



BACK TO SCHOOL & AFFILIATION PACK 2019-2020





Welcome teachers & students! My name is Mehul Sachdev and I am serving as 2019-2020 MDTSA President. TSA has been a meaningful part of my life. Whether it has been competing in events I am excited about or working with the state officer team, I have loved every second of TSA. Not only have my experiences in TSA allowed me to apply and explore my interests in STEM, but they have also helped me build valuable relationships with like-minded people. As President, it is my goal to share this opportunity I have benefitted so greatly from with as many people possible and develop special connections with each advisor, officer, and member to improve our organization. Our officer team has some great plans put together for the upcoming year that will enable members to compete in areas they are passionate about, foster leadership skills, and meet new people with similar interests. I am looking forward to the upcoming year!

Mehul Sachdev
MD TSA State President



Hello everyone! I hope you all had an amazing last year and a fantastic summer! The State Officer Team and myself have been gearing up for this year's TSA season. We have been working on new and exciting items new and existing chapters can use to help grow their membership. This past year was our largest state conference and national attendance we have ever seen. My goal every year is to make MD TSA better for the organization, chapters and yourself! If you are a new chapter or advisor, I encourage you to reach out to me with any questions or concerns you have, the state officers and myself are here to help you and your chapter. If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact me at stateadvisor@mdtsa.org.

Scott Bernstein
MD TSA State Advisor
stateadvisor@mdtsa.org



Welcome to a new school year with Maryland TSA. In this pack you will find important information to kick start your year. Please print the TSA calendar and post it somewhere in your room. For the most up to date information please visit the Maryland TSA home page at **www.mdtlsa.org**.

Be an active chapter and send your chapter activities so we can include them in the News section of the Maryland TSA website. Submit all articles with pictures to **stateadvisor@mdtsa.org**

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This section should be referenced if your chapter will be attending the National Conference. The section contains some basic reference information along with some tips, tricks and experience information.



2019-2020

CHAPTER AFFILIATION INFORMATION

TSA Affiliation Requires On-line Affiliation

The on-line system should be **open in early August** and ready to accept your chapter affiliation!

AFFILIATION IS NOT COMPLETE UNTIL PAYMENT IS PROCESSED BY NATIONAL TSA.

Payment may be made with a credit card or an approved/signed Purchase Order followed by a check.

Although you may affiliate your chapter or add additional members to your roster at any time during the year. We encourage you to affiliate early so that you can receive your new "Total TSA" which includes the current Competitive Events Guide, membership benefits and leadership activities and lessons.

- **ON-LINE AFFILIATION:** To affiliate a chapter, go to the **National TSA website** at www.tsaweb.org and then click on "Join TSA or Manage My TSA." You will be lead through the on-line affiliation process. When you affiliate you will receive a free copy of the Total TSA Package which includes:
 - i. **Membership Materials:** The Membership Materials section provides guidelines for promoting, running and maintaining your chapter. It also includes chapter organization tips, promotional and marketing ideas, and descriptions of TSA's awards and recognitions.
 - j. **Competitive Events:** TSA offers its members challenging technology and leadership competitions. TSA's competitive events are reviewed and revised every two years by the Competition Regulations Committee (CRC), a standing group of technology educators with hands-on classroom experience. The Competitive Events portion of TOTAL TSA presents guidelines for all national TSA conference competitions, as well as a comprehensive view of each event's connection to science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) standards. Additionally, leadership skills and career choices are featured for each event. Relevant for local state and national competitions, the competitive events materials provide an excellent motivational tool for curricular activities in the classroom.
 - k. **Leadership Lessons:** Leadership is for all TSA members. By learning leadership skills such as creative and critical thinking, communication, decision making, ethics, self-esteem, problem solving and teamwork, students are empowered for success in their competitions, classes and future careers. The contents of the Leadership Lessons section will help advisors enhance chapter dynamics and broaden the learning that takes place when students participate in TSA competitive events. The lessons can be integrated into both the technology education curriculum and the TSA chapter program of activities.

