



## State Leadership Conference General Information

### State Leadership Conference General Information

***Participation in the State Leadership Conference (SLC) requires that the chapter advisor understand the details! Please read the following information carefully in order to take full advantage of all conference activities.***

#### Registration

Registration deadlines are critical! Conference registration is online through the conference management system (HOSA System). Ensure you have completed all optional sections to include t-shirt sizes, identification of voting delegates, identification of state officer candidates, etc.

**Registration Deadline for SLC 2026 is January 21, 2026.**

The registration fee is per attendee. Everyone attending HOSA functions must be registered. Please register for the correct category.

**NO REFUNDS ARE GIVEN AFTER THE REGISTRATION DEADLINE.** Corrections or substitutions are allowed with communication regarding changes as soon as possible.

#### Advisor Orientation / Responsibilities

The Advisor Orientation Breakfast will be held on Thursday, March 26, 2026 at 8:00 AM. This session is designed to include program changes, important reminders, and advisor recognition.

In order to address student safety, it is the responsibility of every advisor to assist with conference activities. **Please complete the [Sign Up Genius](#).** If the form is not completed, you will be assigned an activity. Our conference grows yearly, and it is impossible to conduct a successful conference without the help of EVERY advisor. Thank you in advance!

#### Administrator

The NC HOSA Board of Directors encourages each chapter to bring a school administrator to serve as one of the chaperones. This is an excellent way for the administrators to learn more about HOSA. The registration fee is **waived** for **one** administrator **per chapter**. Please email Jennifer Epperson if you need to have the registration waived for one administrator. You will register them as a chaperone. (This only applies to SLC)



## State Leadership Conference General Information

### Health Career Expo

Exhibitors are available on Thursday and Friday. Please take time to visit the exhibits and encourage your students to do so. We are expecting representatives from many universities and community colleges, health care product vendors, hospitals, professional organizations, etc. There will also be an Anatomage Tournament that begins on Wednesday, March 25, 2026 at 1:00 PM. Teams can sign up [here](#).

### Educational Symposium Offerings

Various exciting and informative workshops will be offered for all conference delegates on Thursday and Friday. NC HOSA members will want to take advantage of the excellent educational opportunities available to them at the NC HOSA State Leadership Conference. Please help us educate our students, administrators, and parents on State Leadership Conference offerings outside of competitive events. The Educational Symposium offerings are great opportunities for students to learn about healthcare professions, trends, and other exciting topics related to healthcare.

Seating for the forums will be on a space available, first come, first served basis. Conference delegates should be encouraged to arrive early to sessions they wish to attend.

Dress code for educational symposium offerings is the HOSA uniform or appropriate business attire. No jeans or shorts. Please see the [official HOSA Dress Code](#) for more information.

### Conference Assistants

Each local high school or collegiate chapter advisor is invited to select deserving chapter member(s) to represent their school as a Conference Assistant. Those agreeing to be conference assistants **cannot compete** and will attend an orientation to receive their assignments on Wednesday, March 25, 2026 at 4:00 PM. Conference Assistants are expected to wear khaki pants and a hosa polo or hosa t-shirt. Register your conference assistants under optional items in the conference management system. Students MUST complete the [application](#) in addition to being registered.

### Session Protocol

It is the responsibility of the chapter advisor to monitor student dress and behavior at the state conference, and particularly during the sessions. Advisors are asked to provide an adult/student **ratio of 1:15**, or *adhere to their local board policy if stricter*.



## State Leadership Conference General Information

Advisors and chaperones must sit with their students at the nightly general sessions to assure that students show professional behavior.

### HOSA Attire

Student attire is the sole responsibility of the chapter advisor. Please note the [dress code regarding State Leadership Conference Attire](#). No students should go on stage with gum or props. Students in jeans or improper attire will not be allowed into the sessions. Students must be wearing the official HOSA uniform or suit option to be admitted to the evening sessions. Advisors and guests should wear business attire. All attendees must have their conference name tags to enter. Students will not be allowed on stage if they are not properly dressed according to the official HOSA Dress Code.

### Display of Flags

Each chapter is asked (not required) to create and bring their own chapter flag for the parade of flags. You must bring a flag stand labeled with your chapter's name so that your flag can remain in the room throughout the conference for everyone to see. The chapter is responsible for any shipping fees related to leaving a flag at the end of conference.

### Smoking/Vaping/Alcohol/Drugs

North Carolina HOSA supports a NO TOBACCO POLICY, NO VAPING POLICY, NO ALCOHOL POLICY, and NO DRUG POLICY at HOSA functions, for student members, advisors, and chaperones. All local school rules must be followed.

### Alumni Members

We encourage you to bring alumni members to assist with management of your delegation. Alumni members may not compete or hold office.

### Postsecondary / Collegiate Members

We encourage postsecondary/collegiate chapter members to compete at State Conference. They must be a paid, affiliated postsecondary/collegiate member to be eligible to compete or run for an office.

### State Officer Elections

The state officer application is included in Section F of the Handbook as well as on the State Leadership Conference section of the website [nchosa.org](http://nchosa.org). The deadline for applying is the same date as the State Leadership Conference Upload Deadline: February 6, 2026 at 5:00 PM. Students selected to participate in officer screening will be notified of an appointment time for Wed, March 25, 2026 in Greensboro, NC. Appointments will begin at 12 noon. Candidates must be available at their appointment time to be considered. The two candidates with the highest



## State Leadership Conference General Information

scores per super region will be slated to run for office during SLC 2026, March 25 – 27, 2026.

