

SLC 2026 Information and Instructions

The 2026 State Leadership Conference (SLC) is right around the corner! This year, SLC will take place at the Marriott Orlando World Center, April 16th – 19th, 2026. **All SLC information, including any updates or changes, are posted to the [SLC Information Page](#) on our state website.**

Conference Registration Fees

Registration Fee*:

**Meals are NOT provided with registration fee.*

\$100 for each affiliated student member, advisor, chaperone, and family/guest*

**Any family/guest 5 years of age or older must be registered.*

\$20 for Non-Attending Barbara James Service Award ONLY

Late Registration Fee:

\$150 for each affiliated student member, advisor, chaperone, and family/guest

\$70 for Non-Attending Barbara James Service Award ONLY

Available after the regular registration deadline through 11:59pm EST on March 11th by e-mail request only to the State Advisor (jmoreau@flhosa.org).

Pre-ordered Options/Activities (listed below) are not available for late registration.

Options/Activities:

Leadership Academy (April 18th) – \$10 per student member

*Student members are not allowed to attend the SLC for the sole purpose of participating in the Leadership Academy; they **MUST** be registered as a competitor, Courtesy Corps member, Voting Delegate, and/or State Officer Candidate.*

SLC Short-sleeved T-shirt – \$20 if pre-ordered (\$25 on-site at SLC)

Pre-order policy – Once a t-shirt has been ordered, it must be paid for, even if that person cancels his/her registration. Unclaimed t-shirts may be resold.

Conference Registration Deadlines

Registration Deadline:

Friday, March 6th, 11:59pm EST

*Per Florida HOSA Board of Directors' policy, there will be **NO cancellations or refunds** after the March 6th registration deadline. All names in the registration system after it automatically closes on March 6th **must be paid for**, whether you attend SLC or not (no exceptions).*

Postmark Deadline:

Chapters in close proximity to the State Office are encouraged to hand deliver their registration packet; please call 386-462-4672 prior to dropping off to ensure staff is available.

Monday, March 16th to the Florida HOSA State Office (address below)

ALL payment and forms MUST be mailed. Schools whose registration packet does not have a postmark of March 16th or before, will have their registration cancelled, and a past due invoice for the school's registration fees will be sent.

The following required items must be sent together in one packet:

SLC Checklist

Registration Summary Report (not invoice)

Required Attendee Registration Forms

Student Accommodation Forms (if applicable)

Abuse Prevention Handbook Statement (last page only)

Completed Screening and Training Certification Form

Payment

Payment Information

- Allowable forms of payment; **we do not accept cash or personal checks:**
 - School Check
 - Money Order
 - Bank/Cashier's Check
- Only **ONE** form of payment is permitted per chapter.
- Send **fully completed** registration packet AND payment to:

Florida HOSA, Inc.
3463 NW 13th Street, Suite B
Gainesville, FL 32609
- Payment **MUST** be made payable to Florida HOSA, Inc. Please also verify that your school's bookkeeper enters the correct address if utilizing previously saved records or when generating a purchase order.

Important Registration Information

- There are **NO** on-site registrations at SLC.
- All student members attending the SLC **MUST** have an assignment/function (in a competitive event, be a Courtesy Corps member or Voting Delegate, or be a State Officer Candidate); **the Leadership Academy does not qualify as an assignment/function** and is only offered to members registered for one of the above assignments/functions.
- If **ANY** changes are made to your online registration after sending your forms and payment to the State Office, please notify Mandy Memolo (mmemolo@flhosa.org) as soon as possible.
- Substitutions can be made for Courtesy Corps, Voting Delegates, and team event registrations through **Friday, April 10th**.
- ALL schools, including Post-Secondary, **MUST** be accompanied by a registered advisor/chaperone. If the advisor is unable to attend, ONE chaperone/parent/alternate advisor (non-student 25 years of age or older) must be registered and designated by the chapter advisor as lead contact during the conference. This designation should be noted on the registration documents and should include a cell phone number. The designee will sign-in at registration and be given conference materials/information to disperse to the chapter registrants, and must stay on-site for the duration of the conference.
- In order to register members, advisors, chaperones (non-student, aged 25 years or older), and family members/guests (*it is the responsibility of the Chapter Advisor to notify family members/guests, administrators, and others with conference information and to register them before the deadline if they would like to attend*) for the conference, you will need to use your charter number and password to log in to the HOSA CMS (detailed instructions for registering online can be found on the **"Online Registration Instructions"** document on our website's SLC Information Page).
- *Competitors/teams attending SLC must have competed and placed in the top three at their Regional Conference before advancing to the State Leadership Conference.*