- **MEMBERSHIP DUES.** TSA has unified membership. This means **no one** may be a member of TSA, or participate in TSA activities and conferences, without affiliating at the **local, state and national level**. Be sure to include dues for advisors and alumni. All students in your school who are taking or have taken a Technology Education course are eligible for membership.
- **AFFILIATION PLAN OPTIONS:** TSA offers three curriculum-integrated membership programs. Each chapter chooses the program that works best for them.
 - **Red Chapter Affiliation Program (Red CAP)**
A chapter **affiliates ten (10) members** by paying a flat fee (*additional members may be added during the year for a fee, membership can NOT be transferred from one member to another*). The membership fee for Red CAP is **\$100** at the national level plus **\$100** state dues.
Total: \$200.00
 - ~~White~~ **Chapter Affiliation Program (White CAP)**
A chapter **affiliates eleven or more members by paying a per member** fee for state and national dues (*additional members may be added during the year for a fee, membership can NOT be transferred from one member to another*). The membership fee for White CAP is \$10 per member at the national level plus \$10 state dues.
Total: \$20 per student
 - **Blue Chapter Affiliation Program (Blue CAP)**
A chapter **affiliates an unlimited number** of members in a Middle School or High School **Engineering Pathway Program** for one flat fee (**typically cost effective when there are more than 28 or more chapter members**). This option is popular in chapters where students rotate through a STEM class for a portion of the year, like a Middle School, to enable all students to be members, and or large High School Chapters. The membership fee for Blue CAP is **\$350** at the national level plus **\$225** state dues.
Total \$575.00
- The chapter affiliation program you choose must be the same at the state and national level. If your chapter originally selected the **Red CAP** and grows beyond that plan you **become White CAP chapters automatically when they affiliate eleven or more members. Red CAP or White CAP chapters may convert to Blue CAP at any time.** TSA operates under a unified dues policy, whereby members must affiliate and pay applicable dues at the local, state and national level.
- **REVIVING A DORMANT CHAPTER:** Often there are personnel changes at schools that cause the TSA Chapter at that school to disband or simply shut down due to a lack of a chapter sponsor or engineering & technology education program. TSA dues are based on annual membership dues payments. In cases where there has been a lapse in membership for a year or more, and the school wants to affiliate once again, the chapter sponsor should contact the National TSA Office and ask for **Suzy Orr. Her email is sorr@tsaweb.org**. She is The National TSA representative in charge of membership services. Give her the new information. A username and password will be issued to the new advisor for that school. Contact the State Advisor for assistance as well: **stateadvisor@mdtsa.org**. (There is no additional fee for re-affiliating other than the normal annual affiliation dues.)
- **The absolute membership deadline is February 12th for a member to be able to participate at the State Conference.** The deadlines reflect the necessary turn-around time between adding a new name to your roster and it being posted on the National TSA Database, which is used to populate our MD TSA Event Management System. If you have any problems or questions, please contact Geoff Bernstein, State Advisor at **stateadvisor@mdtsa.org**.
- **CHAPTERS OWING OUTSTANDING DEBTS.** If a chapter has a delinquent debt from previous events/conferences, that chapter will not be able to register for future events/conferences until the outstanding debt has been paid or arrangements with MD TSA have been made and approved by the MD TSA Board of Directors.

MD TSA Policies Regarding Payments, Collections or Registration Deadlines

Affiliation Dues

Affiliation and affiliation payment(s) are made directly to National Technology Student Association. **Do not send affiliation payments to MD TSA.**

State Conference Registration Payments

MD TSA provides one in-state conference during the school year. The event has posted registration and general conference information on our website, www.mdtsa.org. Conference registration is done via our registermychapter.com site. Currently there is no extra registration fee for attending the state conference, the original fee collected when you affiliated via the national office covers the state conference. The conference registration instructions will be sent out early in the calendar year and will include the deadlines and instructions for completion. Advisors may make changes up to the deadline but after the deadline passes MD TSA has the right to not allow changes. We try and accommodate all changes but understand there is an immense amount pre-planning that must take place once the deadline passes.

Do not send any MD TSA State Conference questions to National TSA. Please contact Geoff Bernstein (stateadvisor@mdtsa.org) with any state conference questions.



Champion Fund

2019-2020

An Opportunity for Free TSA Membership

The Technology Student Association (TSA) currently has funds available for eligible schools to pay for TSA membership (ten students and one advisor) for one year. The Champion Fund is made available through donations from individuals, schools, and businesses to provide membership funds to chapters that qualify.

