

THE MO HOSA PULSE

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Save the Date

As we kick off the 2026-2027 school year, September is an exciting month for Missouri HOSA with very important dates to keep in mind! From the Washington Leadership Academy to Fall Leadership Conference registration and brand design submissions, be sure to mark your calendars and stay up to date on these upcoming opportunities.

IMPORTANT DATES

>> Washington Leadership Academy

September 19-22

20th Annual Washington Leadership Academy in Washington, D.C.

>> Fall Leadership Registration Deadline

September 25

- Final day to register for the Fall Leadership Conference.
- Registration fee: \$80.00
- Make sure your chapter completes registration before the deadline!

>> Brand Design Concept Deadline

September 28

- Deadline to submit your Brand Design Concept.
- Be sure to have your design completed and submitted on time!

 2026-2027 CALENDAR OF EVENTS			
SEPTEMBER 19-22, 2026 20TH ANNUAL WASHINGTON LEADERSHIP ACADEMY WASHINGTON, D.C. - LOCAL & STATE OFFICERS ONLY	NOVEMBER 2-6, 2026 HOSA WEEK - VISIT HTTP://WWW.HOSA.ORG/NO-DE/122 FOR LOCAL CHAPTER HOSA WEEK IDEAS	FEBRUARY 1, 2027 STATE LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE QUALIFIER RESULTS ANNOUNCEMENT	MARCH 1, 2027 MISSOURI HOSA CHAPTER ASSURANCE FORM DEADLINE
SEPTEMBER 25, 2026 FALL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE REGISTRATION DEADLINE REGISTRATION FEE: \$80.00	NOVEMBER 13, 2026 COMPETITIVE EVENTS PREPARATION WORKSHOP STEPHENS COLLEGE - COLUMBIA	FEBRUARY TBA, 2027 CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION LEGISLATIVE DAY JEFFERSON CITY - ALL MISSOURI HOSA CHAPTERS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND	MARCH 6, 2027 STATE OFFICER CANDIDATE SCREENING EVENT JEFFERSON CITY
SEPTEMBER 28, 2026 BRAND DESIGN CONCEPT CONTEST DEADLINE	JANUARY 10, 2027 STATE LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE QUALIFIER REGISTRATION DEADLINE REGISTRATION FEE: \$30.00	FEBRUARY 15, 2027 STATE OFFICER APPLICATIONS, SLC AMBASSADOR APPLICATIONS, VARIOUS AWARD APPLICATIONS, BARBARA JAMES SERVICE AWARD ADVISOR HATS APPROVAL, HOSA SERVICE PROJECT ADVISOR HATS APPROVAL, & SPECIAL TALENT REQUEST ENTRY DEADLINES	MARCH 30-APRIL 1, 2027 STATE LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE ROLLA HIGH SCHOOL - ROLLA
OCTOBER 12-13, 2026 FALL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE WYNDHAM EXECUTIVE CENTER	JANUARY 15, 2027 STATE LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE QUALIFIER HOSA DIGITAL UPLOAD SUBMISSION DEADLINE	FEBRUARY 15, 2027 STATE LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE REGISTRATION DEADLINE REGISTRATION FEE: \$55.00	MAY 15, 2027 INTERNATIONAL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE REGISTRATION DEADLINE REGISTRATION FEE: \$130.00
OCTOBER 23, 2026 COMPETITIVE EVENTS PREPARATION WORKSHOP REGISTRATION DEADLINE REGISTRATION FEE: \$20.00	JANUARY 15-26, 2027 STATE LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE QUALIFIER TESTING WINDOW	JUNE 22-25, 2027 HOSA INTERNATIONAL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE PENNSYLVANIA CONVENTION CENTER, PHILADELPHIA, PA	

With the upcoming Fall Leadership Conference, we want to make sure we can connect with and showcase chapters from across Missouri HOSA. Please take a moment to fill out the form and provide your chapter's Instagram handle. [2026 HOSA FLC Instagram Exchange - Google Forms](#). This will help us to create a way for you all to stay connected! Be sure to keep these dates on your calendar and watch out for more exciting events and opportunities throughout the year. We can't wait to see all that Missouri HOSA accomplishes this year!

