



How-To Guide for taking students to the TSA National Conference

Conference: June 26-30, 2024

Rosen Shingle Creek, Orlando, Florida

Mandatory Delegation meeting and packet pickup

June 26, 6:00 pm

Registration

Advisors must register all students and advisors/chaperones attending the National TSA Conference. Parents may register on their own.

<https://tsaweb.org/events-conferences/2024-national-tsa-conference/conference-registration>

Cost is \$125 per person for students and advisors.

This amount MUST be paid to National TSA PRIOR to the start of the National Conference, or attendees will not be allowed to attend.

Deadline to register is May 15.

No competitive event changes or substitutions are permitted once chapter conference registration has closed on **May 15th, 11:59pm ET.**

Advisors must also enter students into all PER CHAPTER events by the May 15 deadline.

About half of the TSA competitive events have a “3 per state” eligibility, and about half are designed to allow “1 per chapter” to compete at Nationals. *Your school district may have their own policy, such as only covering travel costs for students who won their event at State.*

ELIGIBILITY

One (1) team per chapter may participate; individual entries are permitted.

ELIGIBILITY

Three (3) teams of two (2) individuals per state may participate.

You can find those in the competitive event guides, on the first page. If an event says “per state” for eligibility, it is called a **State Advisor Approval Event.**

As the chapter advisor, you register **ALL** students/advisors who are attending Nationals. If the student is competing in a State Advisor Approval Event, I will register them for the event. If they are competing in an event that is **NOT** a State Advisor Approval Event, you will register them for the event.

Final date to let me know about State Advisor entry events: **April 14**

If your students are 4th or 5th in a State Advisor entry event, you should have those discussions with students and parents also, so that if a spot opens up, you will know if you can claim it immediately.

Hotel

Location/Hotel Rooms - This year, Nationals is at the Rosen Shingle Creek. I have 150 rooms booked. Once the 150 hotel rooms are full, chapters will have to make their own reservations.

Final date to register for hotel rooms through Washington TSA: **April 28 (or when full)**

After that date, I will release any unclaimed hotel rooms back to the Rosen Shingle Creek.

Hotel (cost is per **room**)

- \$955 per room for 4 nights (hotel has a 4 night minimum)
- \$1,195 per room for 5 nights
- \$1,435 per room for 6 nights

*If you are arriving in the middle of the night, or taking a red-eye and want to check in early in the morning, you **MUST** book your hotel room starting the previous day. **Hotel rooms will not be available until at least 3:00 pm on the day you list for arrival.***

I am not including parents in our WTSA room block. Parents will need to book their own rooms.

Notice of WTSA State Conference Rooming Limits

Given our much higher than expected competition registration numbers, WTSA only has enough rooms reserved in the National Rooming Block for schools to put 4 students in each room.

We do not have space for schools to assign only 2, or 3, students in rooms. If that is a requirement, WTSA may have to limit the number of rooms that each school can book.

Flights

There is not a group flight reserved.

For chapters with 10 or more people traveling, you can book group travel through the airline of your choice.

For chapters with 10 or fewer traveling, contact me and we will work out the details for booking flights. You will select the flights. I will pay for the flights and then invoice you for the amount.

Ground Transportation

If chapters would like me to schedule shared ground transportation, we can work that out after flights are scheduled. Cost is \$65 per person for airport transfers (includes to and from the airport).

Schools will share shuttle buses with other chapters who are arriving at similar times.

Meals

There are no meals provided as part of the National Conference.

Many chapters go to the local grocery, and pack their fridge in their room for meals. I will provide a microwave for the delegation, as I do not believe there are microwaves in the rooms. Some people eat at restaurants, and National TSA tries to provide buffet meal lines whenever possible for very reasonable rates. There is some fast food – Subway, etc. but the lines get very long.

