

# Texas HOSA Handbook:

## Section H: Competitive Events Program

### This section contains:

- Understanding the Competitive Events Program
- Competitive Events Program
- General Rules and Guidelines
- Advisor Guidelines for Students
- Reasonable Accommodation Statement

Activities and procedures within HOSA-Future Health Professionals, Texas Association are governed by the philosophy of simple fairness to all. Therefore, the policy of HOSA-Future Health Professionals, Texas Association is that all operations will be performed without regard to race, religion, sex, national origin, and other characteristics illegal as well as reasonable accommodations with disabilities and accessibility requirements on public accommodations.

# UNDERSTANDING THE COMPETITIVE EVENTS PROGRAM

## **HOSA's origins are in the curriculum**

When HOSA was created as an integral part of the curriculum, it was designed to support and reinforce classroom learning outcomes – not the other way around.

## **HOSA's purpose is learning**

What HOSA does is motivate students to learn. HOSA conferences, events, and partnerships all motivate health science students to do more than would be reasonable within the classroom walls.

## **HOSA's learning value reaches program content and beyond**

HOSA members learn health science education competencies and they learn them well. They also learn about leadership, responsibility, teamwork, communication, and other “real world” skills.

## **Guiding Thoughts**

- The priority is to offer the best learning experience possible through health science education. HOSA is a part of that process.
- The value of competitive events happens before the competition. It is the learning that takes place in the days, weeks, and months before the competition.
- The competitive events program is designed to be comprehensive, challenging and efficient with minimal duplication of effort.

## **Misguided Thoughts**

- “But that’s the way we’ve always done it...”
- “Since I’m right and you disagree with me, you must be wrong!”
- “We should reward everyone!”

**The medals are NOT the goal.  
They are the tools we use to motivate students to achieve their goals.**

# COMPETITIVE EVENTS PROGRAM

HOSA members are encouraged to take full advantage of the International and Texas HOSA Competitive Events Program, a constantly expanding and improving series of healthcare-related competitive events. To participate in a competitive event, a student must be a secondary, post-secondary/collegiate or middle school active HOSA member. The top 3 competitors at the area conference will advance to state competition and the top 3 competitors at state conference will have the opportunity to compete at the International conference. **HOSA members may enter only one competitive event.** In addition, competitors may participate in as many Recognition Events as they wish.

## Secondary and Post-Secondary Events

Guidelines can be found at [www.hosa.org](http://www.hosa.org) and [www.texashosa.org](http://www.texashosa.org) Advisor Tab

### Health Science Events

- Dental Terminology
- Medical Spelling
- Medical Terminology
- Medical Math
- Medical Reading
- Behavioral Health
- Health Informatics
- Human Growth & Development
- Medical Law & Ethics
- Nutrition
- Pharmacology
- Pathophysiology
- Cultural Diversity & Disparities in Healthcare

### Emergency Preparedness Events

- CERT Skills
- CPR/First Aid
- Emergency Medical Technician
- Epidemiology
- Life Support Skills\*
- MRC Partnership
- Public Health

### Teamwork Events

- Biomedical Debate
- Community Awareness
- Creative Problem Solving
- Forensic Science
- Health Career Display
- Health Education
- HOSA Bowl
- Medical Innovation
- Parliamentary Procedure
- Public Service Announcement

### Health Professions Events

- Biomedical Laboratory Science
- Clinical Nursing
- Clinical Specialty
- Dental Science
- Family Medicine Physician (NEW)
- Home Health Aide
- Medical Assisting
- Nursing Assisting
- Personal Care\*
- Pharmacy Science
- Physical Therapy
- Sports Medicine
- Veterinary Science

### Leadership Events

- Extemporaneous Writing
- Health Career Photography
- Healthy Lifestyle
- Interviewing Skills\*
- Job Seeking Skills
- Organizational Leadership (state only)
- Prepared Speaking
- Researched Persuasive Writing & Speaking
- Research Poster Presentation
- Speaking Skills\*

### Recognition Events

- Barbara James Service Award
- HOSA Happenings
- Healthcare Issues Exam
- National Service Project
- Outstanding State Leader
- Outstanding HOSA Achievement

### Texas Events

- Medical Art Poster
- Blood Drive

## **Middle School Events**

Guidelines can be found at [www.hosa.org](http://www.hosa.org)

