



Junior State of America

Founded in 1934, sponsored by The Junior Statesmen Foundation

The Arizona Junior State of America presents

Spring Congress 2017

April 28-30, 2017

Hilton Phoenix Airport Hotel
Phoenix, AZ

Registration Packet

Early Registration Deadline: March 27, 2017

Standard Registration Deadline: April 14, 2017



JSA. BE THE PEOPLE

Spring Congress 2017

On April 28-30, 2017, the Arizona Junior State of America will hold its annual Spring Congress at the Hilton Phoenix Airport Hotel in Phoenix, AZ. The Arizona student leaders hope you can join students and teachers from across the region for an exciting educational experience at this three-day, two night, student-run simulation of the United States congressional legislative process.

Textbook accounts of how a bill becomes a law can never convey the passions of lawmaking. Even viewing Congress in session fails to give a sense of the heated debates that go on in committee hearings or the compromising done in back room meetings. Spring Congress lets you experience not only becoming a member of Congress and seeing everything from the back room logrolling to the fiery speeches on the floor of the House and Senate, but also the thrill of having your own legislation passed by Congress or the anguish of watching your bill defeated. You will also get to debate other student's bills, propose amendments to make them better, or do your best to prevent a bad bill from passing.

The Arizona student leaders create the Spring Congress simulation through assembling a team led by a Convention Coordinator and Bill Director and selecting students to serve as House and Senate leaders, committee chairs and clerks, etc. Through engaging in spirited debates, Spring Congress will give you the unique opportunity to think critically, express your own opinions, and challenge the opinions of others in a tolerant, supportive atmosphere. Attendees will also have the opportunity to meet students from other schools throughout the region through a variety of other events, including nighttime activities and a dance on Saturday night.

This registration packet has everything you need to register and prepare for Spring Congress:

2017 ARIZONA SPRING CONGRESS INFORMATION	3
STUDENT PARTICIPATION AND PARENTAL PERMISSION FORM	5
TEACHER/ADVISOR CONVENTION RESPONSIBILITIES FORM	8
PREPARING FOR CONGRESS/SAMPLE SPRING CONGRESS AGENDA AT A GLANCE	9
JSA ACTIVITIES	10

FOR CHAPTER PRESIDENTS AND TEACHER/ADVISORS:

CONVENTION CHECKLIST	11
ONLINE CHAPTER REGISTRATION GUIDE	12
JUNIOR STATE OF AMERICA MEMBERSHIP DUES	14
CHAPTER OF THE YEAR AWARD APPLICATION	15
SPRING CONGRESS SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION	18

If you have any questions or encounter any problems, please do not hesitate to call or email the Arizona Program Director Beth Hager at (602) 505-7671 or at bhager@jsa.org. See you in April at Spring Congress!



2017 ARIZONA SPRING CONGRESS INFORMATION

Location: Hilton Phoenix Airport Hotel
2435 S. 47th Street
Phoenix, AZ 85034
(480) 894-1600

Check-In: Registration will be from 5:00pm – 7:00pm on Friday, April 28, 2017.
- Storage for luggage will be provided.

Checkout: The convention will end at approximately 3:00pm on Sunday, April 30, 2017.
- Students must be out of their room before 9:00am. Storage for luggage will be provided.

Student Rates:

Registration Deadline	Early March 27	Standard April 14
JSA Members	\$155.00	\$165.00
Extra Night	\$205.00	\$215.00

- **Chapter Taxes:** Every student attending must be a dues-paid member of JSA. \$5.00 membership dues will be added to your chapter's Spring Congress invoice for all non-members. **Chapters will not be able to vote in JSA elections unless they are tax-paid.**

Teacher Rates: Shared Double Room: Free
Private Room: \$120.00 per room, per night

- **Teacher/Advisors:** JSA will provide free accommodations for Teacher/Advisors willing to share a room (two Teachers/Advisors of the same gender housed in a room with two double beds). Although not guaranteed, we will also try to arrange early check-ins and late checkouts.

