



Texas HOSA Handbook: Section K: New Advisor Handbook

This section contains:

- Guiding Principles
- How HOSA Benefits Students
- Steps for Starting a HOSA Chapter
- Organizing a NEW HOSA Chapter
- Chapter Advisor Job Description
- The Program of Work
- Website Scavenger Hunt
- HOSA Officers
- Local Chapter Bylaws Sample Template
- Team Building and Leadership
- Competitive Events Introduction
- Examples for Integrating HOSA into the Classroom
- Instructional Techniques
- Day In & Day Out (Advisor Timeline)
- Recruiting Tips

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.

Guiding Principles

First things first. You don't need to know it all to be a good HOSA advisor. You do need to understand the purpose of HOSA:

The purpose of HOSA-Future Health Professionals is to develop leadership and technical HOSA skill competencies through a program of motivation, awareness, and recognition, which is an integral part of the Health Science Education instructional program.

With that in mind, here are some words of wisdom for you to consider.

1. HOSA is a student-led organization. HOSA members should do the leading and you should do the “advising.”
2. The BEST HOSA activities support the purpose. No two HOSA chapters will look alike, so do not compare your chapter activities with what others are doing. Measure your success by the growth and achievements of your chapter members.
3. Do not keep it a secret. Be proud of what your HOSA members are doing and use every opportunity at your disposal to herald their achievements.
4. Make sure your chapter members are doing the work. If you are working harder than your students, consider the purpose of HOSA and make the needed changes.
5. You do not need to do it ALL, but you need to do something. Start off sponsoring a HOSA chapter from day one and let your chapter members set the pace.
6. Be patient with yourself. There is a lot to learn about managing a student organization. Some of what you need to know is in this handbook. Some things you will learn from colleagues. The rest, you will figure out yourself with time.
7. Do not get discouraged. Youth do not always do what we expect them to do. When your students make a mistake, help them learn from it.
8. HOSA is supposed to be fun! Look around. Make sure all HOSA members have a reason to feel good about HOSA. Encourage – do not pressure. Celebrate the good and use the bad to improve. But most of all, sit back and watch HOSA members achieve and succeed – the real reward for sponsoring a HOSA chapter.

How HOSA Benefits Students

HOSA is a health science student organization giving students an opportunity to meet and socialize with other students who have a shared interest.

Nearly 225,000 career-minded health science students have been attracted to HOSA and its mission since 1976, experiencing HOSA's unique program of leadership development, motivation, and recognition. There are over 5,000 HOSA chapters, and students who have completed high school may continue their involvement in postsecondary chapters and through alumni division activities.

HOSA members are proud to belong to one of the ten (10) career and technical student organizations recognized by the U.S. Department of Education and the only career and technical student organization endorsed by the Health Science Education Division of the Association for Career and Technical Education.

Just as laboratories in science classes allow students to put theory into practice, the HOSA lab lets members test their personal and leadership skills in real life. HOSA members have the opportunity to participate and/or compete in area, state and international leadership conferences. Motivated students polish their skills and receive a sense of self accomplishment as well as recognition.

Research studies have shown clearly that leadership experiences in high school and college predict later leadership in adult business and social activities. And leadership experiences in organizations such as HOSA relate more closely to adult success than does academic achievement. Through those leadership experiences, HOSA provides students with opportunities to become the best they can be as they pursue rewarding and challenging careers in the vital health professions.

HOSA provides opportunities for the student to make a well-informed career choice among the many health occupations, which in turn aides the students in making a more realistic career goal. Students who are exposed to the health field in high school also tend to understand the need to be flexible for inevitable career changes.

HOSA provides leadership development by developing character and promoting responsible citizenship. Students develop an understanding of current health care issues and an awareness of environmental concerns through competition and classroom academics.

HOSA members are eligible for additional scholarship opportunities.

HOSA members have an opportunity to meet outstanding leaders in the health professions and attend educational seminars specific for HOSA members.

HOSA helps students learn soft skills such as time management and working with a group or team.

HOSA activities are geared to help students build self-esteem.

HOSA activities give students opportunity to improve communication skills.

Steps for Starting a HOSA Chapter

Now that you have decided to sponsor a HOSA chapter, there are a few necessary steps you need to take to get started.

1

If this is a new chapter at a school or college, be sure you have the proper authorization from administration to have a HOSA chapter.

2

Contact the Texas HOSA State Advisor, Janet Villarreal, at 1-877- 728-0150 or email janet.villarreal@texashosa.org for more affiliation information.

3

See Handbook Section A for Affiliation information.

<https://texashosa.org/advisors/handbooks/section-a-texas-hosa-history/>

A map of your area can be found in Handbook Section A listed above.

Your Area Board Members can be another helpful resource for information and their contact information is available on the Texas HOSA website.

<https://texashosa.org/board-of-directors/>

Organizing a *NEW* HOSA Chapter

If you are starting a new HOSA chapter, you have a wonderful opportunity to create an exceptional student organization.

The good news is...you can lead the chapter in a direction that clearly supports the purpose of Texas HOSA.

FIRST – GET APPROVAL. Make sure you follow the rules of your institution and get the support of your administrators.

SECOND – DEVELOP INTEREST. Tell your students about the purpose of HOSA, and refer them to the **HOSA** and **Texas HOSA** websites for more information. Give them an assignment to search the websites and then suggest ideas for their HOSA chapter. Explain the importance of being a member of an organization such as HOSA.