### **Health Science Events**

- Math for Health Careers
- Medical Reading
- Foundations of Medical Terminology
- Health Career Exploration
- Foundations of Nutrition

### **Emergency Preparedness Events**

- Life Threatening Situations
- Public Health

### **Leadership Events**

- Extemporaneous Health Poster
- Health Career Preparation
- Healthy Lifestyle
- Prepared Speaking
- Speaking Skills

### **Teamwork Events**

- Dynamic Decisions
- Health Career Display
- Health Education
- Exploring Medical Innovation

### **Recognition Events**

- Barbara James Service Award
- HOSA Happenings
- HOSA Service Project

### **Texas Events**

- Medical Art Poster

# GENERAL RULES AND GUIDELINES

1. Competitors must be a member of STATE and INTERNATIONAL HOSA to compete in any event.
2. CURRENT Competitive Event Guidelines will be followed for all area and state competitive events.

Each SECONDARY CHAPTER may enter the following number of competitors for AREA conference: POST SECONDARY/COLLEGIATE and MIDDLE SCHOOL CHAPTERS do not compete at the area level.

|                               |  |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Health Science Events         | Four students per event  |
| Health Professions Events     | Two students per event   |
| Emergency Preparedness Events | Two students for individual events<br>Two teams per team event                     |
| Leadership Events             | Two students per event   |
| Teamwork Events               | Two teams per event  |
| Recognition Events            | Unlimited entries  |
| Texas only Events             | Medical Art Poster: Four posters per chapter<br>Blood Drive: One entry per chapter |
| Officer Candidates            | Four candidates per chapter  |

All chapters may enter unlimited numbers in special needs events at the area level.

### 3. Area Competition:

Competitors entering an event with a round one test will be required to test online prior to the area conference.

| HEALTH SCIENCE EVENTS                          |   |
|--|---|
| Behavioral Health                              | Three (3) highest scores will advance to State    |
| Cultural Diversity & Disparities in Healthcare | Three (3) highest scores will advance to State    |
| Dental Terminology                             | Three (3) highest scores will advance to State    |
| Health Informatics                             | Three (3) highest scores will advance to State    |
| Human Growth & Development                     | Three (3) highest scores will advance to State    |
| Medical Law & Ethics                           | Three (3) highest scores will advance to State    |
| Medical Math                                   | Three (3) highest scores will advance to State    |
| Medical Reading                                | Three (3) highest scores will advance to State    |
| Medical Spelling                               | Fifteen (15) highest scores will advance to State |
| Medical Terminology                            | Three (3) highest scores will advance to State    |
| Nutrition                                      | Three (3) highest scores will advance to State    |
| Pathophysiology                                | Three (3) highest scores will advance to State    |
| Pharmacology                                   | Three (3) highest scores will advance to State    |

| HEALTH PROFESSIONS EVENTS     |  |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Biomedical Laboratory Science | Ten (10) highest scores will advance to Area |
| Clinical Nursing              | Ten (10) highest scores will advance to Area |

|                                 |  |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Clinical Specialty              | Ten (10) highest scores will advance to Area |
| Dental Science                  | Ten (10) highest scores will advance to Area |
| Family Medicine Physician (NEW) | Ten (10) highest scores will advance to Area |
| Home Health Aide                | Ten (10) highest scores will advance to Area |
| Medical Assisting               | Ten (10) highest scores will advance to Area |
| Nursing Assisting               | Ten (10) highest scores will advance to Area |
| Physical Therapy                | Ten (10) highest scores will advance to Area |
| Pharmacy Science                | Ten (10) highest scores will advance to Area |
| Sports Medicine                 | Ten (10) highest scores will advance to Area |
| Veterinary Science              | Ten (10) highest scores will advance to Area |

| <b>EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS EVENTS</b> |   |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| CERT Skills                          | Ten (10) highest team scores will advance to Area |
| CPR/First Aid                        | Ten (10) highest team scores will advance to Area |
| Emergency Medical Technician         | Ten (10) highest team scores will advance to Area |
| Epidemiology                         | Three (3) highest scores will advance to State    |

| <b>LEADERSHIP EVENTS</b> |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| Healthy Lifestyle        | Ten (10) highest scores will advance to Area |

| <b>TEAMWORK EVENTS</b>   |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| Biomedical Debate        | Eight (8) highest team scores will advance to Area |
| Creative Problem Solving | Ten (10) highest team scores will advance to Area  |
| Forensic Science         | Ten (10) highest team scores will advance to Area  |
| HOSA Bowl                | Eight (8) highest team scores advance to Area      |
| Parliamentary Procedure  | Ten (10) highest team scores will advance to Area  |

| <b>RECOGNITION EVENTS</b> |  |
|---------------------------|--|
| Healthcare Issues Exam    | Percentage of highest scores will advance to State |

Advancing competitors will be posted upon completion of online testing.

