



## PSI CHI. THE INTERNATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY IN PSYCHOLOGY

ADDRESS: Psi Chi Headquarters | 808 Chestnut St PMB 55 | Chattanooga, TN 37402 | CONTACT: Phone: +1-423-756-2044 | E-mail: [psichi@psichi.org](mailto:psichi@psichi.org) | Web: [www.psichi.org](http://www.psichi.org)

Dear Western Psi Chi Members,

I hope you are enjoying the start of fall and the academic year. A special welcome to any new Psi Chi members receiving this newsletter for the first time! I am excited to continue serving as your 2026–27 Western Regional Vice-President and wanted to share with you some upcoming Psi Chi opportunities and relevant deadlines.

Attend and/or submit your research to the [Western Psychological Association \(WPA\) Annual Convention \(April 29—May 2, 2027 in Pasadena, CA\)](#).

- The submission portal is open and the deadline for proposals is Monday, **December 15, 2026**. See the [call for proposals](#) for more details on the types of proposals you can submit, and please consider submitting a poster to the **Psi Chi specific poster session to be eligible for research awards**.
- Participate in the Psi Chi programming at WPA. The Western Region Steering Committee is busy planning a variety of sessions including research talks, information about graduate school and careers, and a lively chapter exchange where chapters can share their successes and challenges. Please reach out to me at [westernvp@psichi.org](mailto:westernvp@psichi.org) if you have any suggestions for our programming!
- We are thrilled to announce that **Dr. Sonja Lyubomirsky**, a leading expert in happiness and feeling loved, will be our Psi Chi Distinguished Lecturer at WPA 2027. Dr. Lyubomirsky is the bestselling author of *The How of Happiness*, *The Myths of Happiness*, and her most recent book *How to Feel Loved*. Her research has explored the science of happiness for over 37 years. Her talk will uncover how feeling loved and three core evidence-based relational mindsets—authentic sharing, listening-to-learn, and radical curiosity—can shift how people show up and experience happiness.
- Apply for a [regional travel grant](#) to help offset your travel costs to WPA (due **March 4, 2027**). You can apply for this travel grant even if you have not yet heard back from WPA about whether your presentation has been accepted.
- Want to get more involved with WPA? Consider helping us at the booth this year! If you'd like to volunteer any amount of time to standing at the booth and helping students discover the benefits of Psi Chi, please email me at [westernvp@psichi.org](mailto:westernvp@psichi.org).

Apply for grants, awards, and scholarships.

- You can find a full list [here](#) of the many awards, grants, and scholarships available for undergraduates, graduate students, chapters, and faculty. These include:
  - [Undergraduate](#) and [Graduate](#) Research Grants (Deadlines: Oct. 15, Jan. 15, May 1)
  - [Unrestricted Travel Grants](#) (Deadlines: Dec. 5, May 5)
  - Chapter awards including the [Model Chapter Award](#) (Deadline: May 15)

*Recognizing and promoting excellence in the science and application of psychology*

Gain research experience.

- Get involved in Psi Chi's Network for International Collaborative Exchange ([NICE](#)).
- Take a look at other research resources [here](#).

Connect with Psi Chi.

- Download the [Member Toolkit](#) to get your academic year off to a great start!
- Join our [Western Region Facebook Public Page](#) or [Instagram page](#) to ask questions and chat with other Psi Chi members in our region.
- **Faculty advisors:** As you start to induct new members into your chapter, remember that the [Membership Assistance Fund](#) is available for faculty advisors to support potential members.
- **Students:** Through Psi Chi's [Member Dashboard](#), members can now download a digital PDF of their **membership certificate** and upload it as a credential on their LinkedIn profile.

I would also like to remind you of opportunities at the Psi Chi Headquarters.

- As you plan your [fall recruitment drives](#), remember that Psi Chi can now collect membership dues individually, rather than by chapter. If you decide to use this option, students will pay their society dues through the Psi Chi website when they are approved. [Learn more about this option](#).
- Please submit a brief Chapter Activity Report for potential publication in *Eye on Psi Chi*. The Chapter Activity Report is one of the objectives for the [Model Chapter Award](#). [Submit your activity](#). Looking for chapter ideas? Psi Chi Headquarters had developed an [activity resource](#) to help chapters.
- Students: Make sure to add your non-university email address to your member profile so you can stay connected with Psi Chi after you graduate! [Update your profile](#).
- Celebrate your academic achievements with Psi Chi graduation regalia. [Order in advance](#) to avoid rush shipping charges. Also, check out 15% off the [Premium Regalia Bundle](#) and 20% off the [Commencement Bundle](#)!

Please feel free to reach out to me directly at [westernvp@psichi.org](mailto:westernvp@psichi.org) should you have any questions or if you have any programming suggestions for the WPA 2027 Convention.

Take care,

Brittany Avila, PhD  
Psi Chi Western Regional Vice-President  
University of Nevada, Reno