Missouri HOSA Takes the Stage at ILC

From June 17th-20th, Missouri HOSA members traveled to Indianapolis for HOSA's 49th annual International Leadership Conference, celebrating 50 years of HOSA! At this grand jubilee, we had 396 Missouri members representing 96 chapters present. Our state showed up ready to compete, learn, connect, and celebrate.

From competitive events and recognition opportunities to meeting HOSA members from across the world and trying to collect as many pins as possible, ILC gave Missouri members the chance to take their HOSA experience to the next level.

And with 22 top 10 finalists and 9 medalists, along with an additional 99 individuals and chapters being recognized for their service and leadership, Missouri HOSA certainly made its mark!



Meet the Team Behind the Spotlight

Your 2026-2027 Missouri HOSA State officer team had their State Officer Retreat in Hermann, Missouri, early June and have been working hard behind the scenes to create resources, opportunities, and experiences designed with YOU in mind. From chapter resources and membership initiatives to communication, collaboration, and new ways to get involved, your officers are ready to make this year one to remember.

So whether you're a returning HOSA member or just joining for the first time, don't be afraid to get involved, try something new, and make your voice heard.

You can contact your state officers with any questions through their emails as listed:

Valeria Gonzalez, President,
mohosapresident26@gmail.com
Sophia Kammerman-Baez, President-Elect,
mohosapreselect26@gmail.com
Anwita Puttur, Vice President of Communications,
mohosavpcomms26@gmail.com
Angela Bo, Vice President of Public Relations,
mohosavppr26@gmail.com
Evie Craft, Vice President of Membership,
mohosavpmember26@gmail.com

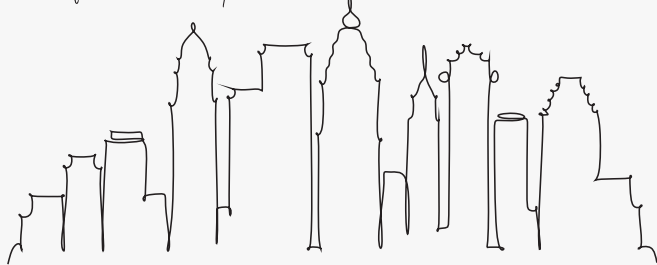
Your state officers aren't here to simply lead from the stage; they are here to help you step onto it. The 2026-2027 Missouri HOSA State Officer team is honored to be able to serve you this year and is super excited to meet all of you at our upcoming events.



We would also like to give a special shoutout to Loukya Vaka from Liberty (Wentzville) High School, who received a \$1,000 Citizens Scholarship, and Zay Gallagher from Mehlville High School, who received a \$1,000 Philip R. Patton HCA Healthcare Scholarship.

Congratulations to everyone who represented Missouri HOSA at ILC! We are looking forward to seeing what our members accomplish this next academic year as we look towards HOSA's 50th ILC in Philadelphia in the summer of 2027!

Philadelphia



Check out these Resources & Opportunities

» **NEW!** MO HOSA Member Guides

» August: Local Officer Guide

COMING SOON IN SEPTEMBER:

» What to Expect at State Events

» Registration Expectations for Members Flowchart

Missouri Opportunities:

Southeast HEALTH College of Nursing and Health Sciences Healthcare Camp (Cape Girardeau, MO)

- Entering 10th - 12th grade
- Applications Summer 2027 opening in September
- <https://www.sehcollege.edu/admissions/healthcare-camp/>

Missouri University Health Care Volunteer Program (Columbia + Jefferson City, MO)

- Ages 15 - 18 years old
- Rolling applications (apply any time)
- <https://www.muhealth.org/giving/ways-to-give/volunteer#:~:text=MU%20Health%20Care%20Volunteer%20Program>

**QUICK
TIPS**

MO HOSA Advice

COLD EMAILING

If interested in shadowing, research or internships do not be afraid to cold email! Cold emailing is when you reach out to a professional (in your field of interest) without knowing them priorly.

In this email you will: 1) Introduce yourself, 2) Share your interests and career aspirations, 3) What interactions (e.g. shadowing) you desire from them, and 4) Why you believe they would be the best fit for you (review their published papers, articles highlighting their work, online reviews, etc.) e.

Do not be afraid to reach out and send follow-up emails!

Important MO HOSA Deadlines

**DON'T
FORGET!**

September

25

**September 25th, 2026 -
Fall Leadership
Conference Registration
Deadline**

September

28

**September 28th,
2026 - Brand Design
Concept Contest
Deadline**

Introducing: Presidential Council

Hey there Missouri HOSA!