**NOTE: THE FOLLOWING ARE TEXAS HOSA EVENT RULES AND DIFFER FROM THOSE OF INTERNATIONAL HOSA:**

**HEALTH SCIENCE EVENTS**

The competitors with the three (3) highest online test scores will advance to the state conference.

**EXCEPTION:**

- Medical Spelling competitors with the 15 highest online test scores will advance to the area conference for the round two spell-down.

### **HEALTH PROFESSIONS & EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS EVENTS**

The competitors/teams with the 10 highest online test scores will advance to the area conference for round two. The sum of the online test score and the skill score will be used to determine final ranking. To be ranked, competitors/teams must score a minimum of 70% of the total possible skill score, excluding identification skills. The five (5) highest ranking competitors will be recognized on stage at the area conference, and the first, second, and third place competitors will advance to the state conference.

#### **EXCEPTION:**

- The Epidemiology competitors with the three (3) highest online test scores from each area will advance directly to the state conference.
- The Public Health teams with the 10 highest scores after round one will advance to round two for the full presentation.

### **LEADERSHIP EVENTS**

The teams with the 10 highest online test scores will advance to the area conference for round two.

#### **EXCEPTION:**

- The Healthy Lifestyle competitors with the 10 highest online test scores will advance to the area conference for round two.

### **TEAMWORK EVENTS**

The teams with the 10 highest online test scores will advance to their area conference for round two.

#### **EXCEPTION:**

- The Biomedical Debate teams with the eight (8) highest online test scores from each area will advance to round two at the area conference.
- The HOSA Bowl teams with the eight (8) highest online test scores from each area will advance to round two at the area conference.

### **RECOGNITION EVENTS**

Competitors in Healthcare Issues Exam will test online and the number of competitors advancing to the state conference will be determined by the number of competitors testing in each area.

## **4. State Competition:**

- Secondary Competitors (SS)
  - Qualify for state through the area conference as is stated above in #3
- Post-secondary Collegiate Competitors (PS/C)
  - First level of competition is at the state conference.
  - Each PS/C chapter may enter the number of competitors as stated above in the area conference information
- Middle School Competitors (MS)
  - First level of competition is at the state conference
  - Each MS chapter may enter the following number of competitors in these events:

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Health Science Events</b><br>Health Career Exploration, Foundations of Medical Terminology, Math for Health Careers, Medical Reading, Foundations of Nutrition | Four students per event  |
| <b>Emergency Preparedness Events</b><br>Life Threatening Situations, Public Health  | Two students for individual events<br>Two teams per team event                     |
| <b>Leadership Events</b><br>Extemporaneous Health Poster, Health Career Preparation, Healthy Lifestyle, Prepared Speaking, Speaking Skills                        | Two students per event   |
| <b>Teamwork Events</b><br>Dynamic Decisions, Exploring Medical Innovation, Health Career Display, Health Education  | Two teams per event  |
| <b>Recognition Events</b><br>Barbara James Service Award, HOSA Happenings, HOSA Service Project   | Unlimited entries  |
| <b>State Events</b><br>Medical Art Poster   | Medical Art Poster: Four posters per chapter<br>Blood Drive: One entry per chapter |

A written test will be administered at the state conference for those events that include a round one test.

Students must meet the minimum requirements to be recognized during the awards session at the state conference. The five highest ranking competitors will be recognized on stage at the State Conference, and the first, second, and third place competitors will advance to the International Leadership Conference.

To qualify for recognition at the State Conference Grand Awards Assembly, the following rules apply:

**HEALTH SCIENCE EVENTS:** Competitors must score at least 50% of the total possible test score.

**HEALTH PROFESSIONS & EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS EVENTS:** The written test will be used as a qualifier for round two and the sum of the written test score and the skill score will be used to determine the final ranking. To be ranked, competitors/teams must score a minimum of 70% of the total possible skill score, excluding the identification skills.