Hotel Information

- Hotel reservations need to be made directly with the Marriott Orlando World Center by March 6th (reservation instructions and pricing can be found on the SLC Information Page).
- If the room block at the Marriott Orlando World Center is depleted before March 6th, an overflow hotel will be designated and posted to the SLC Information Page.
- *It is Florida HOSA, Inc.'s policy, due to our General Liability Insurance, that ALL HOSA members attending SLC MUST be accompanied by their chapter advisor (and/or school-approved chaperone) and stay at the approved conference hotel (the Marriott Orlando World Center or designated overflow hotel) for the duration of the conference (beginning Thursday, April 16th at 5pm through Sunday, April 19th). Florida HOSA does not approve or sanction a person missing any part of the conference.*
- *Since the Marriott Orlando World Center is the designated conference hotel, all conference attendees must stay in this hotel. This is vital because Florida HOSA must fill a designated number of rooms at the resort per our contract. If we fall below the contracted number because participants stay elsewhere, Florida HOSA will have to pay penalties to the resort resulting in higher registration fees for future conferences.*

Dress Code

- All attendees must wear their conference nametag where it is easily visible, and wristband (if applicable), during all conference activities.
- Clothing that reveals cleavage, your back, your chest, your stomach, or your undergarments/underwear is NOT appropriate. Any clothing that has words, terms, or pictures that may be offensive is NOT acceptable. Clothing not permitted includes, but is not limited to: sweatpants, leggings, ripped jeans/shorts, jeans/shorts with holes, crop tops, tube tops, spaghetti strap tops, bathing suits, etc. Attendees who experience uncertainty about acceptable HOSA attire should ask his/her chapter advisor, but when in doubt, don't wear it. *The State Office reserves the right to request an attendee who is inappropriately dressed change their outfit.*
- ALL **advisors, chaperones, and family/guests** should dress in business casual, keeping attire appropriate for a professional environment.
- **Student Members:**
 - Please review the [Florida HOSA Dress Code Policy](#) with all members.
 - ALL student members attending the General Sessions at SLC must wear the HOSA uniform or a navy-blue/black suit. For females, the uniform consists of a navy-blue blazer with matching skirt or slacks, a white button-up blouse, and navy-blue or black closed-toe dress shoes. The maroon scarf is optional. For males, the uniform consists of a navy-blue blazer with matching slacks, a white button-up dress shirt, a solid maroon/red tie, and black closed-toe dress shoes. The HOSA patch may be purchased from our HOSA Boutique at SLC or Awards Unlimited.

- For the competitive events, the guidelines state, “Competitors must be in official HOSA uniform or in proper business attire.” For those events with skill procedures (Health Professions and Emergency Preparedness Categories), competitors may wear attire appropriate to the occupational area during the skill procedure(s).
- It should be explained to your members that for every General Session, security will be standing at each entrance of the ballroom to make sure all students are in the proper attire. *Members will **NOT** be permitted to attend any General Session if they are not wearing the HOSA uniform or a navy-blue/black suit. Additionally, there will be monitors at the stage examining the attire of all members before they walk on the stage to receive any award/recognition. Members will **NOT** be permitted to walk on stage if they are not wearing the HOSA uniform or a navy-blue/black suit.*

Competitive Events

- We can’t do it alone! Our organization has grown to the point that we must have everyone’s help, otherwise the integrity and organization of the competitive events will be compromised. You may have been assigned to be a Category Lieutenant or Event Manager (*Please see the “SLC 2026 Lt & Event Manager Assignments” document on the SLC Information Page*). If you are not assigned to be a Category Lieutenant or Event Manager, you may be assigned a different duty (*judging, dress code enforcement, etc.*). This assignment will be sent to you by the State Advisor prior to SLC. Thank you in advance for dedicating your time to make the competitive events run smoothly!
- *There will be **NO** required digital uploads (except for the American Red Cross Volunteer, Barbara James Service Award, Health Literacy Ambassador, HOSA Happenings, and HOSA Service Project events). **ALL** competitors/teams (Middle School, Secondary, and Post-Secondary) must bring hard copies of materials to SLC for judges to view. Please review event guidelines and visit <https://hosa.org/guidelines/> for more information.*
- *The National Geographic Learning Academic Testing Center tests and the Emotional Well-Being Challenge will **NOT** be offered at the SLC; these are ILC-only events.*
- *If your members are competing in Personal Care, Life Support Skills, Interviewing Skills, or Speaking Skills, you must complete the Student Accommodation Request Form (found on the SLC Information Page) and submit to the State Office with your registration packet.*
- We do **NOT** mail awards/certificates/medals out after SLC; all students (and/or their advisor) **MUST** pick up their awards at the Awards Session(s).

