

Women's Business Council FAQ

1. How do I become a member? Is there a cost?
 - a. Becoming a member is easy, and there is no associated cost to join the WBC, but there is a cost to attend the programs. Submit your contact information (Name, Company, Email) to [Jennifer Sims](#) to be added to the WBC information/events email list. Sign up to attend programs throughout the year that are of interest to you and meet great people in the process.
2. How often do I have to attend WBC programs to maintain my membership status?
 - a. While there is not a required number of programs to attend, we strongly encourage you to attend as many as you can each year. Not only will each program have a different topic of focus, but there's also an opportunity for networking with other business and community professionals. Ideally, we'd like our members to be as engaged as they can.
3. What are the benefits of being a member?
 - a. Being a member of the WBC offers you a variety of benefits: Networking opportunities, informational programs, the ability to support a selected non-profit, becoming more engaged with the community, and promoting your company. The benefits are endless!
4. What makes the WBC different from other women's networks?
 - a. Programs run during lunchtime, so you don't need to worry about rearranging schedules to attend an early morning or evening program. While we have local presenters, the WBC is also afforded the opportunity to bring in national speakers for the [Bold In Business](#) event and use our local connections to bring in regionally acclaimed speakers for monthly programs.
 - b. The members make the network so valuable, and with the Capital Region Chamber having more than 2,400 member businesses, we have a large reach with our WBC, making it one of the most diverse women's groups in the area.
5. Am I going to know anyone there when I show up to a program?
 - a. Depending on how engaged you already are within the Chamber community, you may know a few – or numerous people at each program. The more programs you attend, the more people you'll meet and come to know at future events. We encourage you to bring a colleague! We also have a team of volunteers that can greet and help introduce you to other members at the events.
6. What should I expect when I become a member?
 - To become more involved in the business community.
 - To meet new people from a variety of industries and expand your network.
 - To learn about topics that are important to WBC members regarding the workplace and how to empower yourself and others.
 - To be part of a body of professionals that support a selected local nonprofit each year.
7. How do I become more involved?
 - a. The WBC has several committees that members can participate in. For more information about the committees, please contact [Jennifer Sims](#).

8. How do I find out if I'm a Chamber member?
 - a. View the [Chamber directory](#) – if your company is listed, you're a member!
9. I've been a WBC member for years. How can I re-engage the network?
 - a. We'd love to see you at an upcoming program if you haven't been to one lately. Besides registering for an upcoming program, we encourage you to connect with one of our [Steering Committee](#) members or contact [Jennifer Sims](#).
10. I've recently changed jobs. How do I update my contact info?
 - a. Please send your updated contact info (Name, Company, Email) to [Jennifer Sims](#) to ensure you continue to receive WBC communications and invitations. Please make sure your new employer is also a [Chamber member](#). If they're not, you can be a champion for joining!
12. What types of programs does the WBC offer?
 - a. Our steering committee aims to deliver members meaningful learning opportunities through different formats, such as:
 - Roundtable meetings with moderators at each table, which highlight topics of interest and importance to women in business, such as diversity in the workplace, evolution of women in business, attitudes & behaviors.
 - Armchair and panel discussions featuring area leaders.
 - Traditional lecture-style keynote speakers.
 - Two signature events, the Women of Excellence Award Luncheon and Bold in Business Forum.