

Panels FAQ

How do I sign up for panels?

It's easy! All you need to do is fill out the panels form located here([insert link to panels form](#)), and submit it to our staff. You should receive a confirmation email within 24 hours of submission, and then you should be all set! If you have any questions, please email us at panels@sakuracon.org.

I've never done a panel before, but I have a great idea. Can I put in a panel request?

Yes! Sakura Con is more than happy to review your panel request, no previous experience needed.

Do I need anything special to become a panelist?

To be a panelist at Sakura Con 2012, you will need to be pre-registered as a attendee for Sakura Con 2012. Other details will be given once your panel is approved and put into the schedule in February.

How much does it cost to run a panel at Sakura Con?

Nothing! All you need to do is fill out a panel request form properly, and be preregistered to attend Sakura Con 2012. Please note that all panels are subject to an approval process, and we do not guarantee that all panels submitted will be accepted.

What should I rate my panel?

Here at Sakura Con, we have a ratings system loosely based on the same system they use to rate movies. The guidelines are:

Y - Sunshine, sugar sprinkles, ponies, and posies.

Y7 - Surreal humor, mild action/adventure, no suggestive themes

G - No cursing, no suggestive themes, light slapstick humor

PG - Very occasional cursing, very slight suggestive themes, juvenile humor, moderate slapstick humor

PG-13 - Light cursing (no F-bombs, S-bombs, or C-bombs), some suggestive themes, very light raunchy humor

MA - Cursing (use good judgment), mature themes, raunchy humor

NOT ALLOWED - nudity, uncensored sexual images, nudity, inappropriate touching, discriminatory dialogue, non-slapstick violence

Will my panel be appropriate for its rating/ the convention?

The ratings above are what you should use to determine how your panel will add to the convention, and who your target audience is. As always, if you feel uncertain about your panel content, stop and ask, "Do I really need this for my panel to work?" You may be surprised at your answer. Other questions can be directed to panels@sakuracon.org.

I have a panel idea, but it may not be appropriate for all ages. Can I still submit it to be considered?

Yes. All panels that are submitted are considered. Sakura Con is a convention for all ages, including adults. However, we do reserve the right to ask that you change any

unnecessarily graphic or sexual content as a condition of acceptance. Please contact the Panel Coordinator at panels@sakuracon.org if you have questions about your content.

Who should I talk to if I need special accommodations?

The panels submission form has all you need to request special accommodations for your panel. Please note that the equipment listed on the form for you to choose from is what we have, period. If an item is not on the form, we unfortunately do not have it, and you will need to provide that item. Also, if you forget to list an item or needed equipment, you will not get it for your panel. We do our best to make sure everyone has what they need for their panel within reason, but we unfortunately can't provide a piece of equipment that we do not have, or have not been asked to reserve for you.

When will I know if my panel has been accepted?

Once your panels form has been submitted through our website, you should receive a confirmation email letting you know that we have received your panel submission. After that, you should receive an email in late January or early February confirming that your panel has been accepted and detailing what you should do as a panelist at con. If you do not receive either a confirmation email, or an acceptance email by February 4th, please email us at panels@sakuracon.org.

Can I request a specific room?

No. Returning panelists who have proven their need for larger rooms will be given priority for size. The questions on the panel form will be used to gauge the approximate attendance of that panel as well as specific tech requirements only certain rooms have. These, in addition to how early you submit your panel form, are the deciding factors in who is placed in which rooms.

Can I rearrange my room for my panel?

No. Panel rooms must be left in the condition in which you found them for the duration of your panel. It is against WSCTC policy for Sakura Con to rearrange rooms without approval. If you need a special setup, please let us know.

Can I give out food at my panel?

No. All food and drink must be provided by Aramark within the convention center.

Can I schedule an event in a public space, such as Freeway Park or by the escalators?

No. Public areas are not under the jurisdiction of Sakura Con, so we can not guarantee or reserve space for you in public areas. Please note that if you block access or become a fire hazard, you may be asked to move by WSCTC employees and must comply.

Can I put tape on the floor, or mark any surfaces for my panel?

No. WSCTC has asked us that we not mark surfaces in any way and we are dedicated to honoring that request. If you require special setup, please let us know and we will try our best to accommodate your needs.

If I have trouble with the tech at my panel, can I fix it myself?

No. Let your Panel Moderator know, and they will find someone to fix the problem for you or call someone to have the problem fixed. One of the benefits of hosting a panel is that you can have someone fix your tech problems for you!

Help! There are minors in my MA panel! What should I do?

Ask them to leave. Ask your Panel Moderator for help if you need it to check badges and hand stamps to get the minors to leave the room or if anyone puts up a fight. Adult badges and wrist stamps are required for all MA panels and will be checked at the door by a Panel Moderator.

Can I sell things at my panel?

No. While activities such as swapmeets or trading sessions are allowed, money is not allowed to change hands. If you would like to sell something at Sakura Con, we strongly encourage you to apply at artist alley or purchase booth space in the exhibitors hall.

I want my panel to have prizes. Can I request some?

Yes. There is a space on the panel request form for you to request prizes for your panel. While we will do our best to meet your request, please know that there is no guarantee that the prize allotment you receive will match your original request. The Prize Room Coordinator will contact you if you mark on your panels form that you are interested in receiving prizes.

What is a Panel Moderator and why are they in my room?

Panel Moderators are staff members assigned to each panel. They will help whoever is hosting the panel in cases of set-up, tech issues, line control, MA stamp checking, bringing a microphone to audience members during a Q&A, etc. Please note, though, that Panel Moderators do have the power to call someone and stop a panel if hosts or attendees break con policy or start to go beyond the age rating of the panel.