PLEN: Frequently Asked Questions and Answers

What should I expect if I attend a conference?

You should be ready for days filled with meeting accomplished industry leaders, learning valuable professional skills, and going on site visits in DC. You will have the opportunity to connect not only with professionals in your field of interest but students from all over the country that share similar goals and aspirations.

Are all the sessions in DC?

Yes, all PLEN sessions happen in DC.

What costs does the NCI grant cover?

NCI grants can be used for flight reimbursement, lodging, and the PLEN workshop registration fee.

What if I do not receive the NCI grant?

If you are not selected to receive NCI funding support, you can still attend the PLEN conference through self-funding or through another funding source. You are also encouraged to apply again for future NCI PLEN grants.

What if the workshop falls during my classes?

NCI encourages you to let your professors know the unique opportunity you have to attend a conference in your field of interest. You should ask for assignments in advance so you do not fall behind in your studies.

More information on PLEN funding?

If you are selected as a PLEN grant recipient, NCI will cover lodging, registration fee, and flight reimbursement. Students can apply directly to PLEN for a scholarship to cover the $125 seminar fee or pay the fee. Other costs a student should be prepared to cover include meals not provided by PLEN, transportation once you are in DC, and conference clothing. Conference clothing ranges from business casual to business attire. NCI recognizes that not all students have business attire and recommend borrowing from friends or talking with staff about affordable clothing options.

Visit the Newcomb College Institute blog and click the “conference” tab to read about past grant recipients’ PLEN experiences. Also, visit the PLEN website to read more about each seminar.

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