Every school MUST bring at least one (1) Teacher/Advisor for every nineteen (19) students. (I.e. One teacher/advisor for 1-19 students; two for 20-38 students, three for 39-57 students, etc.)

- **Chapter Presidents:** Your school district may require a higher ratio of teachers to students or teachers of both genders. Please check with your administration and comply with these policies.
- If your chapter is taking a bus to the convention, bus driver rooms are \$120.00 per driver, per night.

Cost Covers: Your registration covers two night's lodging at the hotel, all educational materials, three days of exciting educational programs and activities, and social events on Friday and Saturday evenings.

- We are happy to organize accommodations for any students or Teacher/Advisors needing special arrangements due to a physical disability or handicap. Please call or email the Arizona Program Director before the standard registration deadline to make these accommodations.

Refunds: Because JSA must make guarantees to the hotel far in advance of the convention, **we are unable to give refunds after your chapter finalizes the registration.** If you find yourself unable to attend after the chapter finalizes their registration, try to find another student from your school to go in your place and have them reimburse you the cost. Each replacement student MUST submit a permission form.

- **Chapter Presidents and Teacher/Advisors:** Once you finalize your chapter's registration with the Arizona Program Director, the chapter must pay for the total number of students registered. Notify the Arizona Program Director as soon as possible if you switch delegates.

Meals: Meals are not included, so be prepared to purchase your own meals during the convention. There are low cost options in and around the hotel venue.

- Transit:** No student may travel to the convention in a student-driven car. Student drivers will be reported to their schools and parents and sent home immediately. Chapters are encouraged to form carpools with parents and/or Teacher/Advisors. Please notify the Arizona Program Director if your chapter is bringing a bus and if so, how many, in order for parking arrangements to be made at the hotel.
- Conduct:** Rules of conduct and dress code for the convention are listed on the **Student Participation and Parental Permission Form** that both students and parents or guardians must read and sign. The Junior State staff or your Teacher/Advisor(s) may announce additional rules. JSA reserves the right to send home, without refund, any individual student, or even an entire chapter, for violating these rules.
- Elections:** The feature event of Spring Congress is the election of next year's Junior State officers. Students are encouraged to participate in the election not only by voting, but also by working for a candidate for governor or lieutenant governor or by running your own campaign. Don't miss out on this opportunity to get involved and have a lot of fun!
- Scholarships:** The Arizona Junior State is pleased to offer scholarships to help students in need attend conventions. If you would like to apply for a Spring Congress scholarship, please fill out the application at the back of this packet, and submit it by **March 13, 2017**. The online scholarship application is available [HERE](#).
- Fundraising:** JSA encourages every chapter to fundraise to lower convention prices for their members. Many chapters sponsor fundraisers like car washes, food sales, and garage or yard sales, while others write local businesses and service organizations. For more fundraising ideas, contact any elected officials or student leaders, the Arizona Program Director, or download the Fundraising Manual at www.jsa.org/downloads. The key to any successful fundraising campaign is starting early, so discuss fundraising plans right away!
- JSA also provides an effective online fundraising application that allows chapters to raise money online as a team. Visit the "Chapters" section under "About JSA" and click on "Fundraising for Your Chapter" on the navigation bar on the right or visit <http://jsa.org/about/chapters/fundraising-for-your-chapter/>.

Register online at www.jsa.org/myjsa

Early Registration Deadline: March 27, 2017

Standard Registration Deadline: April 14, 2017



STUDENT PERMISSION & REGISTRATION FORM

Arizona Spring Congress
Hilton Phoenix Airport Hotel
April 28-30, 2017

Please turn in this Student Permission & Registration Form in to your JSA Chapter Teacher Advisor

Student Name: _____ Student Email: _____

High School: _____ Grad Year: _____ Female [] Male []

Home Phone: _____ Student Cell Phone: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Parent/Guardian Permission

(This is the only JSA form that needs to be signed by student & parent and collected. The guidelines in the following pages are for student/parent reference)

My child and I have read over the JSA Convention Rules, Code of Ethics, and Dress Code. We agree to abide by said policies and allow our daughter/son to attend the 2017 Arizona Spring Congress convention to be held at the Hilton Phoenix Airport Hotel on April 28-30, 2017.