Eligibility categories are:

1. A school that has never before had a TSA chapter and there is not school or community financial support available to pay for membership. This requires the principal's signature for verification.
2. A school that has not had a TSA chapter for at least five years and there is not school or community financial support available to pay for membership. This requires the principal's signature for verification.
3. A school that has had a TSA chapter within the last five years, but is currently experiencing economic hardship due to a natural disaster. This requires the principal's signature.

Funding is available on a first come, first served basis until the fund is depleted.

Tips for Completing the Champion Fund Application

The following information will help you when completing the three questions on the Champion Fund application. These must be completed on a separate piece of paper.

Existing program: A paragraph summarizing course content/philosophy, along with a statement about how you see TSA benefiting your students.

Eligibility: A statement from the applicant that school district funds and/or community financial support are not currently available to pay for membership is adequate. If applying due to extreme economic hardship, please provide adequate documentation to describe the situation.

Future plan: A future plan for paying membership dues might include a presentation to a community group to ask for funding (PTA, Lions Club, etc.), or a fundraiser held at the end of the school year to raise dues for membership.



Technology Student Association Champion Fund Application

School name: _____ ☐ Middle School ☐ High School

School contact (teacher): _____

Street address: _____

City, state, zip code: _____

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____

E-mail address: _____

Please answer the following questions and forward the answers with the completed application:

1. Explain the course content/philosophy of the technology and engineering program at your school and why you feel your school and students would benefit from having a TSA chapter.
2. Please describe the economic situation that makes your school eligible to receive funding through the Champion Fund, such as school district funds and/or community financial support are not available or extreme economic hardship. Please provide adequate details to describe the situation.
3. Should your school be funded, explain a plan for how your school's newly chartered TSA chapter would sustain itself in subsequent years. A future plan for paying membership dues might include a request for funding from a community group or business, or fundraisers to raise dues for membership.

To the best of my knowledge, the information provided in this application is accurate.

Signature of school principal: _____

Date: _____

If you have any questions regarding the Champion Fund,
please contact Suzy Orr at sorr@tsaweb.org or toll free at 1-888-860-9010.



Return this completed application by mail, fax, or email sorr@tsaweb.org:

Technology Student Association
1904 Association Drive, Reston, VA 20191
Telephone: 703.860.9000 • Fax: 703.758.4852 • TSAweb.org

List of Important Advisor Resources and Where to Find Them



Information is one thing MD TSA is not short of. We have an outstanding source for 24/7 information access 24/7 through our website: www.mdtsa.org. There is a separate link for advisors, where the Annual Program of Work Calendar, contact information, forms, conference information and professional sites can be reached at your convenience.

The National Association website is where a chapter goes to affiliate and is full of invaluable information and resources. www.tsaweb.org.

To register a new chapter or perform the annual affiliation requirements, go to: <http://www.registermychapter.com/tsa/nat/>



You are represented on the national and international level by the International Technology & Engineering Educators Association: <http://www.iteaconnect.org/>. ITEEA offers affordable professional liability insurance as well as useful curriculum resources and networking opportunities with other members. TSA Advisors receive a Membership Discount.

Alumni Spotlight

Maryland TSA



Sandra Sandeep

North County High School
STEM, Glen Burnie, MD

B.S. Computer Science,
University of Maryland-
College Park

Software Engineering Intern,
Google, Mountain View, CA

How did you initially learn about TSA; what motivated you to join?

I took a technology education class with my high school's TSA chapter advisor at the time, Mr. Nick Helbling, and he was very enthusiastic about welcoming students to the TSA chapter. He would encourage everyone to come to a meeting and he helped nurture a fun atmosphere in our chapter. I already enjoyed technology, engineering, and design—so joining TSA seemed like a given. Also, many TSA events are project-based; I really liked that aspect of having a clear end-product to work toward.

What attributes did you gain from being a TSA member?

Serving as treasurer, secretary, vice president, then as president of [Maryland TSA](#) (MD TSA) taught me so much about how to be a good teammate, how to motivate people and get buy-in, and how to listen. I learned that leadership does not always mean having the loudest voice or the brightest ideas. The mentors I gained through TSA taught me that the most effective leaders focus on taking care of their team by cultivating an environment where people feel safe, empowered, and valued enough to contribute their ideas and their passions.

