

Dear FENA Delegates,

It has come to my attention that there have been some questions regarding the Delegate Stipend. I would like to respond to these questions.

In January of this year, the State Council discussed the 2009 Budget. It was reported at that meeting that 2008 revenues were almost \$50,000 less than budgeted and about half the revenue realized in 2007. As a result, it was necessary to reduce the 2009 budget by almost \$15,000. The Delegate Stipend was budgeted for \$500. At that time National was considering making changes to the number of delegates each state would be allowed to send to the General Assembly. As a result of the potential impact this decision would have on the budget, the State Council decided to finalize the 2009 budget specifically the General Assembly line item at the April meeting. By the April meeting, it was learned that there would be no changes to the number of delegates. The State Council voted to approve the 2009 Budget as presented in January.

About two weeks ago, as the delegate selection process was completed, the Executive Board discussed the Delegate Stipend because we had 37 applicants and we budgeted for 42. We looked at our year to date income and expenses. We determined that we are almost \$11,000 over budget (i.e, in the red). However, we agreed that we are committed to supporting the delegates as much as possible. Based on the expected costs of the shirts and delegate dinner, we felt that we could increase the Delegate Stipend from \$500 to \$550. We are aware that this amount is not sufficient to cover all the expenses but hopefully it will be of some help.

I hope this will answer some of the questions that you may have. If you have any more, please don't hesitate to email me at kmckernan@floridaena.org.

Respectfully,

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President
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