THIRD – HAVE A START-UP PLAN. One option would be to have interested students choose a planning committee to put together the pieces such as:

- Constitution and bylaws
- Plan for electing officers

FOURTH – EMPOWER THE STUDENTS TO LEAD. Students need encouragement, guidance, and responsibility. If you let them know what they need to do, they will get it done. Your job is to give them a helping hand to get them started and guide them along the way.

FIFTH – AFFILIATE. Collect dues and complete your online chapter affiliation. Your students are not HOSA members unless they pay their dues and are properly affiliated.

FINALLY - DIRECT STUDENTS TO THE CHAPTER HANDBOOK. The best resource for organizing a HOSA chapter is the Texas HOSA chapter handbook, which can be found on the Texas HOSA website at www.texashosa.org. This is an excellent resource for everything HOSA members need to know to lead a HOSA chapter.

Chapter Advisor Job Description

This list includes several tasks and responsibilities often performed by HOSA chapter advisors.

1. Help the students to establish a Program of Work, which is a list of activities, projects, and events for the year.
2. Acquaint students and parents with HOSA and identify the individual benefits gained through its instructional activities.
3. Assist officers in carrying out their responsibilities, supervise committee activities, provide time for business and program meetings in which students assume responsibility, and always expedite the practice of good parliamentary procedure.
4. Oversee the ceremonial functions, such as installation of local Chapter officers.
5. Initiate competitive events, emphasizing good sportsmanship, while encouraging students to evaluate their own progress.
6. Encourage students to attend HOSA functions and supervise them during attendance.
7. Encourage fund-raising activities and supervise the financial aspect.
8. Monitor, revise, and constructively critique all reports (Secretary, Treasurer, committees, etc.).
9. Encourage capable members to seek local, state, and national offices.
10. Assist students in preparing for leadership activities and competitive events and coordinate other forms of student recognition.
11. Encourage Chapter participation in area, state, regional, and international conferences.
12. Identify contacts with members of the professional community to enhance the HOSA student experience.
13. Suggest resources (people, places, and materials) to finance and implement the Program of Work.
14. Inform the school administration, faculty, students, parents, career and technical educational advisory council, and the community, as well as state and national offices, of the Chapter's achievements.
15. HOSA Advisors have the responsibility to model professional and respectful behavior not only with their members but also with other HOSA advisors, students, and other community members present at HOSA events.
16. HOSA Advisors are expected to assist with events at HOSA conferences. Be prepared to manage/assist with competitive events during area, state, and/or international conferences which your students are attending. Advisors should become familiar with the updated guidelines for any events to which they select or are assigned.

HOSA Program of Work

WHAT? The Program of Work is a plan of activities an organization wants to accomplish during the year. Most chapters will have a planning meeting at the beginning of the school year to plan out their chapter events for the year.

WHY? The Program of Work should relate to the mission and goals of HOSA and meet the educational objectives of the Health Science clusters. A well-balanced Program of Work involves members in a variety of experiences designed to meet their needs, as well as the needs of the organization, local chapters, and the community.

HOW? As the Program of Work is initiated by members, it is important to have buy-in from the start of your members. Remember things may be added and removed as the year goes on, but a Program of Work gives your group an outline of the things they would like to accomplish.

A Program of Work might look something like this:

<p style="text-align: center;">September</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Officer installation Develop Program of Work to determine what activities the chapter will be involved 	<p style="text-align: center;">October</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attend Area (or State) HOSA Fall Leadership Workshop Float in homecoming parade Guest speaker at chapter meeting 	<p style="text-align: center;">November</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sponsor a family at Thanksgiving Donate food to health department food drive
<p style="text-align: center;">December/January</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Toys for Tots collection Visit nursing home Bloodmobile Fundraising for HOSA Service Project 	<p style="text-align: center;">February</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Area Conference – competitive events Guest speaker at chapter meeting 	<p style="text-align: center;">March</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> BBQ dinner fundraiser for State Conference School clean-up day with other CTSO members Local CE practice event with local healthcare professionals
<p style="text-align: center;">April</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> HOSA State Conference 	<p style="text-align: center;">May</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> School board recognition of state winners Appreciation activity for health industry partners Election of new Officers 	<p style="text-align: center;">June</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attend the International Leadership Conference

HOSA.org Scavenger Hunt

Go to the HOSA website-<http://www.hosa.org>

1. What is the name and phone number of your State advisor?
2. Where is the International Leadership Conference scheduled to be held this year?
3. Click on the News tab and then click E-Magazine. Read an article from one of the recent editions.
4. What city will your state conference be held in next spring?
5. Click on Competitions and then Guidelines. Look at one (1) competitive event under each of the event categories. Which events interest you? Search one specific event. Note there are various resources for you to study.
6. Click on Competitions and then Useful Tools Click through the links available. Which information on this page is most helpful to you?
7. Continue to explore the links on the website. List two (2) things that you learned about HOSA that you did not already know:
8. What is the HOSA Theme for this year?
9. What is the HOSA Service Project and where can you get more information on the project?
10. What benefits do you think HOSA can provide you?

HOSA Officers

DUTIES OF CHAPTER OFFICERS

President:

- Conduct meetings according to chapter bylaws and standing rules
- Take the leadership role when working with officers and members
- Develop Program of Work and coordinate activities with chapter advisor
- Keep chapter meetings and activities on task
- Appoint committees and serve as an ex-officio member

Vice President:

- Assist the president in all leadership functions
- Preside over chapter activities in the absence of the president
- Assume the duties of president should the office be vacated
- Coordinate all committee work

Secretary:

- Prepare the minutes of meetings, chapter correspondence and reports
- Help develop meeting agendas with the president
- Record attendance at all chapter meetings
- Work with the treasurer in maintaining membership data
- Read minutes and communications at chapter meetings

Treasurer:

- Maintain efficient management and documentation of chapter funds
- Help collect state and national HOSA dues
- Keep financial records neat and accurate
- Assist in preparing the chapter budget

Historian:

- Maintain a history of local HOSA chapter activities throughout the year.
- Take and collect pictures of chapter activities for newsletters, social media posts, and an end of year slide show. Share your pictures with your Area officers and Texas HOSA.

