National Federation of the Blind of Ohio

2024 National Convention Assistance Form

The National Federation of the Blind 2024 national convention will take place on July 3rd through July 8th in Orlando, Florida.

Because the Ohio affiliate resources are limited, only partial assistance will be granted. As we make every effort to grant sponsorship, those chosen to receive funds must find additional means to supplement their individual income. Please complete this form and submit any relevant information that is requested before April 15, 2024. Requests received after that date may not be considered. For questions, contact President Payne at rchpay7@gmail.com or call 937-829-3368.

NOTE: For anyone receiving convention assistance, you will be expected to

• Pre-register for the Convention and attend the banquet,

• Make your hotel reservation,

• Book your airfare,

• Volunteer as needed,

• Attend all general sessions,

By receiving assistance from the National Federation of the Blind of Ohio to attend the convention, you agree to

• Abide by all the rules of the state of Florida,

• The city of Orlando,

• The Convention Hotel

• The National Federation of the Blind Code of Conduct

Those seeking assistance to attend their first National Convention should complete the application for a sponsorship from the Kenneth Jernigan Fund. Consult with your Chapter or Division President about the process.

Whatever assistance you are requesting from the Ohio Affiliate, please attach a letter explaining why you wish to attend the convention and what you hope to accomplish as a result. If we should know about extenuating circumstances before deciding about your application, explain them briefly.

Please pay attention to the next line! No one applies for assistance without financial need, so this request is for information about extraordinary needs only.

The board of directors set aside limited funds for convention assistance, and when the funds are gone no more will be available, so get your request in early. I also wish to note that last year we received letters that described work that you may have done that should be able to be confirmed by your chapter president or another leader of the affiliate. While work on the local level is great, we expect our members to be working on the local, state, and national levels.

Please speak to your chapter or division president and ask them to send me a letter of support for your application. When they send this information, I need to know what assistance you will be getting from your chapter. This information will weigh heavily on your application. So, Chapter and Division President’s do your best to assist the members. You must submit all materials by email.

1. Name:

2. Street Address:

3. City: State: Zip:

4. Phone:

5. Email:

6. Number of adults: Children:

7. Date of arrival: Date of departure:

Are you requesting assistance with your hotel room? If the answer is No, skip the following section.

Have you made a room reservation?

If you are a single adult, are you able to share a room with one to three people?

Note: hotel assistance will be half of a double. If you find more roommates, your cash will go further.

Should a roommate know about any habits or health problems? \_\_\_Yes \_\_\_No

If yes, please explain. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Are you requesting transportation assistance?

Are you planning to drive to the convention?

If so, how much assistance are you requesting? $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (We reimburse 48 cents a mile.)

If you have already made transportation arrangements, please explain them.

Were you at the last state convention and what role did you play in assisting the team?

Did you attend the 2024 Washington Seminar?

Have you submitted a BELL form to volunteer?

In your own words, why should we make the investment in you?

Richard Payne, President, National Federation of the Blind of Ohio

[Rchpay7@gmail.com](mailto:Rchpay7@gmail.com)

The National Federation of the Blind knows that blindness is not the characteristic that defines you or your future. Every day we raise the expectations of blind people because low expectations create obstacles between blind people and our dreams. You can live the life you want; blindness is not what holds you back.