

DSACO 2019 NDSC Convention Assistance Application

DSACO is offering monetary reimbursement for expenses involved in attending the 2019 National Down Syndrome Congress Convention in Pittsburg, PA June 27-30 2019. Please see the eligibility and guidelines (page 4) for more details. Reimbursement will be given in amounts up to \$1,500. If paying up front will be too burdensome, applicants may apply for a hardship exception. **Applications must be postmarked by March 1, 2019. No exceptions will be made. Please send applications to:**

DSACO

Convention Assistance Committee
521 W. Wilshire Blvd. Suite 130
Oklahoma City, OK 73116

Or email: info@dsaco.org
Subject: DSACO Convention Assistance Committee

Please print or type information for each attendee that will be registering for the convention. Self-advocates please include your escort.

Name _____
Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Home Phone _____ Cell _____ Email _____
Circle relationship to person w/ Down syndrome:
Self-Advocate Parent Grandparent Sibling Legal Guardian Escort

Name _____
Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Home Phone _____ Cell _____ Email _____
Circle relationship to person w/ Down syndrome:
Self-Advocate Parent Grandparent Sibling Legal Guardian Escort

Additional attendees:

Name _____
Circle relationship to person with Down syndrome:
Self-Advocate Parent Grandparent Sibling Legal Guardian Escort

Name _____
Circle relationship to person with Down syndrome:
Self-Advocate Parent Grandparent Sibling Legal Guardian Escort

Name _____
Circle relationship to person with Down syndrome:
Self-Advocate Parent Grandparent Sibling Legal Guardian Escort

Circle Assistance type(s) applying for (one or more): Individual Family Self-Advocate

If awarded reimbursement, you will be required to 1) make a presentation upon returning from the convention, and 2) complete three volunteer activities with DSACO. Circle your preferences below, and we will contact you upon your return.

Venue preference for making a presentation:

Newsletter P2P Meeting New Parent Breakfast

Volunteering preference (choose three). Details can be found at dsaco.org/volunteer:
Tutoring Kylee's Kitchen Afternoon Snacks Special Event Office Assistance

Will you be applying for a hardship exception? This means DSACO will pay your expenses up front rather than through reimbursement. If so please briefly describe your situation.

If applying for a hardship exception, I understand and agree that I will be required to complete an interview process with the National Down Syndrome Convention Committee:

Yes No

**INDIVIDUAL OR FAMILY APPLICANTS
(Self-Advocates please skip to page 3)**

Please respond to the following. A separate sheet of paper may be used if necessary.

- 1) Describe how Down syndrome has impacted your family.

- 2) What do you and your family hope to gain from this convention?

- 3) How have YOU impacted your community about awareness of Down syndrome and/or persons with special needs?

- 4) How long have you been a member of DSACO? (Note: receiving mailings from DSACO denotes membership)

- 5) If you have participated as a volunteer working on one or more of DSACO's committees and/or projects please describe your involvement including Committee, dates involved and your activity while on the committee or project.

- 6) What are your plans for becoming/continuing your involvement in DSACO?

- 7) Have you attended a national convention in the past or received convention assistance from DSACO to attend a national convention previously?

If yes, list number of conventions attended, dates, and assistances received. How did you share with DSACO about the last convention attended (i.e. Newsletter or P2P)?

Skip to page 4 to sign the consent form. Consent form must be signed to receive the assistance.

SELF-ADVOCATE APPLICANTS

Please respond to the following. A parent or adult may assist with writing or transcription. A separate sheet of paper may be used if necessary.

8) ABOUT YOU

What is your birth date?

Where do you live?

What is your favorite thing about yourself?

Who will be attending the convention as your escort?

What are your hobbies?

9) ABOUT YOUR SCHOOL

Have you graduated from High School?

If yes, go to question #11

What grade/year are you in school?

Where do you go to school?

What is your favorite subject or activity at school?

10) ABOUT YOUR JOB

Do you have a job?

If no, go to question #12. Where do you work?

What do you do at work?

What is your favorite thing about your job?

11) THE CONVENTION

Why do you want to attend the convention?

Have you attended the convention before as a self-advocate, if yes, list years?

How did you share with DSACO about the last convention you attended (in the newsletter, P2P meeting, teen/adult event)?

CONSENT FORM

I understand that I must pay for my travel expenses up front, and that I will be reimbursed immediately upon turning in my receipts. I understand that if I am applying for a hardship exception, I will be required to complete an interview process with the Committee.

Signed (applicant) _____ Date _____

Print Name _____

Applications must be postmarked or emailed by March 1, 2019, to address and email on page 1.

DSACO National Convention Assistance Guidelines & Eligibility

Eligibility:

In order to be eligible for the convention assistance, applicants:

- Must have Down syndrome or be an immediate family member such as parent, legal guardian, sibling, or grandparent of a person(s) with Down syndrome. Self-advocates must be 15 or older and an adult must accompany them to the convention.
- Must live within the DSACO outreach area.
- Those who received full conference assistance in 2018 must take one year off before applying again. Those who received and accepted partial assistance may apply again.
- May submit multiple applications per family; however, no more than one convention assistance will be awarded per family.
- Families receiving assistance for another conference are not eligible for assistance for NDSC in the same calendar year.
- Involvement with DSACO and/or the wider community is not required, but will be taken into consideration.
- Must sign and agree to the consent form in order to be considered. Under certain circumstances, if the assistance recipient withdraws, he/she will be required to repay the convention assistance amount received.
- Must make a presentation about the convention by one or more of the following within 90 days of returning from the convention:
 - DSACO newsletter
 - DSACO Parent 2 Parent meeting
 - Teen/Adult Gathering
 - New Parent Breakfast
- Must volunteer with three DSACO events/programs, to be arranged within 90 days of returning
- Must complete the Assistance Report and send in copies of receipts in order to receive

reimbursements.

Guidelines:

All funds will be paid directly to the convention assistance recipient immediately upon turning in receipts.

Failure of the convention assistance recipient to comply with the policies governing this assistance may be grounds for denial of any future consideration by DSACO for any of its programs for a minimum of two years.

Selection process may require an interview.

To qualify for the **family convention assistance**, two family members **MUST** attend and be enrolled in the convention (this can be parents, siblings, self-advocates, children, etc.)

Convention assistance recipients will be notified by phone, email or mail no later than March 25, 2019. Registration for the national convention will open March 25, 2019.

Applicants are responsible for registering/coordinating all travel plans related to this convention.

Other terms and conditions may apply.

*****Application must be postmarked or emailed by March 1, 2019.*****

Send applications to 521 W. Wilshire Blvd. Suite 130 OKC, OK 73116. For additional information regarding convention assistance, please contact info@dsaco.org. Applications will be available on the DSACO website, www.dsaco.org. For additional information regarding the NDSC convention, please contact the National Down Syndrome Congress at 1-800-232-6372, via email at info@ndscenter.org or visit their website at www.ndsc.org.