



Going Places. Going Strong.

2021 PROFESSIONAL WOMEN'S GROUP FACT SHEET

The Dress for Success Columbus Professional Women's Group provides employed women with support, practical information and inspiration to achieve self-defined success in career and life.

What It Is: The Professional Women's Group is an exclusive career-development alliance. The program was created to promote employment retention and career advancement by providing valuable skill-building information, while creating a safe environment to network with other professionals. It is the first and only employment retention model that moves low-income women towards self-sufficiency by addressing social and economic needs in relation to work, home and community.

Why It Works: Women face a myriad of challenges, from understanding corporate culture to handling personal finances, often with no support or guidance. The Professional Women's Group provides a safe environment where members can network and develop professional skills.

How It Works: Clients who gain employment and return for Employment Suiting are provided an opportunity to complete an application for PWG Membership. Following enrollment, Members attend monthly seminars on a variety of career development and health & wellness topics. Each meeting consists of two key elements: an expert speaker leading an informational discussion and a networking period. In addition to monthly meetings, members receive opportunities for career coaching, mentoring, and quarterly styling events. Members also have the opportunity to become the representative at the annual *Success Summit*, our signature leadership conference for select PWG members and coordinators. Additionally, 'Awards & Accolades', our annual year-end celebration, recognizes significant achievements. Updates can be found on the PWG page of our website: www.dfscmh.org.

2021 Meeting Dates


1/16/21 S	07/17/21 S	
1/19/21 E	07/20/21 E	
2/20/21 S	08/21/21 S	
2/23/21 E	08/24/21 E	
	03/06/21 Success InSight	09/18/21 S
03/20/21 S	09/21/21 E	
4/17/21 S	10/16/21 S	
4/20/21 E	10/19/21 E	
5/15/21 S	11/16/21 S	
5/18/21 E	11/20/21 E	
6/19/21 S		
6/22/21 E		

Saturday Meeting Time: 11AM - Noon
Tuesday Evening Meeting Time: 6 – 7 PM

All Professional Women's Group Meetings will be hosted virtually on Zoom.
For confirmation or to RSVP visit our website, please reach out to: bridgett@dfscmh.org

PWG is a Worldwide Sisterhood!

- **60 Dress for Success affiliates have Professional Women's Group programs.**
- There are currently more than **11,000 PWG members worldwide.**
- The annual **Success Summit provides advanced leadership training to more than 50 PWG members each year.**
- **84% of Professional Women's Group members stated they were the primary wage-earner.**
- **20% of members enrolled in or completed educational programs.** 12% of members have either a 2- or 4-year degree.
- **70% of PWG members reported that they were establishing new social relationships.**
- **Over 70% of PWG members reported that they have definite career and personal goals** that they would like to achieve.
- **12% own their own home.** The majority of members rent, but many live in a supportive environment.

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42 is the average age of a Professional Women's Group member. Women between the ages of 14 and 80 utilize programs offered by the Professional Women's Group. Most women have 2 or more children. More than 25% are married or in long-term stable relationships.



Professional Women's Group (PWG) is a career development alliance that provides employed women with support, practical information, and inspiration to achieve self-defined success in career and life.

2020 Guidelines

- Interested members complete PWG Membership Application. Electronic application submission is required; please visit www.dfscmh.org and access the Client Services + Professional Women's Group link to complete the 2019 membership application.
- New and renewing Members complete application annually
- Employment is a baseline requirement for PWG Membership
 - Full-time employment is not required
- The following will be taken into consideration on a case-by-case basis if candidate for membership is currently unemployed. Verification is required:**
 - Enrollment in a workforce readiness program
 - Enrollment in college-level courses
 - Workplace Experience Partnership (WEP) involvement
 - Consistent** volunteer commitment
 - Enrollment in the Women2Women Mentoring Program for the calendar year.
- If a Member loses employment during membership year:
 - PWG Coordinator/DCD will discuss 90-day goals
 - Evaluate workforce readiness training opportunities
 - Determine next steps – continued involvement or referral to workforce readiness program
- For those who aren't currently eligible for membership (unemployed and not engaging in 1-5 above), information regarding workplace readiness classes will be provided by Dress for Success Columbus (e.g.: Columbus Urban League, Goodwill Columbus, Jewish Family Services)
- Once employment is secured, previously ineligible candidates can reapply for PWG Membership

Member Guidelines

- Confirmed PWG Members (following discussion with PWG Coordinator/DCD) are added to PWG E-Mail List
- Information regarding monthly meetings is distributed twice a month via email
- Membership emails are solely for PWG members – please do not forward**
- RSVP for meetings is required so adequate resources are available
- Members can bring a guest to meetings
 - Guests must be employed
 - Members are required to provide name of guest at time of RSVP



- The same guest can attend no more than 2 PWG meetings in a program year
- Guests with special circumstances should be discussed with PWG Coordinator/DCD
- Employed guests are welcome to join PWG through the described application process

