

MUN AWARD POLICIES

Award policies do change from conference to conference, and each Secretariat and Dais will each have a slightly different approach to award criteria. However, below is a general break up of how awards are typically earned.

Best Delegate

The best delegate in a committee demonstrates the following traits:

- They are active participants in debate, yet they do not hog the floor to speak.
- Coming in to debate, these delegates are clearly well researched and prepared.
- They ask questions where confused, and have valuable input (while they might make speeches in favor of ideas, these should build off of the ideas, not just agree with them).
- These delegates are very collaborative and emerged in the processes of the committee. They like to go out of their way to help others out and encourage quieter delegates to share their ideas with the committee.
- Best delegates are diplomatic and balance this with their country's foreign policy extremely well. This balance can be extremely difficult to maintain depending on the country.
- One indicator that they are a good delegate is them being on the sponsors list for resolutions, but this is not mandatory. The staff should and does keep track of who participates in the writing process and if a delegate offers good ideas or writes good clauses, the dais will know. Often a best delegate may even agree to be taken off the sponsors list to appease someone else.

Outstanding Delegate and Honorable Mention

This is an award that is given to delegates with extraordinary performance in debate, and staff looks for the same things as they look for within a best delegate. Winners of these awards exemplify all the qualities of the best delegate but to a lesser extent. Multiple of these awards may be handed out in larger committees.

Best Researched/Best Position Paper

This award can go to any delegate, regardless of speaking ability and is predetermined before the conference begins. It goes to the delegate who has written the best position paper, as in the title. Effective position papers follow all formatting guidelines, utilize a multitude of different credible sources, remain formal and professional, and have high quality content. For more information about writing an effective position paper and having good content, see our guide for how to write an effective position paper.

Key to Optimizing Chances of an Award

The key to optimizing your chances of an award is making sure staff knows you well and knows your strengths. To accomplish this, stay on task and engaged in committee. When committee is at



a low point try to diversify the input of ideas by bringing in a new potential solution, an unconsidered point, or a different approach to a problem. Staff is sure to note that down and recognize you. But most importantly, stay diplomatic. Diplomacy is key in MUN.

Also, keep in mind that most conferences require an on time position paper in order to be eligible for awards. Keeping track of your position paper deadline and sticking to it is very important for this reason as well as for the dais' first impression of you.