Reporter:

- Maintain written records of chapter successes and achievements
- Submit articles to local newspapers, state and national HOSA
- Coordinate the publication of chapter newsletters
- Submit chapter newsletter for the HOSA Happenings recognition event

Some chapters also elect: additional officers which may include (but are not limited to):

Parliamentarian:

- Watches over meeting and enforces the use of correct parliamentary procedure

Classroom Representative (replaces the reporter; one per classroom):

- Helps to keep members informed

Social Director:

- Plans and coordinates volunteer activities and chapter social events

Public Relations Officer: (may replace the reporter)

- Works alongside the reporter (if any) to keep up with social medial posts and spreading chapter news and events awareness

Officer Installation

You will want to get officers elected and installed as soon as possible. Your officers should take work load off you (remember HOSA is a student-led organization, you are there to advise and help out, not to do all the work). Installation can occur at one of your HOSA meetings or at another time convenient for your chapter (i.e. an end-of-year banquet or beginning of year social). Find the official installation ceremony- [Click here](#)

Texas HOSA SAMPLE BYLAWS FOR LOCAL CHAPTER

ARTICLE I - NAME

The name of this organization shall be HOSA-Future Health Professionals--- _____ Chapter.

ARTICLE II - PURPOSE

The purposes of this organization are:

1. To unite in a common bond without regard to race, creed, or national origin students enrolled in Health Science Education class or classes.
2. To develop leadership that is competent and self-reliant.
3. To improve scholarship and develop skills that will enable young men and women to participate effectively in health science education.
4. To create more interest and understanding in the intelligent choice of health careers.
5. To engage in individual and group projects of a _____ nature.
6. To recognize outstanding leadership in _____.
7. To create school loyalty and help preserve the principles of democracy.
8. To develop leadership in _____.

(Purpose statements are illustrative only -- additions/deletions may be made.)

ARTICLE II - ORGANIZATION

Section 1. This Chapter is open to all students in the health science program at _____ School and to all students who plan to pursue a health care career. Section

Section 2. Membership is unified on the state and national level. Membership is established by the payment of a local assessment fee and/or _____. 59 Section C of the HOSA Handbook

ARTICLE III MEMBERSHIP

Any student enrolled in the health science program is entitled to become an active member of the organization.

ARTICLE IV - OFFICERS

Section 1. Officers of the _____ Chapter shall consist of the following: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Reporter, and Historian. They shall constitute the Chapter's Executive Committee. Other officers may be designated as desirable.

Section 2. The program coordinator(s)/instructor(s) associated with the health science program shall be Advisor(s) to the Chapter.

Section 3. Officers of the Chapter shall be nominated and elected by a majority vote at the beginning of the school year.

Section 4. In any other circumstances, the election of officers shall follow parliamentary procedure.

ARTICLE V – MEETINGS

Section 1. One business meeting shall be held on the (day) of every month during the fiscal year.

Section 2. Additional meetings shall be called when necessary.

Section 3. The Executive Committee meetings will be held at time specified by the President and the local advisor.

ARTICLE VI – COMMITTEES

ARTICLE VII - CONFERENCES

ARTICLE VIII - COMPETITIVE EVENTS

ARTICLE IX- GOVERNING AUTHORITY

ARTICLE X - AMENDMENTS

ARTICLE XI – DISSOLUTIONS

Team Building and Leadership

A big part of HOSA is helping students to realize and reach their leadership ability and understand how to be a good team member.

Characteristics of Effective Teams

1. a clear goal
2. a focus on achieving results
3. a plan for reaching the goal
4. commitment to the goal
5. competent members
6. decision by consensus
7. diversity among team members
8. effective communication skills
9. high standards of excellence
10. informal climate
11. openness to new ideas
12. periodic self-assessment
13. recognition for team accomplishments
14. shared leadership
15. sufficient resources

We recommend bulleting this list and capitalizing the first letter of each bullet point to align with the other lists in this section.

Team Meetings

- Set the agenda by defining goals and desired outcomes
- Keep the meeting on task
- Brainstorm ideas
- Resolve differences by consensus
- Assign follow-up tasks and items
- Evaluate the session and end on time

Brainstorming to Generate Ideas

- Define the problem/task
- Document ideas
- Set ground rules
 - Treat all participants with respect
 - All ideas have value
 - No debate or discussion of ideas

Reaching Consensus

Consensus is a decision in which *everyone* participates and *everyone* can live with and support.

- Develop criteria for the decision
- Find areas of common agreement
- Develop a consensus proposal
- Ask for a show of consensus

Conflict is Okay if Managed

- Conflict is essential to critical thinking because members must feel the freedom to differ
- Manage constructively
 - Use ground rules
 - Acknowledge difference as they occur
 - Look for common ground and identify alternatives
 - Resolve quickly by consensus

Team-Building Process

The **Forming – Storming – Norming – Performing** model of group development was first proposed by Bruce Tuckman in 1965, who maintained that these phases are all necessary and inevitable in order for the team to grow, to face up to challenges, to tackle problems, to find solutions, to plan work, and to deliver results. This model has become the basis for group development and team dynamics.