I agree to pay \$_____ to _____ for my daughter/son to attend the 2017 Arizona Spring Congress convention.

Please accept my additional tax-deductible donation of \$_____ included in daughter/son's Spring Congress payment to go to the Arizona JSA Scholarship Fund to help an Arizona student in need attend Spring Congress. (JSA will send a donation receipt upon receiving the chapter's Spring Congress payment.) You can also donate online at jsa.org.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____ Home Phone: _____

Parent/Guardian Email: _____ Parent Cell Phone: _____

Emergency Contact: _____ Relationship: _____ Phone Number: _____

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____



STUDENT PARTICIPATION AND PARENTAL PERMISSION GUIDELINES

Parents: Please read this information carefully and review it with your daughter or son before signing.

The Junior State of America takes great pride in our students showing leadership, statesmanship, and leading by example. However, these ideals go beyond the debates, thought talks, and other activities that take place during our events. Students participating in JSA events are expected to speak, act, behave, and dress like the leaders they strive to be.

By signing the permission form, **you agree to pick up or arrange transportation for your daughter or son at your own expense if they violate a rule.** Since JSA must pay and make guarantees far in advance, by signing below, **you also agree to ensure payment to JSA for all registration costs if your daughter or son cancels after the JSA registration deadline.** If your daughter or son can no longer attend, try to find a replacement and have that student reimburse the cost. If you have any questions, please call the JSA office at (800) 334-5353.

JSA CONVENTION RULES

- All rules for school field trips prevail. Possession or use of alcohol or illegal drugs is strictly prohibited.** JSA has a "no tolerance" policy. All students found in a room with alcohol and/or illegal drugs will be sent home immediately. The use of tobacco products is prohibited.
- Teacher/Advisor(s) and The Junior State of America must approve the attendance of each student and reserves the right to deny any student the privilege of attending the event.
- At no time during the weekend convention are students of different sexes allowed in each other's rooms.** In other words, no young men in young women's rooms and no young women in young men's rooms. Violations of this rule will likely result in dismissal of both students and a report made to their school(s).
- Students are required to abstain from any activity of a sexual nature.** In accordance with our role as mandatory reporters, JSA Staff and/or Teacher/Advisors will contact local law enforcement for a violation of this nature, if required.
- Students may not leave the hotel without the express permission of their Teachers/Advisor(s) and must meet with their Teachers/Advisor(s) at designated times, including all mandatory chapter caucuses.** Delegates must keep their Teacher/Advisor(s) informed of their activities and location throughout the convention. **Under no circumstances may students leave the hotel after 9:00 p.m.** At the end of the convention, students may not leave without the permission of their Teacher/Advisor(s).
- At curfew, the Teacher/Advisor(s) will check that all students in their chapter are in their assigned rooms. Students must remain quietly in their own rooms after curfew. Room service and pizza deliveries are not permitted after curfew. Curfew lasts until 6:00 a.m.
- All students assigned to a room are responsible for the condition of their room at check out and for all charges made to the room. Room service, in-room movies, outside phone calls, and other items may not be charged to a student's room and must be paid for at the front desk before the convention ends. JSA Staff will notify Teacher/Advisors of charges. Students must have all belongings out of their rooms before 9:00 a.m. Sunday.
- Students must attend all convention activities, dress appropriately and professionally as defined by the JSA Dress Code, and wear their official nametag visibly above the waist at all times. No student may go onto guest floors or attend nighttime activities without their nametag. If a student loses their nametag, they must go to the JSA registration table with a photo ID to obtain a replacement.
- Students must always conduct themselves according to the highest standards of behavior. Students must be considerate of, and respect the rights of, other students, staff, Teachers/Advisors, and hotel guests and use appropriate and respectful language at all times. Hazing or any action that creates physical discomfort or intends to embarrass or harass another student will not be tolerated. Music must be played through headphones. Students may not open, throw anything out of, or shout out of windows. Students must stay off roofs and all other restricted areas. Students must follow all public laws. Reasonable and due care shall be exercised by all students to ensure safety and good order as well as preserve the good reputation of their high school and the Junior State of America.
- Use of electronic devices during keynote speeches and inside debate rooms, unless the user is a main speaker, is prohibited except in emergencies.
- No student may drive a car to the convention or ride in a student-driven car during the convention.
- Unregistered students may not attend any convention activities. If any unregistered students from a school arrive at the hotel during the convention, the entire chapter may be sent home.
- Students may not associate with any visitor who is not an official guest of the Junior State program unless the student has received prior express permission from their Teacher/Advisor(s), parent(s), and Junior State Staff.
- The Junior State/The Junior Statesmen Foundation are not responsible for items stored in a luggage storage area. JSA/JSF is not responsible for valuable items brought by students to the event.
- Students who cancel after the JSA registration deadline or are sent home for rule violations will not receive a refund.**
- Students and their parents agree that The Junior State may use any photographs taken during the convention for promotional purposes.
- For the safety of the students, JSA Staff reserve the right to enter and search any room should we suspect a student is in danger, in position of drugs or alcohol, or is in violation of the rules.