Mr. Scott Bernstein, my MD TSA state advisor, gave me and my fellow officers a lot of freedom to grow and develop MD TSA, which taught me to trust myself, my ideas, and my ability to execute.

TSA taught me to believe in myself.

How did TSA come up when you applied for the internship at Google?

I talked about my experience with TSA during one of my Google interviews, and I think the details of my experience showed that I was comfortable being independent, taking initiative, and solving open-ended problems—which are all qualities that boosted my candidacy.

After all, TSA is the place where I learned to speak extemporaneously with confidence and clarity. Competing in Debating Technology Issues and Extemporaneous Speech—as well as running for several state TSA offices—honed my speaking skills and helped me learn how to relate to an audience. That really helped me a lot during my Google interviews because, I felt, they value candidates who would make good team members and future leaders.

What are you working on at Google?

Open-source, cross-platform mobile app development software. I developed iOS “widgets” so that developers using the app have an easier, quicker experience developing iOS apps that look just like native apps.

What advice do you have for current TSA student members?

Trust yourself. You are so much stronger and smarter than you know, but the only way to develop yourself is by pushing your limits. Trust yourself to land on your feet when you try something new—whether trying to build a robot, competing in a public speaking event, or running for office for the first time. You got this!

Also, trust your teammates. Support them when they are venturing out of their comfort zone, and trust them to support you in turn. Being on a team that takes care of each other is an amazing feeling. Do your part proactively to make that happen.

Alumni Spotlight

Maryland TSA



Veeraj Shah

Severna Park High School,
Severna Park, MD

Sophomore, University of
Maryland-College Park,
Double Major: Public Health
and Neurobiology

Research Intern, Johns
Hopkins University School
of Medicine and National
Cancer Institute

How did you initially learn about TSA; what motivated you to join?

I joined TSA my sophomore year of high school, encouraged by my teacher, Mr. Bernstein, who was the TSA chapter advisor. I competed at the [Maryland TSA](#) State Conference and placed at the National TSA Conference in Debate and Extemporaneous Speech. During my time in TSA, in which I competed in three national conferences, I also participated in Tech Bowl, Technology Problem Solving, and Prepared Presentation.

All this, combined with my experience in VEX Robotics, student government, and advocacy, taught me some of the most important skills I have ever learned such as public speaking and debate. I was also appointed parliamentarian for my TSA chapter, and by the end of my junior year, I was elected vice president of Maryland TSA. Those roles taught me invaluable lessons in leadership, time management, and team work.

What attributes did you gain from being a TSA member?

Most definitely, I gained the ability to think on my feet and quickly formulate positions, especially because I hope to enter the realm of health policy someday. I also learned how to network with professionals and work in collaborative team settings. Ultimately, I hope to combine my knowledge in policy with clinical practice to improve the healthcare delivery system in the United States. I have spent my summers in paid research internships at Johns Hopkins University's School of Medicine and at the National Cancer Institute, working on projects in clinical informatics—using health information and data to improve patient safety. Relatively simple health technology innovations can have such a profound impact on medical practice and can save lives.

How have you stayed connected to TSA as an alum?

I have stayed in touch with Mr. Bernstein, who has served as a great mentor to me, and I am encouraged that Maryland TSA is growing and has such potential. I volunteer at Maryland TSA State Conferences, and I am very excited that the 2019 National TSA Conference is coming to my home state this year. I am also proud to say my brother is the current president of Maryland TSA and is working hard to support the growth and development of our state chapter.

What advice do you have for current TSA student members?

TSA offers you the opportunity to learn skillsets that can be applied to the real world. Don't pass that up! Join TSA as early as possible and use the competitive events as opportunities to not only apply skillsets you already have—but to develop new ones. You will be amazed how applicable the skillsets you learn in TSA are in college and in the professional world.