- **Forming.** Members of the chapter meet and learn about the opportunity and challenges, and then agree on goals and begin to tackle the tasks.
- **Storming.** Every group will then enter the *storming* stage in which different ideas compete for consideration. The members address issues such as what problems they are really supposed to solve, how they will function independently and together and what leadership model they will accept. Team members open to each other and confront each other's ideas and perspectives.
- **Norming.** Team members adjust their behavior to each other as they develop work habits that make teamwork seem more natural and fluid. Team members often work through this stage by agreeing on rules, values, professional behavior, shared methods, working tools and even taboos. During this phase, team members begin to trust each other. Motivation increases as the team gets more acquainted with the project.
- **Performing.** High-performing teams are able to function as a unit as they find ways to get the job done smoothly and effectively without inappropriate conflict or the need for external supervision. By this time, they are motivated and knowledgeable. The team members are now competent,

autonomous, and able to handle the decision-making process without supervision. Dissent is expected and allowed as long as it is channeled through means acceptable to the team.

- **Adjourning.** Members celebrate accomplishments and the team disbands.

Leadership and Team Building Activities

Team building activities are designed to help groups develop effective communication and problem-solving skills. Spending some time building your chapter with activities will promote a closer and more functional group, not to mention students have fun while doing them. You can find many excellent references for team building and ice breaker activities online.

As a new advisor, it is important to spend some time getting to know your students. These activities can be used in the classroom or after school at HOSA meetings.

Why use icebreakers?

- create a positive group atmosphere
- help people to relax
- break down social barriers
- energize and motivate
- help people to think outside the box
- help people to get to know one another

Two Truths and a Lie

Equipment

Paper, pens

Time

15-20 minutes

Brief Description

People write down two truths about themselves and a lie. Then introduce the three "facts" to the rest of the group who tries to guess which one is a lie.

A different kind of get-to-know-you activity which engages and challenges each group member in a fun way

Particularly useful as an icebreaker, e.g. can be used as an opener for a workshop/conference.

For large groups (e.g., 30+), it is best to split into smaller group sizes.

Hand out cards or paper and pens (or if participants bring their own, that is fine)

Explain that in this activity each person will write two truths and a lie about him/her and then we will try to guess each other's lie. The goal is to: a) convince others that your lie is truth (and that one of your truths is the lie) and b) to correctly guess other people lies.

Allow approx. ~5+ minutes for writing 2 truths & a lie - this is not easy for a lot of people - there will some scribbling out, etc. The slower people will probably need to be urged along to "put anything you can think of" down. Allocate 5-8 minutes, but you will probably need to urge people along.

Announce that we will now walk around and chat with one another, like a cocktail party, and ask about each other's truths and lies. The goal is to quiz each person about each statement to determine which is true and which is lie, while persuading other people into believing your own lie is a truth. At the end, we will cast our votes and find out the truth.

Emphasize that people should not reveal their lie, even if it seems others might have guessed.

Allow min. 10-15 minutes of conversation time.

Gather in a circle. Start with one person who reads their three statements aloud (to remind everyone). Then read the statements again, stopping to allow a vote for each one. e.g., "I am Turkish. Who thinks that is a lie? [Vote] I am vegetarian. Who thinks that is a lie? [Vote] I have a metal pin in my right leg. Who thinks that is a lie? [Vote]. OK, my lie was "I am vegetarian."" The facilitator will need to help each person out, especially initially until the basic format is understood. The facilitator may add drama and reinforcement, etc. for correct guesses, tricky statements, etc.

The exercise can be run competitively, e.g., count up how many correct guesses of other people's lies and take away the number of people who correctly guesses your own lie. Highest score wins (honesty counts!).

Shape It / Form It

Equipment:

- Blindfolds for most all of the participants.
- A long rope or a really long extension cord that is connected.

Purpose: Group to practice their verbal skills and teamwork

Goal: For student to form a shape with the rope by communicating verbally while blindfolded.

Description:

1. Instruct students to spread themselves out
2. Each student should be holding onto a section of the rope
3. Students should then lay down the rope and put on their blindfolds
4. Students then needs to pick up the rope in front of them
5. Instruct the group to form a shape such as a triangle, square, star, horseshoe, rectangle, etc.
6. When the group thinks that they have formed the shape correctly have the students lay the rope on the floor, step back and remove the blindfold and observe the results.
7. Discuss how the team worked together, who took charge...did everybody agree with the plan?

Trust Walk

Equipment

Blindfolds for the team members.

Obstacle course of some kind which can be chairs, trees, poles, etc.

Purpose:

For students to gain experience in the use of their verbal skills

For students to gain experience in being a leader of a group

For students to gain trust in leaders

Goal:

For the leader to take students blindfolded on a walk through an obstacle course of some kind using only their verbal communication skills.

Description:

1. Students form a straight line.
2. Students place blindfolds over eyes.
3. Select one student to act as leader (you can pick anyone, but you may want to pick one of the really quiet students).
4. The student who acts as leader will remove his/her blindfold.
5. Students in line should hold onto the shoulder of the student in front of them.
6. Then have the leader follow you through an obstacle course with the leader verbally calling out directions for the student to follow...students further down the line should also be giving those same directions to the people behind them for safety purposes.
7. At the end of the walk discuss what the leader did well and what the leader could possibly improve on with their verbal skills to have made it easier for the group.
8. Discuss with the group how it felt to be blind folded and having to trust this person as the leader.
9. At any time during the walk you may mute another member if they seem to be taking over.

