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Annual State Convention Information and Instructions

This year's theme - "FOLLOW THE LEADERSHIP ROAD"

Judging Date - Saturday, April 11th, 2026

Judging Site - TBA

Convention Date - Thursday, May 7th, 2026

Convention Site – Medieval Times Dinner & Tournament

9051 East Vía de Ventura, Scottsdale, AZ 85258

Convention Purpose

The AAJHSC strives to develop leaders through the following five goals: leadership, academic achievement, school spirit, diversity, and school/community involvement. The purpose of the convention is to celebrate and recognize 6th, 7th, and 8th grade Student Councils that have done an outstanding job promoting these goals.

Membership Dues

All dues/fees must be paid and your Membership Registration must be current before your application packet can be reviewed and judged.

State Projects/Reports and Honor/Master Council Application Information

Student Councils may choose to enter any or all categories explained throughout this packet when getting ready to attend the AAJHSC State Convention. Your school should begin planning early what you want to enter, since the reports and application are due at the judging meeting in April. Schools are not in competition with other schools, instead they are judged against a standard of "EXCELLENCE". See judging forms and application for explanation of points required to receive an award.

State Convention Information

(All items listed below are required for Honor/Master Council)

PLEASE NOTE:

The due dates differ for each item. Some items are due by Judging Day and others are due at the Convention.

Paperwork

Honor Guard for Flag Ceremony: Completed form due by the Judging Meeting
Complete the form for Honor Guard at aajhsc.org (under "About Us & Membership then
"Master & Honor Council") to name one council member who will have the honor of
carrying your school flag. The flag represents your school during the opening ceremony
of the convention on Thursday. The flag should be 3' x 4' and attached to a 6' pole.
Please bring a base for the flag to stand in during the ceremony/convention. This is
NOT a BANNER! The flag can be made professionally or your council can make it. The
school flag should have the name of your school on it and many schools include their
school mascot. The flag may be used year after year, so it is worth investing in a
durable flag. The school flag does not receive a ribbon at convention, however
participation in the flag ceremony is required for Honor/Master Council.

State Charity: Completed form due by the Judging Meeting

There is no minimum or maximum amount required, however at least one donation is required to earn Master/Honor Council. Many schools work with several charities throughout the school year. On the lines list the dollar amount donated, the number of hours donated, or pounds of food donated, etc. You can use additional forms or the back of the page if necessary. Please note that donations are given directly to the charity and not given through AAJHSC. Include the completed form in your application packet.

Projects

Video Introduction: Due by the Judging Meeting

Introductions have a 30 second minimum and a 60 second maximum time limit. The purpose of the Introduction is to introduce your school on video with a short song, chant, or skit incorporating the convention theme. It is **not** intended to introduce individual council members. You may use music or graphics in your performance and video. All council members must have an active part in the introduction. Submit a **written copy of the introduction and a recorded video** of your council performing the Introduction with this judging form at the judging meeting. Introductions will be compiled and played at convention. Please submit your presentation on a flash drive/CD.

Any three of the following four projects are required for Honor/ Master Council Award

School Banner: Due at Convention

The school banner is to be designed and constructed by students. Any material may be used (cloth, felt, wood, metal, plastic, etc.). The banner should represent your school, therefore it should include your school name and the current year. It should also include the convention theme. If the convention theme is not explicitly stated on the banner please attach an explanation of the representation for judges to use when assigning points earned. The banner should be constructed in a manner in which it can be displayed by hanging from a frame. You could construct a frame, so your banner will hang or stand by itself. (Directions to build a banner holder are available on our website.) The maximum size is 5 ft by 7 ft.

Digital Presentation OR Collage:

Digital Presentation: Due by the Judging Meeting

Digital (media) presentation uses a program like PowerPoint, iMovie, etc. to display a variety of pictures or videos of any activities from your campus, not just Student Council. It must be student produced and can include sound, such as voice-overs or music. It should relate to the convention theme and include your school name and current year. The running time should be between 2 and 5 minutes. Please submit your presentation on a flash drive.