National TSA's Website is packed with information and signature events

Go to www.tsaweb.org



The National TSA Website is the site for:

- Chapter Affiliation, Chapter Membership Database updating and Updating School/ Advisor information.
- The Total TSA Package – (link is provided after affiliation is completed) – includes Contest Rules and regulations, Membership Materials and Leadership Lesson Plans.
- Competitive Event Lists/Descriptions, Themes, Rules Updates and Clarifications
- Contact Information for the National Competitive Events Managers and Coordinators.
- National Conference Information and Registration
- Signature Event Programs Information

MD TSA Website

www.mdtsa.org

One stop shop for all state conference information



The MD TSA Website is the site for:

- Information, and Registration for anything state level
- State Association Leadership and contact information
- MD TSA News
- Dates and Locations for Upcoming Events
- Advisor Resource Links
- Required Advisor Forms for Conference Participation
- Application Forms for State Officers and Board of Directors
- MD TSA School Scene Newsletter

2019-2020 Maryland TSA State Officers

The state officer list is provided for your information. **State officers are available for visits to local chapters.**

If you'd like for one to visit your school, arrangement are made through the State TSA Office.

Officer	School	Advisor	Email Address
President Mehul Sachdev	Severna Park High School 60 Robinson Rd Severna Park, MD 21146	Geoff Bernstein	mdtsapresident@mdtsa.org
Vice President Hyun Lee	Severna Park High School 60 Robinson Rd Severna Park, MD 21146	Geoff Bernstein	mdtsavicepresident@mdtsa.org
Secretary Joshua Dutton	Severna Park High School 60 Robinson Rd Severna Park, MD 21146	Geoff Bernstein	mdtsasecretary@mdtsa.org
Treasurer Kwesi Annan	North County High School 10 E 1st Ave Glen Burnie, MD 21061	Brianna Hoover	mdtsa@treasurer@mdtsa.org
Reporter Jack Maloy	Severna Park High School 60 Robinson Rd Severna Park, MD 21146	Geoff Bernstein	mdtsareporter@mdtsa.org
Sergeant-At-Arms Ema Rajala	North County High School 10 E 1st Ave Glen Burnie, MD 21061	Brianna Hoover	mdtsasergeantatarms@mdtsa.org

2019-2020 Board of Directors

Board Members	Contact Information
Geoff Bernstein State Advisor	stateadvisor@mdtsa.org
Brianna Hoover	North County HS bhoover@aacps.org
Jack Heinz	Anne Arundel County Public Schools jheinz@aacps.org
Chris Olsen	Broadneck HS colsen@aacps.org
Steve Cahoon	Severna Park HS scagoon@aacps.org
Robert King	Central MS reking1@aacps.org

MD TSA High School Competitive Events 2019-2020

High School Events	# of Members	SLC Entries per Chapter	National Entries per Chapter	State Advisor Approval Events (Entries per State)
1. 3D Animation	2-6	∞	--	2 Teams
2. Animatronics	1-∞	∞	1 Team	--
3. Architectural Design	1-∞	∞	1 Team/Individual	--
4. Biotechnology Design	2-6	∞	--	3 Teams
5. Board Game Design	2-6	∞	1 Team	--
6. Children's Stories	1-∞	∞	--	3 Teams
7. Coding	1-3	∞	1 Team	--
8. Computer-Aided Design (CAD), Architecture	1	∞	--	2 Individuals
9. Computer-Aided Design (CAD), Engineering	1	∞	--	2 Individuals
10. Computer Integrated Manufacturing (CIM)	1-2	∞	1 Team	--
11. Cybersecurity		∞		
12. Debating Technological Issues	2	∞	--	3 Teams
13. Digital Video Production	1-∞	∞	--	3 Teams
14. Dragster Design	1	∞	2 Individuals	--
15. Engineering Design	3-∞	∞	--	3 Teams
16. Essays on Technology	1	∞	--	3 Individuals
17. Extemporaneous Speech	1	∞	--	3 Individuals
18. Fashion Design & Technology	2-4	∞	--	3 Teams
19. Flight Endurance	1	∞	2 Individuals	--
20. Forensic Science	2	∞	1 Team	--
21. Future Technology Teacher	1	∞	3 Individuals	--
22. IT Fundamentals+		∞		
23. Music Production	1-∞	∞	--	3 Teams
24. On Demand Video	2-∞	∞	1 Team	--
25. Photographic Technology	1	∞	1 Individual	--
26. Prepared Presentation	1	∞	--	3 Individuals
27. Promotional Design	1	∞	--	3 Individuals
28. Scientific Visualization (SciVis)	1-∞	∞	--	3 Teams
30. Software Development	1-∞	∞	1 Team	--
31. Structural Design & Engineering	2	∞	1 Team	--
32. System Control Technology	3	∞	--	1 Team
33. Technology Bowl	3	∞	1 Team	--
34. Technology Problem Solving	2	∞	1 Team	--
35. Transportation Modeling	1	∞	1 Individual	--
36. VEX, VRC	1-∞	∞	--	3 Teams
37. Video Game Design	2-∞	∞	--	3 Teams
38. Webmaster	3-5	∞	1 Team	--