**LEADERSHIP EVENTS:** All competitors will be ranked.

**TEAMWORK EVENTS:** All competitors will be ranked.

## 5. OTHER COMPETITION CONSIDERATIONS

- Students must compete and place first through third place at the area level to be eligible for state competition. Advisors of first, second, or third place winners are responsible for contacting the HOSA, TA Executive Director **as soon as it is known** that your student will **NOT** be attending the conference to compete. This will allow the fourth-place competitor (first alternate) and/or the fifth-place competitor (second alternate) to advance.
- Area and state conference registration must be submitted by the conference deadline. **NO REFUNDS** will be made after the conference registration deadline. If you have been unable to access your conference information six (6) weeks prior to the conference date, call the Executive Director, Janet Villarreal (877-728-0150) immediately for assistance. There are **NO** valid excuses for registering late. A \$70.00 per person late fee will be imposed after the registration deadline for the State Leadership Conference.



- **NO** new students will be added to any event after the registration deadline. **Substitutions may be made only for team events after the registration deadline** and those substitutions may be made only with students that are current International HOSA members. No more than 50% of an original team may be substituted. Team substitutions may be made only until the close of onsite conference check-in. All teammates must be a member of the same HOSA chapter.
- **EVENT ORIENTATIONS:**
  - Face-to-face competitor orientations prior to events will not be held. Orientation information pertinent to each event will be posted on the Texas HOSA website ([www.texashosa.org](http://www.texashosa.org)). Competitors should read the information before the conference and contact the CE Coordinator ([anne.regier@texashosa.org](mailto:anne.regier@texashosa.org)) if there are any questions.
- If, at any time during a competitive event, the student feels a major rule infraction has occurred, the student must immediately bring this to the attention of the Event Manager for evaluation prior to the conclusion of the competitor's event time.
- The decisions of the judges are FINAL. If the competitor is not satisfied with the event and wants to offer constructive suggestions or wishes a situation to be evaluated, the Inquiry Form must be used. The inquiry form must be returned to Competitive Event Headquarters before the conclusion of the event.
- Skill demonstrations in all skill events will be stopped at the end of the time limit even if the competitor has not completed the procedure.
- Competitors may be denied points by the judge if they do not have the required materials or equipment needed for the selected procedure(s) as specified in the International Competitive Event Guidelines. They may also be denied points for using equipment that is not listed in the Competitive Event Guidelines. Equipment/supplies will NOT be checked prior to the competition, except for Extemporaneous Health Poster supplies (middle school)
- The competitive events program is managed by the local advisors for AREA, STATE, and International competition. For area and state, advisors will be assigned to assist in the running of at least one (1) and possibly two (2) events. **If the advisor is unable to attend, he/she must find another advisor to fulfill the duties** and notify the area board member in charge of monitoring assignments.
- The Event Manager and event team members are responsible for obtaining and becoming familiar with the current Competitive Event Guidelines (Section B) for his/her assigned event.
- Competitors are responsible for obtaining and reviewing the current competitive event guidelines and the orientation information for his/her respective competition.
- Keeping with HOSA guidelines, no rating sheets will be returned after competition.
- Although HOSA is curricular and an integral part of the Health Science Technology curriculum, the Competitive Events program is considered extracurricular regarding rules for student participation eligibility [Texas Education Code, Subchapter D, Sec 33.081 (c)].
- ALL HOSA students, advisors, and chaperones will complete and sign the Code of Conduct/Code of Ethics and Medical Liability Forms and copies, along with a verification form must be turned in by the advisor in a properly labeled manila envelope during onsite check-in for area & state conferences. For ILC, forms must be sent with the registration to the executive director who submits them to international HOSA.