Competitive Events

Up until this point, our focus has been primarily on the local HOSA chapter. Every person who plans to pursue a health career and joins HOSA should experience the benefits of Texas HOSA membership at the local level. Those benefits include:

- Service-learning opportunities (community service)
- Networking with area healthcare professionals
- Leadership
- Responsibility
- Positive affiliation (as the member of a peer group)

Some chapters focus most of their energies at the local level and provide a very meaningful experience for chapter members.

Some chapters participate in (area), state and international conferences and competitions in order to further their knowledge and understanding of the health professions. For those chapters, HOSA offers the HOSA Competitive Events Program.

The venues for the competitive events program include a series of leadership conferences. A very active HOSA chapter will have student members involved in various levels of competitive events. Students who qualify (win) can compete at their state leadership conference. Each state association is allowed to enter the top three winners in all events, except the Recognition Events, for the HOSA International Leadership Conference (ILC) that is held every June in a different city across the United States. (See Advisor Handbook Section H for guidelines for competitive events and recognition events)

HOSA Competitive Events – An Overview

- There are currently 58 different HOSA competitive events-for secondary (high school) and postsecondary/collegiate divisions and 19 events open to Middle School students.
- All of the events are designed to prepare students to successfully pursue a health career.
- All of the events are an extension of what is taught in the health science classroom.
- The instructions for all competitive events are found in the event guidelines which are in the HOSA Handbook, Section B, or [hosa.org/guidelines](https://www.hosa.org/guidelines).

HOSA Competitive Events – In the Classroom

A classroom teacher and HOSA advisor can use the events as instructional tools in the classroom. For example, a teacher might ask students who are learning about legal and ethical responsibilities to write an essay on the value of ethics in the health professions, and grade the essay using the Extemporaneous Writing rating sheet.

Or, a teacher whose student wants to be a veterinarian can give the student the Veterinary Science guidelines and have the student volunteer at an animal clinic, learning the skills and preparing for competition. At the same time, the student figures out if he/she really wants to be a veterinarian and prepares to succeed in pursuing a veterinary career.

Examples of how teachers use HOSA in the classroom are numerous and can be found at www.hosa.org/advisor. The point is, HOSA competitive events program is first and foremost about health science learning and preparing for a health career. Students who do not compete can still benefit from HOSA assignments that are based on competitive events.

HOSA Competitive Events – A Motivational Tool

The opportunity to compete against other students from rival schools and states can be motivating for many students. To be successful in competitive events, most students must spend hours upon hours outside of the classroom – studying, practicing and learning. This can translate into future academic and career success!

HOSA Competitive Events – Levels of Competition

Texas HOSA has Online Testing. Texas HOSA has area conferences. Texas HOSA has state leadership conference in the spring. State winners qualify for the HOSA International Leadership Conference in June.

HOSA Competitive Events – Getting Started

For many HOSA members, the International HOSA Competitive Events program is the marquee event. In order for students to be successful in competitive events, THEY need to read the directions, follow the rules, and do their best.

As the chapter advisor, you are responsible for knowing the requirements and deadlines for conference registration and for making the appropriate travel arrangements. Your HOSA members are responsible for their success in an event, and for knowing and following the rules.

All HOSA event guidelines (the rules) are available online at hosa.org/guidelines. There are no secrets or tricks for success in competitive events, other than:

1. Follow the guidelines.
2. Practice, practice, practice.

As a new advisor, we encourage you to read and become familiar with the HOSA Handbook, Section B. This handbook contains the rules for competition and you must know the rules so you will be able to effectively advise your students and for you to discover the wonderful learning resources you have for use in the classroom.

Integrating HOSA into the Classroom

Integrating HOSA into the classroom is much easier than you think; in fact, as you read the list below you will quickly find that you are most likely doing several things already. The possibilities are endless, as health science teachers continue to invent and share new ideas with each other. The list below contains a few of the ideas shared by instructors. As you grow in the classroom and in your understanding of how HOSA strengthens that experience, we encourage you to share your ideas with us to be passed on to other instructors.

Suggested Ways to Integrate HOSA into the Classroom

- Using the **Extemporaneous Writing** guidelines, students write on “The Value of Knowing Body Directions, Planes, and Cavities.”
- Have students participate in a simulation of the **Medical Spelling** event using the terminology lists provided for this unit of instruction.
- Have each student write five fill-in-the-blank questions related to the structure of the muscles. Then, using **HOSA Bowl** guidelines, play HOSA Bowl. Note: If you do not have a buzzer system, you may substitute a bell.
- Use the guidelines for “**Biomedical Debate**” to debate the current topic
- Following the HOSA **Extemporaneous Health Poster** guidelines, have students create a health poster on a topic you select. The poster should contain factual information about the selected topic. Have students share their posters and teach the rest of the class about the topic.
- Using the HOSA guidelines for **Researched Persuasive Speaking**, have students write a persuasive speech on the topic, “To Tube My Child’s Ears or Not to Tube My Child’s Ears” or any controversial topic you select. Students will probably need to research the controversy surrounding this topic prior to writing.
- Divide students into groups of 3-4 and have them complete the exercise “Medical Decisions” (see page 25) using the **Creative Problem-Solving** guidelines and rating sheet.
- Have the students choose a partner and draw a name of a profession. (Prepare cards prior to class). The students should prepare a career health display per HOSA **Health Career Display** guidelines. The projects are then shared with the class and they could be shared with the school on a career day.

