



Updated February 2026

FAQ for In-Person HPAC

General FAQ for the Harry Potter Academic Conference (HPAC) is [available online](#). This document answers questions specific to our on-campus conference years.

Is there any option for virtual presenters in on-campus HPAC years?

Short answer: no. Longer answer: HPAC alternates between in-person-only and online-only “digiHPAC” conferences each year and fully commits to each model. The magic of the digiHPAC years is in the great variety of geographies and cultures represented at the conference, and the magic of the CHC years is the community spirit formed in our shared space.

Those unable to come to Philadelphia for in-person years are encouraged to hold onto their idea for the next year’s digiHPAC and to participate in the on-campus conference though a view-only ticket and conversation in the [HPAC Slack workspace](#).

Can I watch the conference virtually?

YES! In-person conference years offer a one-way, view-only stream. There is no hybrid option; view-only attendees can watch the conference but will be unable to engage with speakers or attendees through the stream. We encourage you to make connections by emailing speakers directly (if they are listed in the program) or by joining the [HPAC Slack workspace](#). View-only tickets go on sale in the autumn at a discounted cost.

What should I wear to the conference?

HPAC is an academic conference, and most attendees will choose to wear business casual clothing like dress pants, button-down shirts, dresses, nice cardigans, etc. However, most attendees also choose to nod to their House or include the fandom in some way through House sweaters, scarves, ties, or robes, HP-related jewelry, carrying wands, etc. [Think Disneybounding more than cosplaying](#).

Is technology available at Chestnut Hill College (CHC)?

Chestnut Hill College tech provides a projector, clicker, a podium with a microphone, and Internet/Wi-Fi access. CHC tech can support PowerPoint and online-based slides like Prezi and Google Slides but CANNOT support Keynote (Mac). Speaker guidelines will be shared in in acceptance notifications.

Is financial support available to participants?

We are a very small, non-profit conference, so we are unfortunately unable to offer any financial support. Registration is only \$15 (USD + processing fee) to keep the conference accessible.

Are meals included?

Meals are NOT included in the ticket price of HPAC. Daily lunch is available for pre-order. Lunch order information and dietary restrictions will be distributed about a week before in-person HPACs. Payment is due during registration on Friday/Saturday and may be made in the form of cash or Venmo. Chestnut Hill College sponsors free coffee/tea service at the beginning of each conference day, and bottled water and munchies are available at all times, thanks to the generosity of our participants.

Where do I park at CHC?

Parking is available on the campus, but only in designated lots. Please see the [HPAC Attend](#) page for parking information.

Is transportation to/from HPAC available?

There is no official transportation to/from HPAC. Ridesharing services are available in Philadelphia, and you may be able to arrange a carpool with those staying near you by reaching out in the [HPAC Slack workspace](#).

Can HPAC connect me with a roommate and/or carpool?

HPAC cannot officially coordinate rooming or carpools, but the [HPAC Slack workspace](#) is a great place for attendees to make connections. HPAC usually reserves a block of rooms at a nearby hotel. That information and more will be on the [HPAC Attend](#) page as it becomes available.

I am a book author or craft maker. Am I allowed to sell at HPAC?

Absolutely! Please [contact the Board](#) for details and rules for selling at the conference.