

SPOUSAL/LIFE PARTNER (SLP) FORUM

FAQs about EO spousal/life partner (SLP) Forums

What is an SLP Forum?

It is a structured support environment that allows EO SLPs to receive the benefit of their peers' experiences, insights and resources.

Who will be in my Forum?

SLP Forums are comprised of seven to ten EO SLPs. There are no rules governing the demographics or composition of the Forum. However, spouses of competing business owners are not allowed to join the same Forum, as the the resulting business conflict of interest can create a major barrier to trust and bonding. It is also inadvisable for an SLP Forum to include more than two SLPs whose EO members are in a member Forum together.

I might not feel comfortable sharing the struggles in my life.

The SLP Forum is a completely confidential environment of trusted peers. Strict behaviour codes prohibit the sharing of any information outside the private monthly meeting. These behaviour codes are enforced by the group itself. Your Forum will establish its own rules about confidentiality, conduct and penalties (ie, removal from the Forum).

What kind of time commitment does SLP Forum require?

Forums meet monthly—usually taking a month off during peak times for family vacations. Exceptions to this schedule include retreats or group outings, emergency meetings (called by the moderator to meet the specific need of one member) or make- ups for cancelled meetings. All Forums are encouraged to hold a minimum of 11 meetings each year.

What happens at an SLP Forum meeting?

Typically one member shares an opportunity, issue or challenge that is affecting their life. The group shares their experience in a safe, non-judgmental way in order to give clarity on how to move forward. While sharing, members follow the principles of Forum Mindset, where members speak from their own experience and not from judgment or belief. The SLP Forum is an ideal setting for self-discovery and growth.

It sounds complicated. How will I know what to do?

To launch your SLP Forum, EO will send a professional facilitator to your chapter to run a full-day training session for your entire group. In this training, you will learn the history of Forums, as well as listening skills and communication techniques that are unique to the Forum environment. You'll have the opportunity to practice these skills in a mock Forum meeting. Throughout the day, self-awareness exercises and activities will foster group bonding.

How do I book a Forum training?

To book a training, use the [Forum booking tool](#) on EO Network or contact your chapter staff. Please note: To book a training session, there is a six-person minimum which can include SLPs and EO members. The training can be conducted either virtually or in person. Virtual trainings are free for all chapter members and SLPs. For in-person trainings, the chapter pays all other in-person costs, including trainer travel.