- The **required** ratio for adult supervision of students is 1 adult sponsor approved by the school district (who is not a HOSA Board of Directors member) per 10 students for all HOSA activities.
- The competitor must present an original, valid current photo ID that is issued by a city, state, or federal government agency or by the competitor's school.
  - School IDs must be for the **current academic year** in a hard, plastic card format.
  - The first and last name must match as it appears on the event registration
  - The photo must be current and recognizable.
  - Examples:
    - Government issued driver's license or non-driver ID card
    - Official school produced student ID card from the school the competitor currently attends
    - Government issued passport or U.S. Global Entry identification card
    - Government issued military or national identification card
  - If the competitor does not have an acceptable form of ID listed above, the HOSA Competitor Identification Form, found in Appendix H on the International HOSA website may be completed and used.
  - If a competitor comes to competition and does not have the proper photo ID with him or her, then the competitor will be allowed to compete but will receive 35 penalty points. Points will be deducted in Tabulations
  - Exceptions
    - HOSA Bowl and Medical Spelling, round two: these round two events are "live" and the winners are determined on site in the spell down and buzzer rounds. If a competitor fails to bring photo ID to round 2 of HOSA Bowl or Medical Spelling, they will not be allowed to compete.
  - Ethics and Integrity: As future healthcare professionals, HOSA members are held to a higher standard regarding their ethical behavior as competitors. HOSA members should always follow the national rules and act with honor. Plagiarism or copyright violation is prohibited. Any attempts to lie, cheat, or gain an unfair advantage will not be tolerated.
  - Texas HOSA will allow student materials in event holding rooms, on buses and in similar locations. Electronics are allowed but must always remain off. Please be sure to turn OFF your cell phones or smart/electronic device including watches, during events. They need to be placed face down on the table in front of you or left in your belongings. HOSA is not responsible for loss or damage to electronic devices during competition. If the cell phone makes any noise or vibrates during the event, penalty points may be assessed

# ADVISOR GUIDELINES FOR STUDENTS

1. Students should make a commitment to attend and compete prior to the registration deadline. **No refunds will be given after the conference registration deadline!**
2. Secure all permission forms (Medical Liability Release forms/Code of Conduct forms). Each advisor should bring original signed forms to Area and State Conference and turn in copies of these forms at onsite check-in in a correctly labeled manila envelope (School Name, Texas Chapter Number, Advisor's Name, Advisor's Cell Phone Number).
3. Advisors should always carry a list of their students' cell phone numbers.
4. It is recommended that you have your students write your cell phone number on the back of their conference name badge so they will have a way to contact you at all times, even if they are at an offsite testing area.
5. At the onsite conference check-in, you may make substitutions for team events ONLY. Substitutions may be only made with current HOSA members in the same chapter.
6. Orient your students to appropriate behavior for the hotel and general sessions.
  - a. Review safety features in the room. Make sure students know not to hang anything on the water sprinklers. Use auxiliary locking devices on doors and windows.
  - b. Use the door viewer to identify anyone requesting entry.
  - c. Find the nearest emergency exit and discuss the procedure to be used if a fire alarm is sounded.
  - d. Select a place to meet with your students in the event there is an alert of any kind at any time of the day.
  - e. Report any suspicious activities in the corridors or rooms.
  - f. Always travel in groups of three or more.
  - g. Be wary of strangers who seem overly anxious to help you.
  - h. Carry only the cash you need in small denominations.
  - i. Report lost or stolen items to your advisor and hotel management.
7. Orient your students as to protocol and dress for general sessions.
8. Student participation in this conference implies their desire to improve qualities that will enable them to serve more effectively as a leader in their local chapter and community. It is assumed that their purpose in attending is serious and that their conduct will reflect the leadership responsibility that they have accepted. The advisor is responsible for student conduct, so please advise students of the following rules:
  - a. All students and advisors should attend all scheduled sessions.
  - b. Students must be accompanied by an advisor/chaperone on all trips to places of interest outside the hotel. **NO STUDENT IS TO BE LEFT AT THE HOTEL WITHOUT A DESIGNATED ADVISOR/CHAPERONE.**
  - c. Students must be in their hotel room by curfew.
  - d. Participants must observe safety precautions in all activities.
  - e. No alcoholic beverages, tobacco products, or illegal drugs are permitted during travel or while participating in a school-sponsored activity.
  - f. Conduct which is detrimental to purposes of the meeting may result in disciplinary action and the member being removed from the remainder of the conference.

# REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION STATEMENT

HOSA members with disabilities will be reasonably accommodated in Area, State, and International competitive events through event modification as a means of providing them an equal competitive opportunity. Such members may be allowed to provide and utilize special equipment that HOSA may not be able to provide. Requests for reasonable accommodation must be indicated on the HOSA Leadership Conference Registration Form and submitted by the deadline date.