



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

State and Local Organizations

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Will BPW/USA provide each local’s banking information to the state?

Yes. States may already have this info, but BPW/USA will ensure everyone has the necessary information to collect dues.

Will States now be in control of their governance structure and the Policy and Procedures Handbook?

Yes. There will be no national mandates or controls. Many see this as providing exciting opportunities.

Won’t states need additional money for costs associated with member databases, dues collection, etc. which was formerly covered by national dues?

Some costs may increase, however some expenses may decrease, such as costs associated with officer or representatives attending national meetings and conventions. Each state will need to assess their own situation.

Where can we find information on “The New Local?”

“Kick Start Your Local” is a PowerPoint presentation developed by Nancy Jackson, PNP and Tina Garner, BPW/USA Treasurer. It will help your LO revitalize, invigorate and grow! It can be found in the member section of the website, “tools and resources” – “manuals and tools”.

What will happen to the membership database?

The membership database is considered an asset, and will be transferred to BPW Foundation at the time of merger. The membership function at the time of merger will become the responsibility of the states and local organizations.

Can states/local organizations operate under BPW Foundation’s 501 umbrella forever or will they need their own non-profit status?

A 501 status is given by your state government. State Federations are not under BPW Foundation’s or BPW/USA’s “umbrella” status. State laws vary. It is recommended to verify with your state officials how your state/local organizations are incorporated.

How will State Federations and Local Organizations share information and best practices with each other and with members? What kind of assistance will they get?

A special taskforce (State and Local and LO Transition Issues Team – SLOTI) has been formed to be assist states in addressing the issues surrounding transitioning from a federated model, sharing best practices and identifying common issues. Information will be shared mid-April. New social media such as Facebook, blogs, etc will become instrumental in sharing information and keeping in contact.



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Will we still be able to charter new local organization?

Yes, however this would become a state function and responsibility. There will be no charters issued by BPW Foundation.

Will there be some kind of dues software that States and LO's can share?

Information is being gathered by the State and Local and LO Transition Issues Team. States/local organizations are not prohibited from sharing to the extent of compliance with software license agreements.

Are state federations and local organizations expected to have a Foundation Chair?

There are no longer mandated positions (officers, chair, committees, etc). Each state will develop their own governance and organizational structure. In view of the merger with BPW Foundation, a Foundation Chair position is encouraged.

Will locals need to get a new charter? Do the current charters need to be sent to BPW/USA as they would be if local organizations dissolved?

New charters will not be issued. Unless instructed otherwise by BPW/USA in the future, locals can keep their charters as part of their history.

How does the merger impact the state/local filing with the IRS?

There is no change. State and Local organizations will continue to file the appropriate 990 form for Non-Profit Organizations as they have done in the past.

What is the last date BPW/USA will collect dues?

June 30, 2009. No invoices will be mailed after June 1, 2009.

Will there be a contact at BPW Foundation for membership questions?

No. BPW Foundation will not handle any membership questions or activities. Communication on membership will be between State and Local Organizations. Currently there are over 700 members in the national Facebook group, exchanging information with one another. After the merger, networks will naturally evolve to share information and ideas.

How will we get new membership pins? What will happen to BPW Supply?

Purchases can still be made from BPW Supply. BPW Supply is one of a number of BPW/USA affinity partners. Future of affinity partner arrangements will be part of the discussion with the Joint Implementation Team.

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Will any joint state and BPW Foundation conferences occur?

That would be a BPW Foundation decision. If held, the conferences would be very different in character from former national conferences.

In order to participate in a 2009 state conference must a BPW/USA member have dues currently paid?

Yes. In order to be eligible to vote, a member must be in good standing, which means that National, State and Local dues are current.

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

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