Rule violations will result in expulsion from the convention, notification of parents and school, and other appropriate measures.

JSA CODE OF ETHICS

Students participating in Junior State of America events must:

1. Take pride in the organization, activities, leadership training exercises, and other educational and civic opportunities provided to them.
2. Respect the opinions of other students.
3. Conduct themselves in the manner of a **Statesperson at all times (See Rule #9)**, treating other students with respect and actively engaging them in educated and principled discussions of government affairs and policies.

JSA DRESS CODE

All students and Teacher/Advisors participating in JSA overnight conventions must abide by the JSA dress code and dress modestly and professionally. Students found in violation of the dress code, as determined by a JSA Staff member, will be asked to change into more appropriate clothing. Multiple violations may result in termination of attendance privileges.

The following are a series of guidelines that will be enforced during "business hours" in JSA (i.e. from Opening Session to nighttime activities on Friday, morning until dinner break on Saturday, and morning until Closing Session on Sunday). There may be additional times that students will be asked to remain in this attire. **While the dress code will be relaxed during evening hours, JSA Staff and Teacher/Advisors retain the right to ask a student to change into more appropriate attire at any time.**

Women:

What is appropriate?

- Dress shirt with a collar, blouse, or sleeveless top with cap shoulders.
- Sweaters, coats, or suit jacket.
- Dresses or skirts reaching two inches above the knee.
- Dress pants or dress capris.
- Flats, three-inch (or less) heels, dress slip-ons.
- Nylons, tights, or other solid colored hosiery.

What will cause you to be asked to change?

- Inappropriately short dresses or skirts.
- Jeans
- Revealing, strapless, spaghetti strap, or backless tops.
- T-Shirts, buttons, or jewelry with offensive and/or inappropriate messages.
- Tennis shoes, sandals, flip flops, or winter boots.
- Fishnet or patterned hosiery.

Men:

What is appropriate?

- Dress shirts with collars and ties.
- Shirts must be tucked into pants and worn with dress belt/suspenders.
- Blazer, suit jacket, or sweater over dress shirt and tie.
- Dress pants, dress chinos, or khakis.
- Dark tennis shoes
- Dress shoes. Loafers are acceptable.

What will cause you to be asked to change?

- Jeans, corduroys, or cargo pants.
- Polo shirts, rugby shirts, or other collared shirts.
- Athletic sneakers, sandals, flip-flops, Birkenstocks, or work boots.
- Hooded sweatshirts in lieu of a sweater.
- Pants worn without sufficient support, such as a belt or suspenders, causing waistbands to fall past the waist.

