



**TO:** NC HOSA Advisors with Chapters Registered for SLC 2020

**FROM:** Lynn Hardison, Chair, NC HOSA, Inc. Board of Directors  
Katrina Coggins, Executive Director

**SUBJECT: SLC 2020 & ILC 2020**

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NC HOSA would like to first say, we hope you and your families are healthy and well. We hope you are able to stay home and keep away from exposure to COVID-19. Thank you for your patience as the situation quickly evolved and many changes had to be made and many questions answered.

On March 9, 2020, NC HOSA began receiving messages from schools they would not allow travel to SLC. Immediate contact was made with the insurance company, hotels, and convention center along with NC Department of Public Instruction with regards to next steps. These conversations occurred throughout the week on a daily basis. Initially, there was not enough information to cancel the conference without incurring cancellation fees of \$354,807.

On Saturday, March 14, 2020, Governor Roy Cooper signed an Executive Order closing schools and limiting mass gatherings. The Executive Order provided NC HOSA with the documentation needed to cancel SLC without penalty from the hotels and convention center. Contact was made with the contacts at the hotels and convention center on Monday, March 16, 2020 citing impossibility clauses in the contracts and the need for cancellation. It took the week of March 16, 2020 to obtain all correspondence from those entities releasing NC HOSA of any cancellation fees.

Conversations with our insurance carrier have been ongoing. NC HOSA continues to provide updates as requested from the carrier. Realistically, the process may take months to obtain any final decisions.

Based on the SLC and ILC 2020 survey results, the Executive Committee of the NC HOSA Board of Directors voted to continue to move forward with the virtual SLC. 60% of the respondents stated students were interested in competing, and another 12% were still making contact with students. 28% did not want to participate in a virtual SLC. We do hope all students registered for SLC 2020 are provided the opportunity to compete if they would like to participate. Thank you, advisors, for sending the information out to students to compete and for helping us at NC HOSA make contact with students when needed.

Many tough decisions have been made by the Executive Committee related to SLC 2020 registration fees. Please keep in mind NC HOSA is a non-profit organization (501c3) and operates on tight margins. Unrecoverable costs make a huge impact to operating ability. While



NC HOSA would like to refund all fees, that is not possible. With conference being cancelled three (3) weeks prior to the event, many items had been purchased and paid for in advance including, shirts, plaques, awards, and etc. With a virtual conference there will be additional shipping costs to get finalist pins, awards, plaques, etc. out to the schools.

The Executive Committee voted to provide a \$25 credit to the school for each paid registration. What does this mean? Refund checks for registration will not be issued. Rather a credit will sit in the accounting system for your school. The credit will be applied to any outstanding fees and the remainder toward upcoming events. Once the adjustments are made on the invoices, you will be emailed a copy of the invoice. Please be patient as it will take some time to process the credits.

The NC HOSA Voting Delegate Packet is enclosed. Advisors, please identify the correct number of voting delegates with email addresses in the [Voting Delegate Survey](#). The Voting Delegate Packet contains the number of voting delegates each school is allowed for 2020 voting. The electronic voting platform requires a name and email address to ensure a secure electronic vote. Please upload those students with email addresses by April 27, 2020. Students will be voting May 5-6, 2020 for the business items and State Officers.

NC HOSA is waiting on some final changes to Tallo and will send an update to advisors when students are able to upload the additional items for virtual competition. Students have until April 27, 2020 to upload information to Tallo for any event requiring Tallo submissions. Judging will occur during the week of April 27, 2020.

Many thanks to all members of the Executive Committee for the hours spent in conversation, collaboration, and communication regarding the virtual conference versus canceling the SLC completely. The commitment made to members of NC HOSA-Future Health Professionals to support the virtual SLC is much appreciated as many are still excited to compete and participate.

Executive Committee members include the following:

Lynn Hardison, Chair

Kacheckia Dewitt, Chair-elect

Megan Gambill, Secretary

Lynn Snow, Immediate Past Chair

Ashley Orr, NC DPI CTE Health Science Consultant

Katrina Coggins, Executive Director (Ex-officio)

Denise Bowles, Accountant (Ex-officio)



NC HOSA received information from HOSA over the weekend stating ILC will be virtual this year as well. Please read the following information carefully as there will be several changes to ILC 2020.

