



CALIFORNIA  
PSYCHOLOGICAL  
ASSOCIATION

Dear Colleague,

After significant deliberation, we have made the difficult decision to cancel our Annual Convention previously scheduled for April 23-26, 2020 in Newport Beach, CA. News from the World Health Organization and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, along with both State and Federal Governments, continues to point to more spread of the coronavirus that results in the COVID-19 disease throughout the country and the state of California.

As you can imagine, the decision to cancel the conference was not made lightly. The CPA President, CEO, and Board of Directors deliberated over many days as we considered the many relevant factors. Many months of planning go into our annual conference, our members depend on the conference for earning CE credit, and we had the commitment of a stellar group of speakers and presenters for a program of very high quality. We look forward to the opportunity to bring California psychologists together for networking and learning. Ultimately, with mounting evidence about the seriousness of this public health crisis, we have placed the highest priority on the health and safety of our members, speakers, vendors, and staff.

CPA remains committed to providing quality education for our members and the broader mental health community. We will explore alternative options for programming later in the year. We promise to keep you informed of new events and programs that might be developed as the year progresses.

We understand that many CPA members have already registered for the Annual Conference, made travel arrangements, and generously purchased tickets for our PAC fundraising dinner. We are so sorry to have to cancel the convention and regret any inconvenience this cancellation has caused. Please read the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) for information regarding refunds, CE resources, and other logistics.

Wishing everyone good health during this difficult time.

Sincerely,

Jo Linder-Crow, PhD  
Chief Executive Officer

### **FAQs:**

#### **Q: How do I receive a refund for my Annual Convention registration?**

**A:** Beginning Monday March 16, we will be issuing full refunds to all individuals who have registered for the convention. If you paid by credit card, your credit card account will be reimbursed directly and should be reflected on your credit card statement within one week. If you paid by check, you will receive a reimbursement check in the mail within approximately two weeks. If you do not

see your reimbursement on your credit card statement within the week, or you do not receive a reimbursement check within two weeks, you can call Tom Marx at 916-286-7979, Ext 116.

**Q: How do I cancel a hotel reservation at the Newport Beach Marriott Hotel & Spa?**

**A:** The Newport Beach Marriott Hotel & Spa will automatically cancel all hotel rooms booked for the convention. You will receive a confirmation of your room cancellation via e-mail. If you do **not** receive an e-mail please contact Marriott directly at 1-877-622-3056 to cancel your room reservation.

If you made a hotel reservation through a third-party vendor such as Expedia please contact that vendor directly to see what their cancellation policies require.

**Q: How do I receive a refund for any travel arrangements or flights that I've purchased?**

**A:** If you have already purchased flights or made other travel arrangements to attend the convention, please contact the airline or travel vendor as soon as possible. Many airlines and travel vendors have been understanding of cancellations due to COVID-19.

**Q: Is the convention cancelled for good, or simply postponed?**

**A:** CPA's Annual Convention has been cancelled for 2020. We will not be offering an annual conference this year.

**Q: How can I receive the CEs I need this year if I can't earn them at the convention?**

**A:** You can earn CE credits by reading the California Psychologist magazine (12 free credits per year). In addition, CPA offers various webinars and other workshops during the year, as do many of our regional chapters.

We would like to remind you of our online course **Suicide: Effective Risk Assessment and Intervention** which meets the Board of Psychology's 6-hour Suicide Training requirement. Please click [here](#) for more information.

**Q: I need some "live" CE credits, and my renewal is coming up soon. What can I do?**

**A:** The Board of Psychology has issued general [guidance on COVID-19](#) that includes this specifically regarding CE credit:

"The Board of Psychology would like to ensure its licensees are aware of their options regarding continuing education. Currently the Board requires 25% (9 hours) of the 36 hours of continuing education requirement for renewal, to be live or live-interactive. Live-interactive courses are completed via webinars. While the Board is confident that licensees are able to find webinars that meet this requirement, in the event that scheduled live or live-interactive courses are canceled, or licensees are unable to attend a live course due to local public health department advisories, any **licensee whose license expires between March 16 and May 31, 2020, may complete their Continuing Education requirement via online non-live courses with evidence of the above.**"

**Q: Does the cancellation of the CPA Convention mean that other CPA events or Chapter events are cancelled?**

**A:** The cancellation of the convention does not directly impact other CPA events. Please contact your local Chapter to inquire about planned events at the local level.



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