- At a HOSA meeting have members develop a questionnaire that would help to identify people who might be prone to diabetes mellitus. Have a HOSA member seek to get the questionnaire published in the school newspaper. Along with the questionnaire, publish a list of lifestyle changes that might help prevent or delay the onset of diabetes.
- Using the HOSA guidelines for **Extemporaneous Writing**, have students write on the current topic.

Medical Decisions

You have been assigned to a Medical Decisions Board for a university hospital. Today, your decision involves a very common dilemma; one kidney and four patients in complete renal failure, all in need of a kidney transplant.

Date _____ Read information about kidney transplants, either in your textbook, in other class print materials, in your school's media center, or on the Internet. (Your teacher may assign this part as homework.)

Date _____ Work with your group using the problem-solving process to determine who gets the kidney.

Date _____ Present your decision and rationale to a group of judges or your class.

- Note: Your teacher will inform you of the due dates for each part of the process.

All of the following patients are compatible recipients for the kidney to be transplanted. The kidney donor was a 17-year-old male who was killed in a car crash. The parents have requested that the kidney be transplanted in a teenager.

Name, Age and Occupation	Renal Status	Other Medical factors	Financial Status	Social Factors
Mary Greaves 54 Housewife	Dialysis: 15 years Transplant waiting list: 7 years	Arthritis – Mod. Post-menopausal hormone replacement Hypertension – Mod. Overall health – Fair	\$46,000/yr Medicaid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Has 6 grown kids, all supportive ▪ Husband is reformed alcoholic with stable income and in good health, age 60
Michelle Mantle 35 Former tennis pro	Dialysis: 1 year Transplant waiting list: 6 months	Multiple sclerosis – 2 years – Mod. Overall health – Fair	Net worth – 20 million dollars No insurance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ High profile patient would bring much media attention to the medical center ▪ Potential exists for financial gain for the medical center, publicity for organ donations
Gary Puckett 19 College student	Dialysis: 2 years Transplant waiting list: 9 months	Overall health – Good Regularly uses cocaine, other illegal substances have been present in blood specimens	Parents: \$120,000/yr Blue Cross/Blue Shield	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Parents are supportive ▪ Patient resists medical regimen as prescribed by physicians
Gerald Ford 43 Auto mechanic	Dialysis: 7 years Transplant waiting list: 2 years	Overall health – Excellent	\$25,000/yr Managed care – will cover 50% of costs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Has 16 year old son in school who lives in the home ▪ Wife died of Leukemia in 1995

Instructional Techniques

Several techniques are used by chapter advisors to integrate HOSA into the classroom. The following techniques are offered to stimulate interest in using HOSA as an instructional tool for preparing a competent workforce for the health care system.

1. **Review professional oaths.** When presenting the history of medicine, discuss the significance of the following oaths: Hippocratic Oath, Declaration of Geneva, Nightingale Pledge and the HOSA Creed.
2. Encourage students to learn the HOSA Creed. Provide incentives to those students who recite the creed correctly when called upon.
3. **Elect chapter officers.** Students should be given opportunities to make decisions and to see the consequences of those decisions. Members need to elect a leadership team to guide their class and chapter. While some members serve in leadership roles, all members are able to witness first-hand the challenges that face elected leaders and their followers. The HOSA chapter experience can be likened to the "health care team" that must work together to achieve a common goal - quality health care. When the chapter advisor uses the officer team to facilitate classroom functions, it will be much easier for students to see the co-curricular nature of HOSA. The officer team should be as concerned and involved with classroom activities as it is HOSA chapter activities.
4. Class and/or chapter officers can be used in a variety of ways:
 - a. Call the class to order and announce the objectives to be accomplished that day (President or Vice President).
 - b. Take roll call, prepare absentee slips and keep records (Secretary).
 - c. Maintain all financial records including receipt of monies, disbursements, issuance of checks, payment of accounts payable, etc. (Treasurer).
 - d. Monitor class protocol and member behavior and, when necessary, teach members the fundamentals of parliamentary procedure (Parliamentarian).
 - e. Prepare bulletin boards and posters to create a positive learning environment (Historian).
 - f. Prepare articles and news releases for school and local newspapers (Reporter).
5. **Establish committees.** To give most, if not all, students the opportunity to practice leadership skills, the chapter can establish committees to achieve the program of work. Appoint students who were not elected chapter officers as chairpersons of committees. The committee structure will encourage greater student involvement since more members (not just officers) will feel a greater **sense of ownership** in the chapter.
6. **Use parliamentary procedure.** The proper use of parliamentary procedure enables a group to arrive at a decision in an orderly manner. All members are provided the opportunity to state their opinion on an issue. Parliamentary procedure promotes a team spirit, demonstrates cooperation, builds group harmony, and provides a structure for discussion and decision making in a group. Parliamentary procedure recognizes the will of the majority in regulating the actions of all versus the will of the few regulating the total.
7. **Prepare a chapter newsletter.** Chapter newsletters achieve several teaching objectives, including: development of basic communication skills; dissemination of news to the total

