



## Frequently Asked Questions – FL SAND Conference

### Registration and Hotel Reservations

- 1. Will there be an in-person conference?** Yes. We are proceeding with planning an in-person conference with a virtual experience for those who do not feel comfortable attending in person. FL SAND takes the safety of its members very seriously. We will be implementing COVID-19 protocols, including those required by the Rosen Plaza and FDDC. There will be 30-minute breaks between sessions to allow hotel staff to disinfect rooms. We will be requiring social distancing in our designated common areas, in meeting rooms, and by limiting seating at tables. Masks over the nose and mouth are required in all FL SAND conference areas, except when eating and drinking. Because of social distancing we may have to limit registration. If that happens, we will compile a waiting list.
- 2. What COVID restrictions will be in place at the conference?** Please read the FDDC COVID-19 Guidance document and the COVID-19 Questionnaire that all in-person attendees will be required to complete. Both are posted on the conference web page at [FLSAND.org](http://FLSAND.org).
- 3. Do I need to register for the conference?** Yes, everyone attending the conference needs to register online or by mailing a paper registration form to OMS, including extra advisors, family members, providers, and PCAs that may be accompanying groups. Everyone will be issued a name badge. All paper forms should be mailed or emailed to the addresses listed on the bottom of the registration form. Download registration forms at [www.flsand.org](http://www.flsand.org). You can also register online at [www.flsand.org](http://www.flsand.org). Online attendees must also pre-register for the virtual experience but that process has not been finalized. We will let our membership know when we have all the details.

4. **What does the Virtual Experience involve?** At this time we are planning to stream the general sessions on Saturday morning, break-out sessions Saturday afternoon, and our general membership meeting and annual reports Sunday morning. We are also exploring ways to include our virtual attenders in our Friday night opening and Q & A about the “Peanut Butter Falcon.” We will not be able to stream the movie and encourage all those at home to make plans to watch the film before the conference, or Friday night at the same time folks are watching the movie at the Rosen Plaza, so they will be prepared to participate in the discussion. We are still firming up details on this virtual experience and will post them as soon as they are final.
  
5. **Is there a registration fee?** Self-advocates, required PCAs, and one advisor per group who register by July 5 do not have to pay a registration fee. There is a \$150 registration fee for family members, providers, vendors, and others. Registration after July 5 must be approved by FL SAND and OMS. Extra advisors and family members who need assistance with the registration fee can petition FL SAND/OMS for a scholarship to help cover some of the fee. Reach out to us at [contactflsand@gmail.com](mailto:contactflsand@gmail.com). There is no fee for the virtual experience for self-advocates.
  
6. **How do I make my hotel reservation at the Rosen Plaza?** Work with your advisor to make arrangements for sharing rooms with your group members, if necessary. Also, ask your advisor if you need help making a reservation. Reservations need to be made directly with the Rosen Center. You can do this on the conference page on FLSAND.org or by calling (407) 996-9700. To get the reduced FL SAND rate of \$139 per night (plus 12.5 taxes), you must say you are attending the FL SAND Conference. Those needing an ADA room should call to make a reservation. Those needing a wheelchair accessible room should make their reservation as soon as possible as these rooms are limited. Rooms must be reserved by 5 p.m. June 30 to receive the discounted rate, which may be used up to three nights before or after the conference. Please make sure you are aware of all hotel cancellation policies associated with our block rate.
  
7. **When should I arrive at the conference?** Conference registration opens at 3 pm Friday, July 30, but you can’t check in to your room until 4 pm. Board members and

advisors should arrive in time to attend the board of directors strategic planning session Friday, July 30, from 4-5:30 PM. Enjoy dinner on your own then head back to the hotel for the kick-off event at 7 PM.

8. **How will group reports be handled at the conference?** We won't call them annual reports this go-round since it will have been 2.5 years between conferences when we see each other in July, but a highlight of the conference is each group sharing what they've been up to. Groups may present while they are all together at home and upload the video to You Tube for us to play/stream at the conference (if your group uses Zoom, you can make a recording of your Zoom presentation and upload it to YouTube). Or, groups may designate their members attending the conference to present the annual report live. Slides for live presentations or links to videos of presentations will need to be sent to OMS at least one week before the conference. At this time we DO intend for the annual reports to be part of the virtual experience.

### **Meals and Dinner Saturday Night**

9. **What meals are provided at the conference?** Your registration includes refreshments Friday evening, lunch Saturday, and dinner Saturday evening, all at the Rosen Plaza. Enjoy dinner Friday and other meals on your own in the hotel restaurants or at a variety of restaurants within walking distance of the Rosen Plaza. Note: room reservations do not include breakfast.

### **Transportation to the Conference**

10. **How do I make travel arrangements?** Attendees and groups are responsible for their own transportation to the conference. Work together with your group and advisor to find an affordable ride to the conference. OMS will reimburse groups for the cost of some or all of their transportation to the conference. Please direct questions to Tina St.Clair with OMS.
11. **Who should I contact if I have a question?** Contact Kelli Munn at (352) 224-0223 / [contactflsand@gmail.com](mailto:contactflsand@gmail.com)