

**Department of
Veterans Affairs**

Memorandum

Date: **AUG 30 2018**

From: Acting Assistant Secretary for Human Resources and Administration (006)

Subj: External Affinity Conferences Approved for VA-Wide Participation for Fiscal Year 2019 (VIEWS 00090247)

To: Under Secretaries, Assistant Secretaries, and Other Key Officials

1. The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), Office of Diversity and Inclusion (ODI) is pleased to announce the list of External Affinity Conferences Approved for VA-Wide Participation for fiscal year (FY) 2019 (attached), in accordance with 5 USC Chapter 41 and 5 CFR 410.404; Executive Order 13583 on Establishing a Coordinated Government-wide Initiative to Promote Diversity and Inclusion in the Federal Workforce; and the VA's Diversity and Inclusion Policy Directive 5975 and Strategic Plan.
2. Affinity conferences are national meetings convened by external private or public non-profit organizations representing diverse segments of the population for the primary purpose of promoting equal employment opportunity (EEO) and providing career development, education, and employment outreach services. VA strongly supports leveraging external partnerships with affinity conferences for professional development and recruitment outreach purposes in support of our common aim of promoting EEO, diversity, and inclusion in the Federal government.
3. VA employees who plan to attend any of the conferences listed in the attachment must obtain supervisory and conference approvals. Please note that centralized funding is not available for attendance to these conferences. Funding for both registration and/or travel must come from the employee's program office. Following supervisory and budget approval, attendees who wish to participate in the conference must also register through the affinity organization's conference Web site.
4. The Office of the Assistant Secretary for Human Resources and Administration (OHR&A) will announce the affinity conferences with the applicable affinity group Web site, and conference registration information. OHR&A may approve and announce additional external conferences on a case by case basis.
5. For additional information, please contact Ms. Edith Perry, Management Analyst, Office of Diversity and Inclusion, at (202) 632-6968 or edith.perry@va.gov.


Jacquelyn Hayes-Byrd

Attachment

Department of Veterans Affairs

External Affinity Conferences Approved for
VA-wide Participation for Fiscal Year 2019

External Affinity Conference	Projected Dates	Location
Out & Equal Workplace Summit Theme: TBD http://outandequal.org/event/2018summit/	October 1-4, 2018 (Actual Dates)	Seattle, WA
*Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities' (HACU) 32nd Annual Conference Theme: Championing Hispanic Higher Education Success: Building America's Future https://www.hacu.net/hacu/annual_conference1.asp	October 6-8, 2018 (Actual Dates)	Atlanta, GA
Gay and Lesbian Medical Association (GLMA) 36th Annual Conference on LGBT Health Theme: TBD https://www.emedevents.com/c/medical-conferences-2018/36th-glma-annual-conference-on-lgbt-health	October 10-13, 2018 (Actual Dates)	Las Vegas, NV
Federal Asian Pacific American Council (FAPAC) National Leadership Training Theme: TBD https://fapac.org/	May 2019 (Actual Dates TBD)	TBD
Society of American Indian Government Employees (SAIGE) 16th Annual National Training Program Theme: TBD http://saige.org/	June 2019 (Actual Dates TBD)	TBD
Asian American Government Executives Network (AAGEN) Leadership Workshop Theme: TBD http://www.aagen.org/	June 2019 (Actual Dates TBD)	TBD
League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) National Convention & Exposition Theme: TBD http://lulac.org/convention/	July 2019 (Actual Dates TBD)	TBD
Federally Employed Women (FEW) 50th National Training Program Theme: TBD https://www.few.org/training-education/national-training-program/schedule-of-events/	July 2019 (Actual Dates TBD)	TBD

Blacks in Government Inc. (BIG) 41st Annual National Training Institute Theme: TBD http://www.bignet.org/	August 2019 (Actual Dates TBD)	TBD
African American Federal Executive Association (AAFEA) 14th Annual Leadership Development Workshop Theme: Leadership Matters https://aafea.org/	September 2019 TBD	TBD
*2019 National Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) Week Conference Theme: TBD https://sites.ed.gov/whhbcu/hbcu-week-conference/2018-hbcu-week-conference/	September 2019 (Actual Dates TBD)	TBD

*Please note an Agency Forum is not included for this event. HACU's annual conference has a focus on sharing of information and ideas for the best and most promising practices in the education of Hispanics. National HBCU Week Conference provides a forum to exchange information and share innovations among and between institutions and stakeholders.