8. membership and support groups; reinforcement of major topics presented in the classroom; development of ownership and pride in the organization; and an official record of the success.
9. in integrating HOSA into the classroom. All members should be asked to contribute articles to the newsletter throughout the year.
10. **Emphasize professional dress and grooming.** Personal and career success is enhanced by good grooming and professional dress. By rewarding good habits while in school, members will achieve greater success when competing for entry-level positions and career advancements. A dress-up day is a positive image builder for the HOSA chapter and will raise the visibility of health science program and health care careers among all students.
11. **Sponsor field trips.** Chapter members should identify and select the health care facilities they wish to visit during the membership year. After decisions are made, chapter members should be appointed (by the President) to contact and coordinate the field trips.
12. **Attend civic, professional, or trade meetings.** By representing HOSA at such meetings, other groups will realize the professionalism and desire of HOSA members to prepare themselves for future leadership responsibilities. In getting involved in civic, professional, and trade meetings while in school, members will be more prepared to do so as health care workers. Observations at these meetings can be discussed at chapter meetings to share the experiences with those students unable to attend.
13. **Interview health care leaders.** Assign students the responsibility to interview selected health care leaders and to share their findings with all students. The interviewers can develop a questionnaire to guide the interview.
14. **Sponsor a blood pressure screening clinic.** In this activity, members are able to develop, practice, and refine a variety of skills, including organizational and planning skills; supervisor skills; technical skills; people skills; and evaluation skills. Members are responsible for organizing the project; securing a place to conduct the clinic; developing a promotional plan; preparing an advertisement or article for the newspaper; preparing promotional posters; scheduling members to work the clinic; conducting professional blood pressure screenings; etc.
15. **Prepare a talk for a community group.** A good way to develop, practice, and refine communication skills is to prepare a talk and present it to a group. Those who achieve success in the health care industry will be those who develop strong communication skills to complement their outstanding technical skills. "Prepared Speaking" and other presentation-based events are available to HOSA members who want to refine their communication skills.
16. **Participate in mock job interviews.** Entry into any industry requires good interviewing skills. By participating in mock interviews (as either the interviewer or job applicant), members will be more successful in actual job interviews. The most talented job interviewers should consider the HOSA event called "Job Seeking Skills."
17. **Participate in HOSA Bowl competition.** The "HOSA Bowl" competitive event is an excellent tool for reviewing classroom material. The team nature of the event encourages students to work together to achieve success. The HOSA Bowl builds enthusiasm among the "teams" and demonstrates the positive effects of competition. The most successful HOSA Bowl players should represent the chapter in district/state competition.

18. **Conduct a community awareness project.** The community awareness project, a comprehensive HOSA team leadership competitive event, provides members with the opportunity to take a more intensive look at a critical health care issue. While classroom training builds a strong knowledge base, this project encourages linkage with the health care industry by organizing a Health Awareness Council to guide the project. By forming multiple project teams, all students can work on a project. If issues are selected and coordinated, the projects can encompass a variety of issues that fit the curriculum. The project presentations can first be given in class to refine them. The oral presentations (with audio-visual documentation) can be given at special events, i.e. a program for a civic trade group, an open house, or school function. The rating sheets in the HOSA Handbook can be used to evaluate all projects and identify the project that will represent the chapter in area/state competition.
19. **Participate in a homecoming parade.** This is an excellent activity to develop and reinforce the importance of working together in a cooperative manner. The steps in building a float for the homecoming parade include: identifying the theme for the parade; brainstorming the kinds of floats that could be built to emphasize the theme; selecting the most appropriate design for the float; securing the resources needed to build the float; determining what talents are needed; recruiting members to help design, build, and decorate the float; scheduling members to work; and completing the project within the time parameters.
20. **Host a party for handicapped children.** Activities of this type will enhance the sensitivity of the students toward special populations. In addition to the good feelings in serving these children, your students will be able to plan, organize, coordinate, and evaluate the activity. This activity emphasizes the importance of the health care team working together to serve the needs of others.
21. **Assisting in a blood drive.** This is an activity that uses technical training in the classroom and provides worthwhile service to the community. The organizational and technical skills of the students - collectively and individually - can be evaluated through such activities.
22. **Collecting funds for HOSA's Service Project.** The HOSA Service Project is an ideal project for HOSA. The organization that HOSA sponsors is selected by the delegate assembly at International Leadership Conference. The organization changes every 2-3 years.
23. **Other HOSA Partnership projects include:**
 - a. Collect and distribute food baskets to a local food pantry.
 - b. Participate in city-side clean-up campaign.
 - c. Provide decorations in a pediatric unit at a local hospital.
 - d. Sponsor CPR classes for young people and parents.
 - e. Assist in chemical abuse programs.
 - f. Help with Special Olympics.
 - g. Answer telephones on a local telethon.
 - h. Be a pen pal with a mentally handicapped person.
 - i. Adopt an elderly person or couple and be attentive to their needs; and
 - j. Assist with activities at a nursing home.

Day In and Day Out

First 90 Days of Getting Started: Suggested Outline of Activities for HOSA Advisors

Before School Starts or ASAP

- Contact your Texas HOSA state advisor janet.villarreal@texashosa.org to find out if there was an existing HOSA chapter or if this will be a new chapter. If you are going to a school where there are multiple health science instructors, they should be able to guide you. You may even have HOSA officers that were elected last spring for this coming year, or students that were members last year that can help you with the planning.
- Talk with administration about starting a HOSA chapter. Check on the rules and guidelines that are specific for your school. Is there a specific time during the school day that can be set aside for chapter meetings? Stress how HOSA can be both integrated into the classroom as well as extended to after school with both social and civic activities and that competition can be used to strengthen your student skills. Discuss what funding and assistance you can expect from the school and from your Career and Technology Director.
- Explain the benefits you are looking for with starting a HOSA chapter.
- Look at your calendar and decide when you want to have your 1st meeting

