

The Augustine Fellowship, S.L.A.A., Fellowship-Wide Services, Inc.
Virtual 2020 Annual Business Conference/Meeting (ABC/M)
 July 31, 2020

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

There are many questions as a new Delegate or member wanting to attend this year's Virtual ABC/M. The **Conference Service Manual (CSM) 2020** is where most questions can be answered as well as the By-Laws 2019 (both posted on the F.W.S. Website). For a quick reference these FAQs are provided.

1. What is a Delegate?
A member elected by an Intergroup or Group(s) to represent them at the ABC/M and to bring back the results of that meeting. Pages 11, 14 CSM 2020
2. Who is an Observer?
Any individual who registers and attends the ABC/M but is not a voting member of the Conference. An Observer pays the registration fees...Observers are frequently members with previous ABM service experience and may help facilitate... page 11 CSM 2020
3. What is a First-Time Delegate?
Member who has never been to an ABC/M...page 25 CSM 2020
4. How many Delegates can an Intergroup send to an ABM?
"Each Intergroup shall be entitled to one delegate member for up to the first five groups it represents, and one for each additional five groups or fraction thereof." By-Laws Article V. Section 5a.
5. Who gets to vote at an ABM?
The Conference refers to the voting body of the ABM as outlined in the By-Laws, Article V, Section 8c that includes "delegate members, members of the Board of Trustees, senior staff as interpreted by the Board of Trustees, members of the F.W.S. Administrative Staff, the Chair of the Conference Charter Committee, and the Journal editor." Page 10 CSM 2020
6. How do I nominate myself or someone to the Board of Trustees?
If you or someone you know has three (3) years continuous self-defined sobriety and a willingness to serve visit: <https://slaafws.org/files/BOTRecruitment.pdf> (see also By-Laws, Article VI Sections 2, 3 and 4)
7. What Time Zone is used for the Virtual 2020 ABM?
Central Time (CT) in San Antonio, Texas (head office of S.L.A.A.)
8. Why is there a Registration Fee for a Virtual ABM?
This year is the first time that a Virtual ABC/M is being held. There are costs to purchase the Pro Zoom platform from May-August. In addition, a printed ABM Binder will be shipped to all participants (unless they indicate otherwise). Observers have always paid the same fees as the Delegates except for the Travel Equalization Fund at in-person ABMs. The Registration Fee for in-Person ABMs has been \$285. There have also been One-Day Passes for \$230 for non-voting members that included a meal. The Registration Fee not only supports the ABM but encourages a commitment to show up.
9. Are there any scholarships this year?
There are five (5) \$100 scholarships for North American Delegates from contributions by members to this fund over the last two years. In addition, there are five (5) \$100 scholarships for International Delegates allocated by the Board of Trustees. See flyers posted on the F.W.S. Website for details.
10. What is a digital vs. a printed **ABM Binder** with a Supplemental Packet?
 - a. All members paying a registration fee will be sent a printed ABM Binder and Supplemental Packet. The ABM Binder contains a Welcome Letter, ABC/M Schedule, List of Conference Committees and Board of Trustees Committees Members, Annual Reports, ABM Agenda Third Version, BOT Candidate Information, CSM 2020, Appendix of Forms/Info, By-Laws, and Motions Index (1980-2019). (If you do not want a printed binder this may be indicated on the online Registration Form.)
 - b. The Supplemental Packet contains the 8 Core Documents, free copy of the most recent Journal (ABM Issue), and other relevant information.

- c. A digital ABM Binder includes everything in a printed ABM Binder. However, it may be difficult to use the digital ABM Binder while using Zoom. A Supplemental Packet is not available in the digital format and will be shipped to all participants paying the Registration Fee. (If you do not want a Supplemental Packet this may be indicated on the online Registration Form.)
11. What is a Conference Committee?
Conference Committees are listed on page 9 of the CSM 2020 and work throughout the year to help accomplish the work of the Conference...pages 10, 16-19 CSM 2020.
 12. What is the ABM Agenda Fourth Version?
This is the final version for an ABM and distributed the morning after the deadline to receive Motions and IFDs (Items for Discussion) ...page 11 CSM 2020
 13. Why aren't we voting on Motions or discussing IFDs this year?
Due to the cancellation of the in-person ABC/M July 28-31st in Sacramento CA (pandemic/COVID-19), a one-day virtual ABC/M was scheduled to conduct the essential business of the Fellowship. This includes reports and electing/confirming the Board of Trustees.
 14. What will happen to the 2020 ABM Agenda?
It will be carried over to the 2021 ABC/M.
 15. Which virtual platform will be used?
Pro Zoom will be used to host the ABC/M and Conference Committee Meetings/Sessions. More details at <https://slaafws.org/abminfo>.
 16. Do I have to update Zoom?
Download the latest version of the Zoom Client to your PC or Mac. Visit <https://zoom.com/download>. Browser extensions will not be allowed, as they have very limited functionality, and tablets and smartphones do not have full capabilities either, and are not recommended.
 17. How do I get a name tag or ribbon?
There will be no physical name tags or ribbons distributed this year due to the cancellation of the in-person 4-day ABC/M and the scheduling of a virtual ABC/M. However, to organize our virtual event room, we are asking all participants to enter their name in a special format when signing in to Zoom. Details are included in registration confirmation.
 18. Are all ABC/Ms going to be virtual now?
To be determined