With school coming up MO HOSA is excited to be sharing some new plans for the upcoming school year! As we begin a new year of leadership, learning, and opportunities, we are excited to introduce the Missouri HOSA Presidential Council and share what is ahead for our members and chapters across the state.

We've heard our members' feedback and we came to deliver! The Presidential Council is a team of student leaders dedicated to representing Missouri HOSA and supporting chapters throughout the year. Together, we work to strengthen communication, encourage leadership, highlight the accomplishments of our members, and create opportunities for Missouri HOSA to grow.

Throughout this newsletter, we hope to keep you connected with what's happening across Missouri HOSA—from upcoming events and important announcements to member and chapter spotlights, leadership tips, and opportunities to get involved.

So, what is the Presidential Council?

The Missouri HOSA Presidential Council will be led by Missouri HOSA President, Valeria Gonzalez and Missouri HOSA President-elect, Sophia Kammerman-Baez. The council will bring together local HOSA leaders from chapters across the state, this includes students serving as President, Vice President, and member representatives. This council will provide local leaders with a space to connect, share ideas, communicate important information, and collaborate on initiatives that can benefit HOSA chapters throughout Missouri.

Additionally, make sure to check your inbox! Invites for this council will be sent out via email from Missouri HOSA President Valeria Gonzalez including more details.

Once invitations are sent out, members of the Presidential Council will also be added to a GroupMe group chat, allowing us to keep everyone in the loop and informed throughout the upcoming school year! Missouri HOSA is excited to bring student leaders from across Missouri together and see what we can accomplish as a team.

Join Us!



What can Presidential Council members expect?

- ➔ A direct line of communication with the State Officer Team
- ➔ Networking with HOSA leaders across Missouri
- ➔ Opportunities to share ideas and chapter initiatives
- ➔ Important statewide updates
- ➔ Opportunities to collaborate on Missouri HOSA projects

You're
INVITED

You're
INVITED

Monthly Spotlight

Sunlight dancing through the window, markers haphazardly strewn across sticky note pads, black ink filling off-white pages. Over the summer, your Missouri HOSA State Officer team brainstormed what would become the 2026-2027 state theme – Stepping into the Spotlight. Hoping to highlight the way Missouri HOSA members learn, lead, innovate, and serve in their communities, I'm thrilled to announce one way we're bringing this theme to life; the Monthly Spotlight!

Accessible through the link in our Instagram bio, link in our Instagram story highlight, and link through our website, the Monthly Spotlight is a Google Form anyone can fill out to nominate a chapter, member, chapter officer, or chapter advisor for recognition of the incredible work they've done.

The form begins by asking for basic identifying information – your name, email, chapter, role, and nominee type (chapter, member, officer, or advisor). Click the cute little “next” button, and you'll be brought to a page asking for the nominee's name, grade level (if applicable), and role (the type of nomination; chapter, member, officer, or advisor).

From there, you'll be directed to a nomination page tailored to the type of nominee you selected. This is where you get to tell their story!

Fill out the information as directed, providing detailed responses and reasons as to why you would like to spotlight your nominee. Questions will explore the who, what, when, where, why, and how's of the nomination, ensuring we can provide the most accurate spotlight for your community.

Lastly, the form concludes with a Media & Permissions page confirming you have permission from the nominee to submit their nominating information. This last page also includes space to upload photos and share additional commentary. Not all questions are mandatory, but they are certainly strongly encouraged!

Every month, the Missouri HOSA team will select a monthly spotlight to feature on our social media platforms, newsletter, and email communications. Through these spotlights, we hope to celebrate the communities that build up Missouri HOSA! No accomplishment is ever too small to share – we want to tell your story regardless. So go ahead and fill out the form at <https://forms.gle/PCBjCcbS3ciwD8deA>!

If you run into any problems or have any questions while filling out the form, please do not hesitate to reach out! My email is mohosavppr26@gmail.com, and I'd be delighted to help out wherever needed, as I'm sure would the rest of the State Officer team.

We hope the Monthly Spotlight allows an opportunity for chapters to showcase themselves, and truly step into their own spotlight. Let us celebrate for you. Let us celebrate with you. Let us celebrate YOU!

We're looking forward to a fantastic year with Missouri HOSA!

Signed,
Your Missouri HOSA State Officer Team