First Month of School

- Start with day 1 by including a handout with date/time for the 1st student/parent meeting.
- Use one of the HOSA icebreakers to get to know your students,
- Remind students of the upcoming meeting.
- Spend some time introducing HOSA (purpose of) to the students and tell them about the professional organizations you have been a member of during your career.
- Look up State and International dues at www.texashosa.org Advisor Handbook Section A . You may want to add some to that amount to start your chapter before having your first meeting, as one of the common questions will be “*how much does it cost?*”
- Use a fun team-building exercise with the students - emphasize how health care workers are part of a team and that part of what HOSA teaches is teamwork. *Don't forget to take lots of pictures.*
- Complete the “HOSA Advisor Scavenger Hunt”.
- Give students an assignment to search the HOSA website and then bring their ideas to the first HOSA meeting.
- Decide how your group will pay dues - will it be through fundraising or will the student pay?
- Have your first HOSA meeting. Start off with an ice breaker so students can get to know each other. Include parents. Discuss the purpose of HOSA, outline what you would like to see, and then open the floor for students and parents to give their input. Announce the date of the second meeting. *Do not forget to take pictures.*
- Check with your State Advisor for date, time, place, and cost of the HOSA Fall Leadership Conference.
- Check with your school about rules and procedures for fundraising.
- Begin looking up different types of fundraisers.
- Gather materials to pass out at the next HOSA meeting to inform students about the job description for being a HOSA officer.

- Hold your second HOSA meeting-Start off with a teambuilding exercise and then discuss the leadership roles in HOSA. Distribute HOSA officer information sheet. Set a deadline for students to sign up if they are interested in being an officer. (You might also consider requiring a parent signature and two teacher referrals). Let students know about Fall Leadership Conference. Announce next HOSA meeting. *Do not forget to take pictures.*
- Begin taking applications for HOSA chapter officers.
- Make phone calls to schedule a guest speaker for an upcoming HOSA meeting.
- Check with other chapter advisors about activities surrounding Homecoming.
- Meet with HOSA members to plan a Program of Work for the year. (See this section on page 7.)
- Announce date for elections.

Second Month of School

- Begin taking money for HOSA dues if your students are going to be self-pay. If you are using fundraising to pay get on the school calendar to have a fundraiser. Set cut-off date for membership drive. Have students complete an information sheet needed for online registration.
- Students running for office may begin campaigning by speaking one-on-one and putting posters up.
- Look at getting bus/travel arrangements for Fall Leadership Conference.
- Hold elections.
- Announce winners of the elections.
- Decide which installation process you want to use for the new officers. Then go shopping for candles, etc. You may want to use some of the chapter funds to have snacks or ask students to bring items.
- HOSA meeting-First install new officers. (Do not forget to have a student take pictures for your end-of-year slide show and/or chapter notebook. Turn meeting over to students (encourage students to begin using Parliamentary Procedure). Students may want to form committees to begin looking at civic and social activities and bring back a report to the group at the next meeting. Don't forget to take lots of pictures.
- Remind members to turn in their HOSA dues before the deadline.
- Distribute or post meeting minutes that the new secretary to let members know what happened and to remind them what occurred.
- Meet with committee members to work on brainstorming ideas and narrowing down good activities to bring before the group. Don't forget to take lots of pictures.
- Post and remind members to get their HOSA dues in and the date of the next meeting.
- HOSA meeting – make sure committee reports on the selected activities, assist group with parliamentary procedure, and announce upcoming guest speaker.
- Get approval for social or civic activity that group voted on at the meeting.
- Begin purposefully integrating HOSA competitive events into your lesson plans. Let your members know that they can take a written test for medical terminology or that if they prefer to

- write, speak, or create, HOSA has over 50 competitions from which to choose. (See the section under integrating HOSA for ideas on how you can easily accomplish this.)
- Attend Fall Leadership Conference. Don't forget to take lots of pictures.
- Allow time for officers to report to students about what they did at the Fall Leadership Conference.
- Have chapter officers begin to record data for membership on the HOSA website.
- Remind students of the deadline for joining HOSA
- Attend HOSA meeting. Remind committees to have reports ready before the meeting. Don't forget to take lots of pictures.
- Continue to remind students to go to the HOSA website to look at the different types of competitions.
- Continue to integrate HOSA into the curriculum.
- Possibly start a fundraiser.

Third Month of School

- Have officers put in final data for joining HOSA and print out copies.
- Request check to send to National HOSA.
- Begin signing up students for HOSA competitions.
- Set dates when you can help students who need additional help with competitions.
- Continue to have HOSA meetings to keep students in the loop. Review your Program of Work for upcoming events.
- Example: Assist with the canned food drive or other civic project.
- Example: Assist social committee in organizing a HOSA social.
- Close competition sign-up and set up travel arrangements for competition.
- Review your Program of Work for upcoming events.

HOSA Recruiting Tips

- Recruiting in the Community
 - Blood drives
 - Utilize alumni from program
 - Newspaper releases
 - Participate in health fairs
 - Get to know people in the local health care industry
- Recruiting in the School District
 - School Board – HOSA members can adopt a school board member
 - Elementary Schools – HOSA members teach elementary students
 - Middle Schools – offer Introduction at Middle School level – have HOSA members conduct a junior HOSA conference at Middle School
- Recruiting in School
 - Students are your best recruiters - wear scrubs around school and HOSA T-shirts
 - Have brochures made for your program
 - Host events such as a dance or health fair and invite students who are not in HOSA
 - Have HOSA members create a recruiting video for social media or your school video news program
 - School newspaper
 - Scholarships
 - Partner with a teacher from another department – example: the Biology teacher. Utilize them as chaperones on trips.
- Recruiting with Parents
 - Parents of HOSA members can serve on Advisory Committees
 - Parents can help with fundraising or start a booster club
 - Parents can help as chaperones for socials and trips