



2026 Self-Advocacy Convention of Oregon

Tuesday, November 17, 2026

Hilton Portland Downtown, 921 SW 6th Ave, Portland

The Self-Advocacy Convention of Oregon is a day for self-advocates. Self-advocates are people with disabilities who speak up for themselves.

Supporters are welcome too.

This page shows the plan for the day.

Times may change a little.

Schedule for the day

12:00 PM **Check in and lunch**

Come in and check in at the welcome table.

Pick up your name tag.

A volunteer shows you around.

You see where the restrooms are.

You can skip the tour if you know your way.

Then pick up your boxed lunch.

Find a seat where you feel comfortable.

1:00 PM **Welcome**

We say hello.

We tell you about The Arc Oregon.

We tell you the plan for the day.

1:15 PM

Speaker: Sean Pevsner

Sean Pevsner is a lawyer in Texas.

Sean works for the rights of people with disabilities.

Sean will share his story as an advocate.

Sean will talk about changes coming to Medicaid.

Medicaid pays for many disability services.

Then you can ask Sean questions.

There are two ways to ask a question.

1. Send your question in writing.
2. Ask your question out loud at a microphone.

1:45 PM

TBA

We will share this speaker soon.

2:15 PM

Break

Take a break.

Use the restroom.

Have a snack and some water.

2:30 PM

Introducing the learning marketplace

Next is the learning marketplace.

A learning marketplace has many tables.

Each table has a different topic.

We tell you about each table.

Then you choose where to go.

2:45 PM

Learning marketplace

You can go to any table.

You can stay as long as you want.

You can move to a new table any time.

You will hear a soft chime a few times.

The chime means you can move if you want to.

Getting ready for the national convention (*Going to the national convention?*)

Learn what happens at the national convention.

Pick the sessions you want to go to.

Learn how to meet new people there.

Partners in Policymaking

Partners in Policymaking is a leadership class.

People learn how laws and policies are made.

Talk with people who took the class.

The Ambassador Program

The Ambassador Program teaches advocacy skills.

The skills help in your community and in your own life.

Talk with people in the program.

Local advocacy groups

Find a self-advocacy group near you.

Learn how to start a new group.

The Oregon Self Advocacy Coalition helps at this table.

Oregon Council on Developmental Disabilities

The Council works on disability policy in Oregon.

Learn how to get involved with the Council.

4:00 PM **Ambassador Program celebration**

The Ambassador Program teaches self-advocates how to advocate.

We celebrate the people in the program.

4:15 PM **Door prizes and what comes next**

We draw names for door prizes.

We tell you about dinner and the scavenger hunt.

4:30 PM **Dinner break and scavenger hunt**

Eat dinner on your own.

You can explore downtown Portland.

You can join a scavenger hunt in the hotel.

Connections Northwest runs the scavenger hunt.

Look for Bigfoot!

7:00 PM **Bingo night**

Play bingo with Advocate Access Northwest.

You can win prizes.

The Arc Oregon hosts the Self-Advocacy Convention of Oregon.

The Arc's National Convention starts the next day, November 18, in the same hotel.

Questions? Email info@thearcoregon.org.