 at 5 PM and end on Sunday, 8/14/22 at 12 PM.

We ask that you make your best effort to attend the *entire* conference. Limited accommodations will be available for those who arrive late or leave early.

Eligible Participants

The following Tzu Chi and TCCA family members are eligible to attend this year's conference:

- Current Tzu Ching members and officers
- Recent Tzu Ching graduates (Class of 2019 and later)
- Tzu Ching regional and chapter advisors

Graduating high school seniors ("Tzu Shao") are admitted on a case by case basis.

Location

Tzu Chi Northwest Regional Office
2355 Old Oakland Rd
San Jose, CA 95131

Accommodations

The conference planning team will coordinate most accommodations for conference participants. Attendees are responsible for arranging their transportation to and from San Jose; please contact your regional or chapter advisor if you have any concerns with being able to get to the conference.

Hotel

All conference staff and participants, except for those local to San Jose, are expected to stay at the conference hotel. **NEW: Individuals staying at the conference hotel will be housed in single occupancy rooms.**

Transportation

Conference attendees will need to arrange for transportation to and from San Jose, CA. For those driving to the conference location, parking is available on site at no cost throughout the conference. For those flying into San Jose, shuttle service to and from San Jose International Airport (SJC) will be provided. **NEW: Limited shuttle service will also be available for those flying to San Francisco International Airport (SFO) or Oakland International Airport (OAK).** We recommend coordinating travel plans with others from your area (e.g., arrange carpools, plan to take the same flight, etc.)

Transit between the conference hotel and the Tzu Chi Northwest Regional Office will be arranged.

Meals

Meals and snacks will be provided. Please let us know if you have any dietary restrictions or other special requests and we will do our best to accommodate your needs.

Conference Fee

The conference fee helps to but does not fully offset the cost of hosting the conference, including lodging, food, transportation, and facilities. Different rates will apply depending on your role in Tzu Chi and your lodging preferences (see *Conference Fee Schedule below*).

We will calculate and confirm the expected conference fee for each attendee prior to the conference. The conference fee will be collected at conference check-in through cash or check (made payable to “Tzu Chi Foundation”). Additional donations are accepted.

UPDATED: Conference Fee Schedule

The conference fee schedule has been updated to reflect the latest decision to provide all conference participants and staff with single occupancy hotel accommodations. The *lower* conference fee rate from the previous fee schedule will apply, regardless of whether or not you opted to be housed in a 4-person or 2-person room.

Tzu Ching and Recent Graduates

Early Bird Registration (through 5/8/22)	\$50
Regular Registration (5/9/22-5/31/22)	\$70

Advisors

Early Bird Registration (through 5/8/22)	\$145
Regular Registration (5/9/22-5/31/22)	\$165

Local Attendees

Early Bird Registration (through 5/8/22)	\$40
Regular Registration (5/9/22-5/31/22)	\$40

Conference Fee Waivers

We aim for all interested Tzu Ching and recent graduates to be able to attend the conference. Conference fee waivers are available. We encourage those with concerns about the conference fee to apply for a conference fee waiver.

NEW: Prorated Conference Fees

The conference fee will not be prorated based on dates of anticipated attendance. In other words, conference participants and staff are expected to pay the full conference fee even if they cannot attend select conference dates.

Cancellation Policy

We understand that your plans may change unexpectedly. Please note a cancellation fee may apply if you cancel your registration after 6/30/22.

- Cancel before 6/30/22: No cancellation fee
- Cancel between 7/1/22 and 7/15/22: \$20 cancellation fee
- Cancel after 7/16/22: \$50 cancellation fee

There will be no cancellation fee for those who are unable to attend the conference due to COVID-19 infection.

COVID-19 Policy

UPDATED: The health and safety of all conference staff and participants is our highest priority. To provide a safe environment for all, we will adhere to COVID-19 safety guidelines established by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, state and local health authorities, and the Buddhist Tzu Chi Foundation.

The following measures will be implemented to protect the health and safety of all our attendees, speakers, and staff. These measures were informed by recommendations from public health experts as well as analysis of COVID-19 policies and protocols in place at other conferences. The measures seek to implement a multi-pronged approach to mitigate the risk of COVID-19 transmission during the conference.

Conference staff may change the policy at a later time to reflect what is needed to promote the health and safety of conference participants and be in compliance with local public health requirements.

COVID-19 Measures

Before the Conference

Conference participants are required to submit proof of full vaccination against COVID-19 including booster, as applicable.
Conference participants who feel sick or experience COVID-like symptoms, or those exposed to a confirmed or suspected case of COVID-19, should not participate in the in-person conference.
Conference participants are required to submit proof of a negative test prior to travel to the conference.
<i>During the Conference</i>
Conference participants will be required to wear a well-fitted, medical-grade mask at all times in the Tzu Chi office.
Conference participants will be required to complete a rapid COVID-19 antigen test daily.
Conference participants will be required to monitor daily for COVID-19 symptoms.
Conference staff will encourage and facilitate an environment to allow for sufficient physical distancing.
Conference sessions and activities will be held to maximize ventilation, particularly when masking is not possible.
Conference will adopt sanitation best practices and promote effective hand hygiene practices.
<i>After the Conference</i>
Conference participants will receive a rapid antigen test to complete when they return home.
Conference participants will be notified about potential COVID-19 exposure at the conference.
<i>Conference Isolation Policies</i>
Conference participants and staff who test positive for COVID-19 during the conference will be required to isolate at home (if they are local) or in the conference hotel.
To support the ability to quickly isolate COVID-19 positive individuals, all conference participants will be housed in single occupancy rooms.
Conference staff will provide immediate notification in the event of potential COVID-19 exposure from a close contact.

Conference participants who are exposed to COVID-19 (e.g., identified as a close contact from someone who tested positive) but (1) test negative and (2) do not show any symptoms will not be required to isolate.

By registering for the conference, you understand that attending the event carries a risk of exposure to COVID-19 and agree to follow all required measures implemented to protect the health of all conference staff and participants.

Questions

Please reach out to yl.tcca@tzuchi.us with any questions, comments, or concerns.