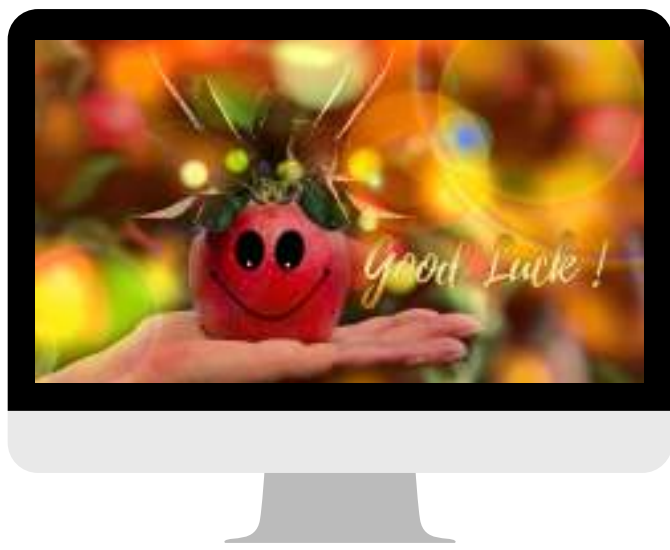


WISCONSIN PAGES



2021 NLC Edition!



Good Luck, Wisconsin BPA!

**Download the NLC
Conference Preview Guide
and NLC Hype Video:
Click Here!**



PREPARE FOR THE ULTIMATE NLC EXPERIENCE!

Congratulations on successfully competing in your events at SLC and qualifying to represent the Wisconsin Association of Business Professionals of America (BPA) by competing at the National Leadership Conference (NLC) held virtually April 26 through May 9, 2021.

Here are a few tips to prepare for our first virtual NLC:

- 1. Professional dress is required for all events:** General Sessions, all Competitive Events (judged, non-judged, and opens), Campaign Rally, Caucuses, Workshops, and National Leadership Academy. Please remember to follow the dress code for the entire virtual conference. There is an article in this newsletter that covers how to dress for a successful conference. You are always correct to wear a suit; dress; shirt and slacks; or a blouse and skirt (or slacks). There is also a casual dress code. The dress code is also listed on page 3 of the conference preview guide.
- 2. Review the Envision Empower Ignite Conference Preview Guide.** Go to www.bpa.org/nlc to access the conference preview guide. It is recommended that you read through the conference preview guide from cover to cover. Pay close attention to the event schedule and information shared about professional development opportunities you can sign up for during the conference. Are you aware that there are professional development opportunities available year-round through www.bpa.org.
- 3. Download and install Whova,** the BPA National Leadership Conference (NLC) Official Event application from the Google Store (android phones) or the App Store (iphones). The Whova app will make sure you have the most up-to-date conference schedule information. Additionally, it is possible to access presenter's profiles, network with attendees, use the agenda to locate events, and receive updates from conference organizers.
- 4. Download the WSAP Guidelines.** Go to <https://members.bpa.org/member-login/> to login. Then go to <https://members.bpa.org/download-center/> to download the guidelines for your events. Please use these guidelines to help you prepare for your competitions.
- 5. Please ask questions if you need assistance preparing for NLC.** Feel free to contact your State Officer Team for assistance. We are here to serve you. Additionally, reach out to your advisor(s), instructors, etc.

**NOW THAT WE HAVE CONQUERED OUR CHALLENGES, PREPARE
TO ENVISION, EMPOWER AND IGNITE YOUR SUCCESS AT NLC.**

See you there!

DRESSING FOR SUCCESS

NLC is almost here, and this year is going to be a year to remember!

It will be our first-ever completely virtual National Leadership Conference, and while we are not meeting in person, it is important to remember you are still representing your chapter, your college and Wisconsin BPA.

There is an expectation to be an active and engaged participant during conference events, and there are several ways you can present the best possible version of yourself, even through a virtual medium.

During any event you participate in, such as your competitive events and general sessions, there is an expectation that you will be dressed professionally. Here are some tips and tricks for understanding what is considered "business professional" when it comes to your conference attire:



At other times during NLC, it is acceptable to dress in business casual attire. Some examples include seminars and other conference meetings. The below chart gives a visual representation of business casual attire for men and women:



A few other reminders: make sure your hair is brushed and professionally styled, makeup is minimal and natural, and any facial hair is trimmed. Make sure your fingernails are clean and manicured. Lastly: *smile, be engaged and have fun!*

Your appearance and your presence matters. You may be interacting with company CEOs or leaders of our organization. This conference is a great opportunity to put your best foot forward and make a great impression. Let's make our schools and our state proud!

VIRTUAL MEETING CHECKLIST

Lights, Camera, Action!
Professionalism Is Important!
Check Your Background!

Technology Suggestions

- **Computer:** Internet-enabled computer w/ camera (PC/MAC, desktop or laptop)
- **Internet:** Make sure you have a strong internet connection, a hard-wired is preferred. Bee as close to your router as possible, especially if connection is wireless.
- **Audio:** If using computer microphone, earbuds/headphones with a microphone will drown out any nearby noises during your virtual meetings.
- **Web Camera:** Enable the High Definition option and test video beforehand.