MD TSA Middle School Competitive Events 2019-2020

Middle School Events	# of Members	SLC Entries per Chapter	National Entries per Chapter	State Advisor Approval Events (Entries per State)
1. Biotechnology	1-∞	∞	--	3 Teams
2. CAD Foundations	1	∞	--	2 Individuals
3. Career Prep	1	∞	1 Individual	--
4. Challenging Technology Issues	2	∞	--	3 Teams
5. Children's Stories	1-∞	∞	--	3 Teams
6. Coding	2	∞	1 Team	--
7. Community Service Video	1-∞	∞	1 Team	--
8. Construction Challenge	1-∞	∞	1 Team	--
9. Digital Photography	1	∞	--	3 Individuals
10. Dragster	1	∞	2 Individuals	--
11. Electrical Applications	1	∞	2 Individuals	--
12. Essays on Technology	1	∞	--	3 Individuals
13. Flight	1	∞	2 Individuals	--
14. Forensic Technology	2	∞	1 Team	--
15. Inventions and Innovations	3-∞	∞	1 Team	--
16. Junior Solar Sprint	2-4	∞	1 Team	--
17. Leadership Strategies	3	∞	1 Team	--
18. Mass Production	2-∞	∞	1 Team	--
19. Mechanical Engineering	3-6	∞	1 Team	--
20. Medical Technology	2-∞	∞	--	3 Teams
21. Microcontroller Design	3-5	∞	1 Team	--
22. Off the Grid	1-∞	∞	--	3 Teams
23. Prepared Speech	1	∞	--	3 Individuals
24. Problem Solving	2	∞	1 Team	--
25. Promotional Marketing	1	∞	1 Individual	--
26. STEM Animation	1-∞	∞	--	3 Teams
27. Structural Engineering	2	∞	1 Team	--
28. System Control Technology	3	∞	--	1 Team
29. Tech Bowl	3	∞	1 Team	--
30. Technical Design	2	∞	1 Team	--
31. VEX, IQ	1-∞	∞	--	3 Team
32. Video Game Design	2-∞	∞	1 Team	--
33. Website Design	3-6	∞	1 Team	--

Blue Rows - State Advisor approval events - National entries are honored to students by their places earned at the state conference

Celebrate TSA Week and Promote our Chapter

October 7-11, 2019

1. Plan a community event. This is an excellent time to make the community and business leaders in your community aware of your TSA chapter. With the leadership of your chapter officers, you may wish to:
 - a. Invite local business/community/industry leaders to a chapter meeting or school assembly to discuss technology in the workplace and what lies ahead for technology in the 21st century.
 - b. Visit local business and industry to learn first hand how technology is applied.
 - c. Host a community open-house after school to showcase chapter activities. Invite parents, community leaders, business and industry representatives, and neighboring schools.
 - d. Visit a local elementary school and offer to assist them with a technology activity (for information on the Great Technology Adventure program for grades K-6, please contact National TSA).
 - e. Write an article about your chapter and the importance of technology for your local or school newspaper. Include a group picture of your TSA chapter.
 - f. Set up an information booth about TSA and encourage others to join.
 - g. Hang posters and banners about TSA Week in your school.
 - h. Wear TSA t-shirts or other attire to publicize your chapter.
 - i. Host an appreciation luncheon for teachers, members, and business leaders who make your chapter the success it is.
2. Formally recognize the principal of your school with certificate. Principals are vital in supporting your TSA chapter. A formal presentation, honoring your principal as an honorary member of TSA, and reading a proclamation will help solidify your TSA chapter within the school. Plan to have your chapter officers do this at a school assembly or chapter meeting. Invite local business, community, and industry leaders to attend the presentation.
3. Send press releases to local newspapers, radio, and television stations letting them know of your upcoming event. Use this sample press release. Make sure to customize it with your chapter's name and other pertinent information (i.e., if your chapter invites a guest speaker, make sure to note who is participating, when and where it is taking place, etc.) Invite the press to attend any events you plan during the week and let them know who to contact for more information.
4. Send all participants a formal, written "thank you" after the event.
5. Send news and/or pictures of what your chapter did for TSA Week to MD TSA – stateadvisor@mdtsa.org and the National Technology Student Association, 1914 Association Drive, Reston, VA 20191-1540. All submissions become the property of TSA and may be used in TSA publications or promotional displays.

