



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Advocacy

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Can a 501(c)(3) organization lobby?

Yes. That is a common misconception of 501(c)(3) organizations. There are some restrictions for a 501(c)(3) organization regarding the level and type of lobbying they can do, however those restrictions will not prohibit BPW Foundation from being able to lobby in much the same manner as BPW/USA. A 501(c)(3) organization cannot have a PAC nor endorse candidates. The table bellows details the similarities and differences

Table with 3 columns: Merger of BPW/USA & BPWF, BPW/USA -- 501c(4), BPW Foundation -- 501c(3). Rows include Public Education/Issue Awareness, Membership (tax-deductible), Member Benefits, Affinity Relationships, Lobbying, Polling on issues, Professional Development, Voter Education & Registration, Candidate Education, Voter record / guide distribution, PAC.

How will the Legislative Platform be developed without member input?

There will be no national platform; however each state could develop one and work on priority issues affecting states.

How will BPW's presence in Washington DC be affected by the merger?

BPW Foundation already has a presence in Washington as a result of the research and education programs they have conducted. BPW Foundation information is data driven. BPW Foundation will continue to have an impact on policy's affecting working women, their families, women veterans and workplaces.

Will there still be a Policy & Action meeting?

This would be a BPW Foundation decision. BPW Foundation will continue to share information affecting working women, their families, women veterans and workplaces.

Can contributions to BPW Foundation be restricted just for advocacy?

Limiting the use of contributions to a research and education foundation could be short sighted. How would BPW Foundation advocate without the research for which policy makers are seeking? Many groups find that restrictions get in the way and hinder their mission. Larger, monetary contributions for a designated purpose make greater sense and have an impact upon the mission.



Business and Professional Women / USA

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What will happen to the advocacy and letter writing tool currently available on the BPW/USA website?

It is an asset contained in the web site which will transfer to BPW Foundation upon merger. This will be an item of discussion by the Joint Implementation Taskforce.

What will happen to Red Purse Society?

The limited funds which remain in the Red Purse Society fund will be transferred to BPW Foundation as will the Red Purse brand and/or logo. Advocacy and education on successful workplace issues, pay equity and FMLA will continue.

Please direct any additional questions to BPWmerger@bpwusa.org.

OUR MISSION

To achieve equity for all women in the workplace through advocacy, education and education