Recognition Events

- Please be aware that the deadline for most of the Recognition Category Events is before SLC. Review the posted **Important Deadlines** document carefully.
- **NEW – Barbara James Service Award and Health Literacy Ambassador Events ONLY:**
 - Any members registered solely for the Barbara James Service Award and/or the Health Literacy Ambassador recognition event(s) **MUST** meet the minimum requirements for recognition, or they will not be permitted to attend SLC. ALL hours must be entered into HATS, and approved by the chapter advisor, by February 20th at 11:59pm EST. If the minimum requirements are not met by the deadline of February 20th, and the member’s name is in the registration system after it automatically closes on March 6th, your member will not be permitted to attend SLC, and no refund will be issued for their registration.
 - Competitors who are pursuing the **Barbara James Service Award only**, have the option of attending the State Leadership Conference. Chapter advisors must verify/approve all their members’ hours through HATS on or before February 20th. If these competitors choose not to attend the conference, *they must still be registered through the online registration system and a registration fee of \$20 is required; they must not be entered in any other event.* Please be sure to also select the proper “Registration Type” (“**Non-Attending Barbara James**”) and competitive event from the pull-down menu (“**Barbara James Service Award**”) when registering each individual. The Barbara James Service Award is the only competitive event to which this policy applies.
- **THIS YEAR ONLY – HOSA History Exam:**
 - Any eligible competitor attending SLC (meaning that they have advanced from regionals to states in their competitive event or have met the minimum requirements for a recognition event) can take the HOSA History Exam in addition to their competitive event or recognition event. Any registered Courtesy Corps, Voting Delegates, or State Officer Candidates who are not competing may also take the HOSA History Exam. Additionally, each chapter can bring up to 5% of their previous year’s (2024-2025) affiliation total to SLC to compete in the HOSA History Exam without having another assignment/function (competitive event, recognition event, Courtesy Corps, Voting Delegate, or State Officer Candidate).
 - Example: If your chapter had 80 affiliated members last year, you can bring 4 extra members to solely take the HOSA History Exam (80 x 5% = 4) at this year’s SLC.

- **HOSA Happenings:**
 - Please email all submissions to the State Advisor (jmoreau@flhosa.org) by 11:59 pm on March 6th.
 - Submissions must be submitted as ONE PDF file (*not separate files*), and no Google Drive links will be accepted. If submissions are e-mailed incorrectly, they will not be accepted.
- We do **NOT** mail awards/certificates/medals out after SLC; all students (and/or their advisor) MUST pick up their awards at the Recognition Session.

Courtesy Corps

- The Florida HOSA Board of Directors has made the decision to allow each school to designate only **ONE** Courtesy Corps member and that member **MUST** assist each day of the conference, Thursday – Saturday.
- *If a Courtesy Corps member does not complete his/her assigned duty, that member's school will not be able to send a Courtesy Corps member to the next year's SLC, and school administration will be notified.*
- The Courtesy Corps Google Form MUST be completed by March 6th at 11:59pm EST.
- All Courtesy Corps questions should be directed to Jessica Crews (jessica.crews1@fgc.edu).

Leadership Academy:

- The Leadership Academy is a beneficial opportunity offered to members already attending SLC as a competitor, Courtesy Corps member, Voting Delegate, and/or State Officer Candidate. Registered members are invited to participate in this dynamic program designed to help them grow as leaders. This interactive course will be offered on Saturday afternoon during the conference. Advisors should select this option for any interested members when registering.
- **Members are not allowed to attend the SLC for the sole purpose of participating in the Leadership Academy; they MUST be registered for one of the assignments/functions outlined above.**
- **The cost of the Leadership Academy is \$10.** All members who register for the Leadership Academy **MUST** attend; no exceptions. Attendance will be taken and those who register and do not attend may be blocked from registering for future Leadership Academies and/or SLCs.

National Anthem Audition

- If a HOSA member, advisor, or alumni is interested in being considered to sing the National Anthem at the Opening General Session, *please submit a video recording or YouTube link to the State Advisor (jmoreau@flhosa.org), as well as a list of events (with dates) at which that person has performed previously, by Friday, January 30th.* The chosen performer will be contacted directly by the State Advisor to arrange rehearsal time at the conference.