Room Setup and Location

- **Secure the Area:** Make sure you can eliminate outside distractions/interruptions.
- **Lighting:** Consider the location of your webcam and lighting during the time of presentation. Be cautious of placing the camera by windows or skylights. Ensure your video background is tidy and not distracting to other attendees.
- **Private Area:** Try to attend your virtual meetings in a separate room. Make a note on your door to discourage any possible interruptions, if applicable.
- **Stay Hydrated:** Have a glass or bottle of water nearby.
- **Backgrounds:** Have a solid-colored background behind you that is not distracting, if possible. National BPA Virtual backgrounds are available for download.

WebEx Practice Session

Practice connecting to the platform: <https://www.webex.com/test-meeting.html>



MERIT SCHOLAR STUDY SESSION WEBINAR!

JOIN US FOR THE LAST
SESSION OF THE
2021 WISCONSIN BPA
WEBINAR SERIES!



Who: Wisconsin BPA Members, Advisors, Alumni

When: Wednesday, April 21st | 7 p.m. CST

How: Zoom (free, registration required)

REGISTER HERE:
[WEBINAR REGISTRATION LINK!](#)

See you there!



NLC Torch Award Opportunities

By: Lisa Kleman, Wisconsin BPA State Vice President

Are you attending the 2021 National Leadership Conference?

Are you looking to participate in the Torch Awards program?

If you answered yes to these question, you have a wonderful opportunity to earn Torch Award Points at this year's virtual conference!

Listed below are some codes that you can enter into your resume for participating in NLC activities/events. **Be sure to review the Conference Preview Guide and Torch Awards Handbook for a complete list of possible activities!**

LEADERSHIP

- #131: Participate in the NLC BPA National Leadership Academy
- #132: Serve as a BPA National Leadership Conference Volunteer or Intern
- #150: Participate in a leadership training presented by BPA/another organization

KNOWLEDGE

- #412: Participate in a competitive event (individual/team) at NLC
- #413: Place in the top ten of a competitive event (individual/team) at NLC
- #414: Attend a workshop at a BPA leadership conference
- #425: Take a BPA Merit Scholar Test at NLC
- #426: Earn at BPA Merit Scholar Award at NLC
- #436: Take a certification exam at NLC
- #437: Achieve a certification at NLC
- #441: Attend a BPA professional webinar

FRIENDSHIP

- #506: Attend a BPA National Leadership Conference
- #517: Establish an acquaintance with a BPA member in another state
- #528: Establish an acquaintance with a BPA member in another chapter



How to Enter Torch Awards

By: Lisa Kleman, Wisconsin BPA State Vice President

1. Go to <https://members.bpa.org/>
2. Press the BPA Member Login button , found in the upper middle of the page.
3. On this page, you will see an area to enter your username and password.
**You should have received your unique member ID/password from your chapter advisor. If you don't have this information, connect with your advisor or State Director Dianne Carroll at Carroll@ntc.edu*
4. Once you login, scroll until you see Torch Awards (the second row of links). Press the 'Learn More About Torch Awards. Take the opportunity to review the categories and download/print the Torch Awards Handbook, found in the middle of the page in a tan box.
6. Click the button that says 'Visit Our Online Torch Awards Portal'.
7. Enter your Member ID/password again and click on the blue 'Login' button.
8. You will be required to watch an video the first time you enter the landing page. You will earn Torch Awards for completing this activity, under Knowledge #442.
9. Click on "Torch Awards", under the blue ribbon near the top of the page.
10. On this page you will click on Add Activity and choose the desired category. This page is where you will find categories, available points, possible points and any points you submitted.
11. Find the desired code and click on the arrow on the far-right side of your desired code.
12. Enter your activity date and description. Make sure descriptions are complete sentences. Add a photo or document to your activity description, if you would like.
**Example: "I attended a NTC BPA general chapter meeting."*
14. Click Submit!
15. Once you have submitted your activities and have reached the level of Executive, Diplomat, Statesman, and/or Ambassador, make sure to let your advisor know that you have completed your Torch Awards Resume.



IMPORTANT NLC EVENTS:

IMPORTANT NOTE: The times listed in the NLC Preview Guide are in Eastern Standard Time (EST). Please remember to double check time zone differences.

Wisconsin State Meeting: Wednesday, May 5, 2021 @ 6:30 p.m. CST

Opening General Session: Wednesday May 5, 2021 @ 7:30 p.m. CST

Post-Secondary Business Meeting: Thursday, May 6, 7:00 p.m. CST

National Honor Awards: Friday, May 7, 11:30am CST

NLC Special Event: Friday, May 7, 6:00 p.m. CST

NLC Awards Session Finale: Saturday, May 8, 5:00 p.m. CST



VISIT US ONLINE!

<https://bpa.org/wisconsin/>



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bpa / mall
Check out the new BPA Mall,
where you can order BPA items/apparel:
<https://bpa.org/mall>





WISCONSIN
**BUSINESS
PROFESSIONALS**
of AMERICA

Giving Purpose to Potential

Mission

The Mission of Business Professionals of America is: To develop and empower student leaders to discover their passion and change the world by creating unmatched opportunities in learning, professional growth and service.

Vision

The Vision of Business Professionals of America is: To be an innovator in Career and Technical Education, providing our members with opportunities for growth through education, competition, community service, and personal development.

Pledge

We are met in a spirit of friendship and goodwill as we prepare for careers in a world-class workforce. We work together to develop professionalism and leadership through Business Professionals of America and pledge our loyalty to our nation.