Entertainment

Astronaut Experience – Kennedy Space Center

I am still working on details on whether we can have students participate in this program on June 26. It would require students arriving on June 25. *More details soon!*

TSA Universal Experience

This is a change from how we normally do entertainment! Normally, Washington TSA would provide this opportunity AFTER the conclusion of the National Conference. However, given that National TSA is providing the opportunity *during* the Conference, we will not be doing it after the Conference.

The *TSA Universal Experience* is an optional opportunity for TSA members attending the conference to visit Universal Studios Florida and/or Universal's Islands of Adventure theme park on Saturday, June 29th.

The *TSA Universal Experience* involves no planned event; it is just the opportunity for TSA conference participants to experience the parks with one another.

TSA will provide complimentary bus transportation to Universal Studios Florida/Universal's Islands of Adventure beginning mid-afternoon on Saturday, June 29th. (The parks close at 9:00pm and all buses will return to Rosen Shingle Creek by 10:00pm.)

To accommodate the *TSA Universal Experience*:

Competitive events will begin at 8:00am on Saturday, June 29th and will end by mid-afternoon; the same applies to all meetings, special interest sessions, etc. on June 29th.

No general session will be held on June 29th. Instead, two general sessions will be held on Friday, June 28th – the Recognition Assembly beginning at 9:00am and the TSA Business Meeting beginning at 8:00pm. Voting by delegates will take place at 6:00pm on June 28th, prior to the TSA business meeting.

National TSA officer candidates will deliver their campaign speeches during the opening general session on Thursday, June 27th. There will be no keynote address during the opening general session.

All other activities that typically take place during the national TSA conference will be held as usual.

Cost breakdown

Airfare – on your own - you must arrive in Orlando in time to attend the June 26 6:00 pm mandatory delegation meeting, which is where you will pick up name badges and packets.

\$125 Conference registration (advisors and students)

\$65 Airport shuttle to and from hotel (*optional, only if staying at Rosen Shingle Creek with WTSA delegation*)

Hotel (cost is per **room**)

- \$955 per room for 4 nights (hotel has a 4 night minimum)
- \$1,195 per room for 5 nights
- \$1,435 per room for 6 nights

\$35 fun pack (*mandatory for all Washington students – trading pins, WA t-shirt, fun stuff*)

Optional

\$33 TSA Blue Shirt

\$17 TSA Red Tie

\$6 Washington TSA patch

Cost TBD Astronaut Experience

Cost TBD Universal Studios

Other Information

The National conference will have about 10,000 attendees. Some chapters use parents as chaperones. Because the event is over 4 days, events are more spread out than the state conference, so you have more time between events. If advisors choose to take students touring, it's fine, but it takes time to get around Orlando, so please plan accordingly. The students cannot skip their events for tourist activities. All students and advisors must be at the mandatory delegation meetings each night, and the general sessions during the day. Also, state officers have mandatory responsibilities each day, and cannot leave the conference site without prior permission from me.

Advisors should complete the order form and return to Jennifer Smith. **Deadline is April 28.** On May 1 any unbooked hotel rooms will be released back to the hotel. **Deadline to register for Nationals is May 15.** 17 competitive events have early entry deadlines the following week.

Competitive events with preconference submission requirements

Student members are responsible for uploading their competition components to the TSA Student Member Site. Once a student member has activated an account, the member can access the competition component upload platform. ***Competitors must upload competition components between May 20th 9:00am ET and May 22nd 11:59pm ET. National TSA will not accept competition components after the deadline or via email. No exceptions.**

Events with Pre-Submission Requirements are due in May (May 20-22) Eastern Standard Time!

High School

- Architectural Design
- Audio Podcasting
- Data Science and Analytics HS*
- Digital Video Production*
- Future Technology and Engineering Teacher
- Geospatial Technology
- Music Production*
- Photographic Technology
- Video Game Design HS*
- Webmaster

Middle School

- Career Prep
- Community Service Video
- Digital Photography*
- Junior Solar Sprint
- Promotional Marketing
- STEM Animation*
- Video Game Design MS
- Vlogging
- Website Design