Collage: Due at Convention

A collage is an assortment of pictures taken throughout the school year that showcase activities your council has been involved in. Pictures should be cut to fit the chosen format. Rubber cement works well to attach pictures to a background. An added feature is to label various pictures with captions. Captions are not required, however they allow people in future years to better understand the representation of the collage. Think of the collage as a puzzle. The pictures should lock together in an attractive arrangement. There should not be any background left uncovered. A clear smooth finish (Mod Podge, varnish, etc.) must be applied to the top of the pictures, this will protect the pictures and keep them from peeling away from each other.

Scrapbook: Due at Convention

The scrapbook is a record of activities throughout the year. You can use pictures, notices, programs, advertisements, newspaper articles, flyers, anything you have that will make it interesting. Organize the pictures in chronological order (months) or categories (sports, dances, community services, school involvement, etc.). Pictures should be attached to the pages and captions are a MUST. They should be used to identify the people and/or the event. Take your time, neatness counts. Maximum size of the book is 2 ft by 2 ft. An electronically produced digital scrapbook (such as Shutterfly) is also acceptable. Please be sure it is student designed/produced and is a tangible item.

Minute Book: Due at Convention

The Minute Book is a legal document that contains all business YOUR council has conducted for the year. The following items must be included in your book: list of officers and members with attendance to all meetings, all agendas, monthly calendars, minutes of all general/executive meetings which include motions made and then voted upon by the council, and any correspondence. Your *council secretary and advisor* must *sign* all the minutes. It is best to make a copy of all pages in your minute book and submit the copies for judging. A standard 3-ring binder makes a great minute book.

Written Reports (Required for Honor/Master Council)

Student Activity Report: Due by the Judging Meeting

The Student Activity report is a *chronological* list of all school activities (not just Student Council activities) during the school year. Activities can include music and drama performances, assemblies, curriculum nights, career days, major field trips, as well as similar activities. List the **first** game of each sport, any tournaments or other major athletic events. Do **NOT** list every basketball game, football game, etc. The activities **MUST** be numbered consecutively beginning in August and ending in May, separated by month, and have a one-line description of each activity. Do **NOT** list every Student Council meeting as an activity, however the first council meeting of the year should be listed. The score depends partially on the number of activities listed for the school year. Activities not yet complete can be listed, however they should be completed by the end of the school year. Judges are looking for *quality activities*. A list of 65-75 activities is average for a school. A minimum of 65 activities is a requirement for Master Council.

Fundraising Report: Due by the Judging Meeting

The Fundraising report may include money raised by any organization on your campus that your council was involved with. In the report, list the top three fundraising events that took place on your campus. Explain the activity, student participation, and if it was a successful effort. At the close of the report include statistics: total profit divided by the number of students in your school equals dollar amount raised per student. EXAMPLE: Your school raised \$75,000 and you have 1100 students on campus, you raised \$68.18 per student.

School Spirit Report: Due by the Judging Meeting

The School Spirit report should concentrate on your council's top three spirit activities. The report should be written in 5 paragraphs, an introduction, one paragraph for each of your 3 best spirit activities and a concluding paragraph. The report will be judged on content, format, mechanics, grammar, and spelling.

School/Community Involvement: Due by the Judging Meeting

The school/community involvement report should concentrate on your council's top three involvement activities. The report should be written in 5 paragraphs, an introduction, a paragraph describing the three best school/community involvement activities and a concluding paragraph. The report is judged on content, format, mechanics, grammar, and spelling.



Judging Day April 11th, 2026

Any and all Advisors! You are invited to join the AAJHSC board members as we judge the Master and Honor Council Applications. We will be judging **Written Reports**, **Introductions**, and **Media Projects**. We need your help! There will also be a board meeting after judging is complete. The judging meeting will start at 10:00am and finish around 2:00pm. *Lunch is provided!*

LOCATION TBA

If you plan to attend please email Susin and Laura at azajhsc@gmail.com or call/text Susin at 520-820-5895 or Laura at 623-363-7392. It is important that you RSVP, so we can have enough food and supplies for everyone.



NO NEED TO MAIL YOUR ITEMS....

...if you are attending the judging meeting.

You can bring your materials with you and save on postage!