### Voting Delegate Information

Serving as a Voting Delegate is an honor. Advisors are encouraged to reward outstanding chapter members by bringing them to the Conference as a Voting Delegate. Voting delegates should **NOT** be involved in anything else that would interfere with their responsibilities as a voting delegate. Voting delegates must wear their voting delegate ribbon attached to their nametag. Chapter Advisors will receive voting delegate ribbons for the number of delegates they are allowed at registration.

### ***Voting delegates:***

- Listen to the introduction of officer candidates at the Opening Session on Wednesday.
- Talk with your chapter members about the candidates and any business issues found in your registration packet.
- Attend and participate at the Business Session on Thursday, listen to the speeches and vote for the candidate of your choice. Voting delegates must wear general session dress to the business session.

The number of voting delegates is based on the total chapter membership:

<u>Voting Delegates</u>		<u>Total Chapter Membership</u>
1	per	5 – 25
2	per	26 – 50
3	per	51 – 75
4	per	76 – 100
5	per	101 – 125
6	per	126 – 150
7	per	151+

### Agenda

A tentative agenda will be provided closer to SLC as a separate document. The final agenda will be provided within a week of conference. Please understand due to the nature of a conference, times and locations may change onsite. Any changes will be pushed out through the conference app.



## State Leadership Conference General Information

### Hotels

The main conference hotel is the Sheraton Four Seasons Greensboro. We will have a number of overflow hotels. Information regarding room rate and reservations is found on the State Leadership Conference page of the NC HOSA website ([nchosa.org](http://nchosa.org)). Advisors are responsible for obtaining a room block for their delegates. Reservations are due by January 21, 2026. Payments must be received by the hotel by March 6, 2026.

All delegates must stay at the conference hotels for liability reasons. If you have any questions, call the NC HOSA Executive Director Jennifer Epperson at 336-756-7776 or email [jennifer.epperson@nchosa.org](mailto:jennifer.epperson@nchosa.org).

### Deadlines

SLC Registration deadline is January 21, 2026 at 5:00 PM.  
Required Digital Upload deadline is February 6, 2026 at 5:00 PM.

Be sure to upload Gold Star Chapter and Advisor submissions and approve hours in HATS for the American Red Cross Volunteer Event and Barbara James Service Award by February 6, 2026 at 5:00 PM.

### Accommodations

**HOSA** members with disabilities will be reasonably accommodated at the NC HOSA State Leadership Conference through event modifications as a means of providing them an equal competitive opportunity. Such members may be allowed to provide and utilize special equipment HOSA may not be able to provide. Requests for reasonable accommodation must be submitted to NC HOSA by the conference deadline of February 6, 2026 at 5:00 PM. Accommodation requests must be submitted through the link in the event guidelines or by visiting [Appendix H](#).

### Competitive Events Rules

HOSA Competitive Events are fun, rewarding, and provide a unique learning experience! It is important to Remember:

- **Members may not compete in more than one competitive event except for the Recognition events and National Geographic ATC tests.** There is no limit to the number of Recognition events a member may compete in (this is an International HOSA rule).
- **Each chapter** is limited to **five (5)** competitors/teams per competitive event with the exception of Health Career Display which is limited to three (3) teams per chapter.



## State Leadership Conference General Information

Due to competitive events occurring over 3 days, please make sure students are not registered for conflicting events. In the event of a scheduling conflict, no special appointment times will be given. It is the luck of the draw, and students should know this when considering involvement in more than one activity.

Competitors are responsible for knowing their specific event guidelines.

Event changes from International HOSA are outlined under the competitive events tab of the International website: <http://www.hosa.org/guidelines>.

From time to time we have VIPs visiting and they will be allowed to watch an event, but they will be escorted by a HOSA staff person and will not interfere with the event.

**Rating sheets will not be returned.**

Team sizes are noted in the Event Guidelines and substitution information is noted in General Rules and Regs. Do not register team alternates.

### Session Seating

The following plan will be used to secure seating at State Conference:

- Seating is first come, first serve with the following exception. Members of the NC HOSA Board of Directors and Competitive Events Team will have assigned seats for their chapters.
- Chapters should not be leaving the Awards Session early but if they must, they should sit in the back of the ballroom.
- Selected advisors will coordinate seating at each session.
- The doors will open for general admission at least thirty (30) minutes prior to the start of the session. Advisor coordinators will monitor this process as well to support a goal of fair and safe session seating.
- Members must be in appropriate dress per the general session dress code to be admitted to the general sessions. This means they must wear the HOSA uniform (black or navy jacket, slacks/skirt, white shirt, black, navy, or brown closed toe shoes, and nametag). If they are not in the appropriate dress or do not have their name tag with them, they will NOT be admitted.

### HOSA Celebration

There is a HOSA dance on Thursday, March 26, 2026. Dress attire is long jeans and HOSA t-shirt. If students are attending, there **must be an advisor or chaperone from that chapter present** for supervision. It is important for students to understand any advisor, chaperone, or state staff member may provide direction at the dance. No body surfing and no students on shoulders of other members for safety.



## State Leadership Conference General Information

### IDEA Events

Only students classified under the federal regulations, Individual with Disabilities Education Act of 2004 (IDEA) can compete in Personal Care, Life Support Skills, Interviewing Skills and Speaking Skills. The IEP Verification/ Student Eligibility Form (found in the event guidelines) must be completed and submitted by February 6, 2026 at 5:00 PM for SLC.