

General Rules and Regulations

Required Attendance

- TSA members, advisors, and chapters must be currently affiliated with Texas TSA to attend the conference.
- Schools wishing to attend the conference must complete conference registration by the posted deadlines.
- All adult advisors, chaperones, and student participants must attend the entire conference.

Required Identification

- All registrants must wear their conference identification badge and lanyard at all times.
- The conference badge and lanyard provided by Texas TSA at chapter check-in must be worn around the neck and clearly visible.
- A replacement fee will be charged for lost, damaged, or destroyed conference badges or lanyards.

Student Responsibilities

- Each participant is responsible for obtaining and understanding the rules and guidelines for their competitive events.
- Lack of knowledge or understanding of an event's rules does not constitute grounds for an accommodation, exception, or rule change.
- Students participating in a TSA Competitive Event are responsible for knowing all applicable updates, changes, and clarifications.

- Participants must comply with both the specific rules for their competitive event and the General Rules and Regulations for National Events.

Chapter Judging Obligation Policy

- Refer to the Chapter Judging Obligation section of the rulebook for the full policy requirements
- The policy ensures that all participating chapters contribute to the judging process at the Texas TSA State Conference. This shared responsibility supports fair, high-quality competitive events aligned with classroom instruction and industry standards.
- Every chapter attending the Texas TSA State Conference must fulfill a judging obligation. The requirement is determined by the total number of student entries submitted by the chapter

<i>Number of Entries</i>	<i>Required Judging Hours</i>
<i>5 or fewer</i>	<i>4 hours</i>
<i>6–100</i>	<i>8 hours</i>
<i>101 or more</i>	<i>16 hours</i>

- Judging hours may be completed by multiple individuals and through various approved judging activities.

Attendee Code of Conduct and Consequences

- All Attendees are expected to conduct themselves in a respectful, responsible, and professional manner and to comply with the Texas TSA Code of Conduct, conference rules, event rules, and applicable school or district policies.

- Conduct that violates the Code of Conduct or otherwise disrupts the safety, integrity, or orderly operation of the conference may result in disciplinary action.
- Depending on the nature and severity of the violation, consequences may include, but are not limited to:
 - Verbal or written warning;
 - Removal from a competition, activity, or conference event;
 - Disqualification from one or more competitive events;
 - Loss of awards, recognition, or eligibility;
 - Removal from the conference;
 - Suspension or restriction from participation in future Texas TSA activities; and
 - **Forfeiture of advancement opportunities**, including eligibility to advance to subsequent levels of competition.
- Attendees who are disqualified or removed from competition or conference participation may forfeit any related advancement opportunity, regardless of the Attendee's competitive standing or placement.
- Texas TSA reserves the right to determine appropriate consequences based on the circumstances and severity of the violation. Consequences may apply to an individual Attendee, team, or chapter when appropriate.
- Serious violations may be referred to the Attendee's school or district for further disciplinary action in accordance with applicable policies.

Dress Code

- All attendees must comply with the conference and event-specific dress codes.
- Advisors are responsible for ensuring that their chapter members comply with the dress code.
- Advisors must maintain a professional appearance throughout the conference.

Competitive Entries

- Entries must be started and completed during the current school year.
- Entries may be submitted for one (1) year, and one (1) event only.
Participants may not use the same project/product in multiple events.
An infraction of this rule results in disqualification.
- Each participant/team shall submit only one (1) entry per event.
- All entries must be in English.
- Participants must comply with any additional requirements established by Texas TSA for modified events. Advance notice of such requirements will be posted in the Event Guidelines.
- Unless otherwise specified in the event rules, entries may not include identifying information other than the national student ID or team ID number.
- Texas TSA and National TSA provide guidelines for individual and team entry content but are not responsible for content choices made by participants.

Prohibited Materials, References, and Images

- Hazardous materials, chemicals, open flames, combustibles, wet-cell batteries, and similar substances are prohibited at the Texas TSA Conference.
- Competition entries and presentations may not include racial or ethnic slurs or symbols, references to gang affiliation, or vulgar, violent, subversive, or sexually suggestive language or images.
- Entries and presentations may not promote products that students are prohibited by law from purchasing, including tobacco, alcohol, or illegal drugs.
- The depiction, reproduction, or display of guns, knives, or other weapons is prohibited.
- Contest Officials have final discretion in determining whether competition content complies with these requirements.
- Failure to comply with these rules may result in disqualification and other consequences under the applicable TSA Code of Conduct.