



2021 NICWA Annual Conference

Frequently Asked Questions

Each year, NICWA hosts the largest national gathering on American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) child advocacy issues. With over 1,400 attendees—and growing every year—this four-day conference has become the premiere national event addressing tribal child welfare and well-being.

Many of your questions can be answered through the dropdown list of pages on our [conference webpage](#), but we have added more information about additional questions you may have below. Please review this list of frequently asked questions to help you make the most of your virtual conference experience.

1. [*Why are we offering a virtual conference this year, what's unique about this year?*](#)
2. [*What's the best source of up-to-date information?*](#)
3. [*Is there a daily conference rate? What are the registration fees?*](#)
4. [*How do I know if I'm registered?*](#)
5. [*How do I know if I'm a member?*](#)
6. [*Who is eligible for the special rates?*](#)
7. [*Are there group discounts?*](#)
8. [*Are there scholarships available?*](#)
9. [*What equipment do I need to participate?*](#)
10. [*Can I buy a t-shirt?*](#)
11. [*What is the Welcome Kit?*](#)
12. [*Will there be networking?*](#)
13. [*Will there be vendors/exhibitors?*](#)
14. [*What if I can't make all of the workshops? Will recordings be available?*](#)
15. [*Are there volunteer opportunities?*](#)
16. [*Are CEU or CLEs still available for the virtual format?*](#)
17. [*Do you have a letter to employers or tribes for financial assistance?*](#)
18. [*Who do we contact for questions?*](#)

General Conference Questions

1. ***Why are we offering a virtual conference this year, what's unique about this year?***
We begin the planning process for our annual conference many months before the event to ensure a wonderful experience for all attendees. The NICWA Board of Directors and executive leadership made the decision to hold our 2021 conference virtually this year to ensure the safety and well-being of our constituents, communities, families, and children across Indian Country. After careful consideration and closely monitoring recommendations from the World Health Organization (WHO) and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC), and comprehensive evaluation amidst rising case counts in the COVID-19 pandemic across the country, travel restrictions and shut-downs amongst

many tribes and agencies, we agreed this is most responsible choice for everyone involved.

Supporting the health and well-being of Native children and families is central to NICWA's mission, and keeping people safe, especially during these circumstances, is paramount. As the largest national gathering of advocates for American Indian and Alaska Native children and families, we recognize our responsibility to consider the safety of families, tribes, and communities and not convene a large public gathering.

2. *What's the best source for up-to-date conference information?*

Download our mobile app by searching NICWA in the app store. There you can find all conference details.

3. *Is there a daily conference rate? What are the registration fees?*

Unfortunately, there is no rate available for daily registration. You can find a chart of the conference registration fees at www.nicwa.org/cost-registration/

4. *How do I know if I'm registered?*

A registration confirmation number will be sent to you automatically upon registration. If you have questions, please email us at training@nicwa.org and we can help with your registration information.

5. *How do I know if I'm a member?*

Memberships are purchased annually and expire 12 months after the date of purchase. If you would like us to check your membership status, we are happy to do so. Please email us at membership@nicwa.org.

6. *Who is eligible for the special rates?*

We have several *special* rates available: youth and elder, foster/adopted person, and presenter rate. Youth under 24 and elders 65 and older are eligible for the youth and elder rate. Foster/adopted person rate is open to current or licensed foster parents, current adoptive parents, adult adoptees, and fostered individuals. The presenter rate is open to up to three presenters per presentation. See our cost and registration webpage for more information: www.nicwa.org/cost-registration.

7. *Are there group discounts?*

Yes, for groups of five or more there is a 5% discount and for groups of 10 or more there is a 10% discount. Groups must register together in order to receive a discount.

8. *Are there scholarships available?*

Unfortunately, we are unable to offer scholarships this year. If you would like a letter to your employer or tribe to help advocate for financial assistance for conference registration fees, please visit: www.nicwa.org/cost-registration

9. *What equipment do I need to participate?*

You will need a computer with speakers and internet access. A webcam and mic are not required but are suggested to help attendees engage with speakers and other participants. A phone line can also be used in the event internet connection is unstable.

10. *Can I buy a t-shirt?*

Yes, you can buy a t-shirt during the registration process. Towards the end of registration, on the "registration items" page under "additional items" you can select the option to buy a t-shirt and select your size and quantity. All t-shirt orders must be received by March 5, 2021.

11. *What is the Welcome Kit?*

Participant welcome kits are to enhance your virtual experience this year, which will include branded conference swag, similar to our in-person tote bags. If you purchase a t-shirt, it will also be included in the welcome kit. In order to receive a Welcome Kit you must be registered, and fees must be received by March 18, 2021.

12. *Will there be networking?*

Yes! The platform we are using has the capabilities to ensure a smooth networking experience for attendees. More information will be available as the conference approaches.

13. Will there be vendors/exhibitors?

Yes! The platform we are using has the capabilities to ensure a smooth vendor/exhibitor experience for attendees to interact and purchase from vendors. More information will be available as the conference approaches.

14. What if I can't make all of the workshops? Will recordings be available?

Yes, recordings will be available for 30 days after the conference ends.

15. Are there volunteer opportunities?

Unfortunately, we are not able to offer volunteer opportunities this year due to the nature of the virtual conference.

16. Are CEU or CLEs still available for the virtual conference?

Yes, CEUs will be available.

17. Do you have a letter to employers or tribes for financial assistance?

Yes, we do. Please see here: <https://www.nicwa.org/cost-registration/>

18. Who do we contact for questions?

Please contact us at training@nicwa.org with any questions.