

Qualify for membership expense coverage by running panels!

We are happy to announce that fan panelists will have the opportunity to qualify for membership expense coverage by running panels.

Requirements

- You must be 18 or older.
- You must provide at least 3 hours of on-topic programming that reflects Sakura-Con's mission of the "understanding of Asian culture through the use of traditional and contemporary media." Although Sakura-Con is filled with many different types of pop culture, the panels that qualify toward membership expense coverage must be focused around teaching and sharing Asian culture.
 - ***Off-topic panels will not receive membership expense coverage.***
- You may also provide 2 additional hours of panels on-topic to gain an additional badge for a third co-panelist.

Examples of panels that would qualify toward membership expense coverage:

- "Otaku 25 and Older"
- "Superhero Time: a Tokusatsu Primer"
- "The Touhou Project"
- "Fairies and Dragons Along the Silk Road"
- "Anime Art Basics"

Examples of panels that would NOT qualify toward membership expense coverage:

- "Ask" type character panels (ex: "Ask Hetalia" or "Ask Usagi Anything!")
- Dating games and game shows or games in general (ex: "Cosplay Limbo")
- Cosplay panels, unless it is about its impact on Japanese culture, or cosplay as a cultural art form.
- Any panel that is about comics/cartoons/pop culture that does not relate to Japan/Asia (ex: Futurama, Homestuck, Star Wars, Adventure Time) unless it's expressly about how Japan/Asia has influenced the media or vice versa.

Anyone is welcome to make their case for why their panel should be considered toward membership expense coverage, but the Panels Coordinator has the final say. If you have a question about if a panel you want to submit qualifies toward membership expense coverage, please email panels@sakuracon.org

Restrictions

- ❖ For the minimum of required hours, only **two members** of your group will qualify for membership expense coverage.
 - Everyone receiving the membership expense coverage must be 18 or older.
 - Make sure you list your co-panelist on the panel submission form if you want them to also qualify to have their membership expense covered. If you are running panels by yourself, then you will only be eligible to have your membership expense covered.
 - You may NOT list a friend as a co-panelist in order to get their membership expense covered if they are not hosting the panel with you. The Panel Moderators will have lists of the panelists and will be checking for any abuses of the system.

- ❖ More hours can mean more memberships; if you have two co-panelists, you must all run 5 hours of culturally relevant content. If a third member of your group submits 3 different hours of qualified programming under their name, then they would be eligible by themselves.

- ❖ Panelists are not eligible for any other coverage in relation to convention attendance or panel related expenses.

Anyone who uses this system to qualify for membership expense coverage, but does not fulfill their responsibility will have a one-year panel ban, their membership pulled if we find you during the convention, as well as a strike against your membership (remember, three strikes and you're out).

Notification

Panelists will be notified if they qualified for membership expense coverage once the schedule is set and all panels have been approved in March. If you haven't heard from us by this time, but feel that you qualify, please contact the Panels Coordinator at panels@sakuracon.org.