State Conference Information

March 21, 2020

North County High School, Glen Burnie, MD

“Pursuing Excellence”



The Maryland State Conference will be held on March 21, 2020 at North County High School in Glen Burnie, MD. The state conference provides students the opportunity to compete in their competitive events along side other students across the state. The most up-to-date information is provided via our website, www.mdtsa.org.

Our State Conference follows the national guidelines for competitive events as close as possible but some modifications are made in the effort of time, materials and attendees. We constantly update a document call the **READ-READ-**

READ which can be found on our website as well. The **READ-READ-READ** has all of the modifications to events and is updated as frequently as those decisions are made.

State Officers

Along with the competitive events, members are able to cast their vote selecting their new state officers. The State Officer team is comprised of elected MD TSA student members who choose to take on a leadership role. Officers work throughout the year working to increase MD TSA membership, reach and success through community/business outreach, guiding chapters in their yearly goals, and much more. If you have any students interested in becoming a state officer, they should check out the application process posted on the www.mdtsa.org website.

Tips, Tricks & “Expert” Advice

- If you are just starting a chapter, start small, find a core group of students who love what the club is and let them go. Have them vote on a few events and make everyone stick to those events for the first year. This will allow you to get your feet wet as well and see what it means to be an advisor.
- Make sure you are checking the **READ-READ-READ** document for all important information. Remember at states we have to make some changes and it is your responsibility to know these changes.
- Get things prepared early, check on students progress but allow them to do the work, work with them to show them a better way and teach them.
- Have students read their rules and be experts, you as the advisor are there to guide not do it for them.
- Ask questions of other advisors, state officers and contact Geoff Bernstein, stateadvisor@mdtsa.org with any questions you have.

National Conference Information

Gaylord Opryland Resort & Convention Center

Nashville, TN

June 27 - July 1, 2020

“Inspire a Shared Vision”

Mark your calendars for the 2019-2020 National TSA Conference, “Inspire a Shared Vision,” June 27 - July 1, 2020 at Gaylord Opryland Resort & Convention Center in Nashville, TN. Conference information can be found on the National Conference webpage on www.tsaweb.org.

Conference hotel reservations usually open at the start of the calendar year (January) and Pre-Registration for the conference opens around March. If you have a student interested in running for a National Officer position, please check when those application are due by. Dates are subject to change so be sure to check out the National Conference webpage for the most up-to-date information regarding the conference.

Tips, Tricks & “Expert” Advice

The National Conference can be an amazing way for students to get the full opportunities we all set out to provide them with. The conference is much more than just the competitive events, it provides access to so many great opportunities. Those opportunities include access to trainings in leadership, different skill-sets or just advice from alumni TSA students in college now. Another great thing are the friendships and networking opportunities you make while attending these conferences. Many students over the years find friendships that help them get into colleges, internships, and jobs. Lastly is the feeling that they are part of something larger, a larger student group trying to make a difference in each other lives.

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- Start small, attend to learn and get better
 - Like your students, build advisor relationships to help you along the way
 - If the conference is close, get as many students there as possible
 - Fundraise throughout the year, you will be amazed what money you can bring in
 - Rough Costs (*per attendee - based on prior experience*)
 - a. Registration ~\$100
 - b. Travel
 - ~ \$300-\$500 (*flight*)
 - ~ \$50-\$150 (*bus*)
 - c. Hotel ~ \$300-\$500 (*up to 4 in a room*)
 - d. Food ~ Depends on the kid
 - Your school is responsible for the entire National Conference trip, MD TSA does not set up anything in terms of travel, hotel or registration