**Conference Registration Information Update:** This year, HOSA's "Virtual ILC" registration will be available either through a HOSA chapter advisor or individual member registration. An online credit card payment process will be available since a large percentage of schools are not open.

**National Geographic Learning Academic Testing Center (ATC):** HOSA members who did not compete at their State Leadership Conference or have ATC testing eligibility. HOSA is making available the Academic Testing Center to any HOSA member for \$10 a test. They do **NOT** have to register for the "Virtual ILC" to register for an ATC test. Those individuals only participating in the Academic Testing Center will need to register where appropriate and the testers will receive appropriate registration information. HOSA members who did not qualify through the SLC to register for the ILC are eligible to take as many ATC tests as they want to take with each test being \$10 each. Take 14 tests and the cost is \$140. Take one test and the cost is \$10.

Delegates registering for HOSA's Virtual ILC will be allowed to take **2 ATC** tests complimentary with their \$40 registration fee. Any additional tests they wish to take in addition to the two ATC tests are \$10 each. Instructions on how to add tests to the individual registration will be included in the registration information.

**Houston Hotel Reservations:** If hotel reservations (especially blocks but individual reservations as well) were already made at one of the Houston properties, they will **not** automatically be canceled. Please notify your travel agency (if you used one) and your local HOSA advisors to be sure to cancel their reservations so they will not be charged for their Houston reservation. Send a copy of the cancellation to [Tanya.Loftis@hosa.org](mailto:Tanya.Loftis@hosa.org). Tanya will send the copies to Monica as a double-check that the hotel has canceled the block reservations in particular.

The Virtual ILC details will be forthcoming on HOSA's website within the next couple of weeks – so please be sure to keep checking back to see the virtual competition guidelines revision; officer elections and voting delegate information; registration process; educational symposium, exhibits, the ILC agenda, and more!

Some Virtual ILC Highlights:

1. A dynamic **Opening Session** to rebuild enthusiasm after several State Leadership Conferences were canceled and the expected attendance of 12,000 in Houston, Texas we expect to be reduced to 3,000-4,000 Virtual ILC delegates. We are still renegotiating with the keynoter, Barbara Pierce Bush, who founded Global Health Corps.



2. A minimum of **20 workshops** to replace the 150 workshops we normally offer at the ILC. Handouts can be downloaded from the website.
3. Conduct **76 competitive events**.
4. Post recognitions in a separate online room so states, chapters, members and advisors can visit the **Recognition Room** to identify those receiving recognition. (Normally, we conduct a Recognition Session with a keynoter. Last year, the keynoter was the U.S. Surgeon General.)
5. A set of **Award Sessions** by competitive event categories. Each Award Session will be approximately 30 minutes with sponsor ads sprinkled in each session. HOSA secured \$250,000 in various sponsorships and, hopefully, the Virtual ILC will be sufficient to keep from refunding all sponsorship funds.
6. A **Business Session** will be held for the Delegate Assembly culminating with a vote for the HOSA Service Project and election of the 2020-2021 Executive Council.
7. A **tribute** will be presented for the service of the 2019-2020 Executive Council who conducted the Washington Leadership Academy, represented HOSA at several State Leadership Conferences, and conducted the Virtual ILC as well as a tribute to all HOSA State Officer Teams.
8. Consideration will be given to time zones for daily starting and ending times. International locations will be a challenge with Canada, China, Hawaii, etc.
9. The registration fee will be \$40 per member.

**Special thanks** to Jason Huff, Chairman of the HOSA, Inc. Board of Directors, and all members of the Executive Committee for the hours spent in conversation, collaboration and communication regarding the virtual conference versus canceling the ILC and the commitment made to the members of HOSA-Future Health Professionals to support the Virtual ILC.

Executive Committee members include: Jason Huff, Chair | Dana Stringer, Chair-Elect | Jim Scott, Secretary | Janet Villarreal, Immediate Past Chair | Vivian Do, President | Jake Kelley, President-Elect.

Don't forget to put **HOSA's Virtual International Leadership Conference, June 24-27, 2020** on your calendar! *We shall gather for the 1<sup>st</sup> Virtual ILC on June 24—and, in all due respect, we cannot afford a 2<sup>nd</sup> Virtual ILC!*

*There are CTSOs that chose to cancel their annual national conference and chose not to offer an Annual Virtual Conference.*

*We look forward to meeting you virtually very soon!*