Teacher/Advisors:

Teacher/Advisors, student leaders, and JSA Staff all set examples for students. JSA asks Teacher/Advisors to please follow the dress guidelines below:

- Please dress professionally during business hours
- Jeans/corduroys are acceptable with a button-down shirt, sweater, or nice top
- Exercise clothes should not be worn unless immediately going to/from the gym.



TEACHER/ADVISOR CONVENTION RESPONSIBILITIES

The Junior State of America sincerely thank you for accompanying your chapter to the upcoming convention. We appreciate your dedication to furthering the goals of JSA and to increasing the political awareness of today's youth. Without your help, students would not be able to attend conventions like these and would miss an opportunity to debate and discuss controversial issues, learn more about the democratic process, and develop leadership skills.

Outlined below are mandatory responsibilities of Teacher/Advisors at a Junior State convention. Please review them and send in this form, signed, with your chapter's registration materials. Ultimately, you are responsible for the students in your chapter so please check with your administration regarding rules pertaining to school trips.

1. **BE PRESENT.** In compliance with school or school district rules, Teacher/Advisors must be present onsite and readily available throughout the entirety of the convention to accompany students and keep students on track and motivated. Please make sure to bring contact information for all students and establish a way students can get in touch during the convention by cell phone and/or at specified locations and times.
2. **CHECK-IN.** Teacher/Advisors must be present with the student chapter leader at registration to check in the chapter. Teacher/Advisors will receive their students' guest room keys for distribution in the afternoon.
3. **TEACHER/ADVISOR MEETING.** All adult chaperones MUST attend the mandatory Teacher/Advisor meeting with the Junior State staff to review convention logistics, convention and hotel rules, and receive important announcements for the weekend.
4. **CHAPTER CAUCUS.** After dinner, all students must check in with their Teacher/Advisor(s). Teacher/Advisors must take roll at the caucus and report any missing students to the Junior State staff. Teacher/Advisors should review the convention rules, curfew time, and morning checkout time with the students. All students must remain inside the hotel after the chapter caucus.
5. **NIGHTTIME ACTIVITIES SUPERVISION.** Teacher/Advisors must sign up for shifts in the evening to monitor hotel hallways, common areas, or nighttime activities including chaperoning the dance. Teacher/Advisors will receive instructions for signing up to supervise these areas and activities at the mandatory Teacher/Advisor meeting.
 - a. JSA has adult supervisors on the floors in the evening to keep noise levels down and to discourage misconduct. Most Teacher/Advisors volunteer to patrol the floor that houses their own students. If witnessing students involved in any inappropriate conduct, do not hesitate to intervene. If uncomfortable dealing with students from other high schools, feel free to notify the Teacher/Advisor from that school or Junior State staff to take care of the situation. During the dance, Teacher/Advisors monitor the doors and check nametags to ensure ONLY JUNIOR STATE STUDENTS attend the dance.
6. **CURFEW -- ROOM CHECKS.** Teacher/Advisors must go to all of their students' rooms at curfew and check that all their students are present. Students missing curfew may be sent home. Please pass along any announcements for the next day at this time.
7. **CHECKOUT.** All students must check out of their rooms before 9:00 a.m. Sunday morning. Luggage storage has been arranged. Teacher/Advisors should meet their students in the morning before 9:00 a.m. to collect their room keys and make sure that all students have checked out of their rooms. Teacher/Advisors may turn keys in at the Junior State registration table.
8. **MEDICAL EMERGENCIES/DISCIPLINARY ISSUES.** The Junior State staff at the convention will contact Teacher/Advisors if a member of their chapter has a serious medical issue or violates major convention rules. Teacher/Advisors will coordinate with the Junior State staff to arrange medical attention for students, notify parents/guardians and school officials if necessary, and send students home for serious rules violations. PLEASE REVIEW ALL THE CONVENTION RULES IN THIS PACKET AND DISCUSS THEM WITH STUDENTS BEFORE THE CONVENTION.
9. **MORAL AND EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT.** Teacher/Advisors can provide valuable moral support to students. If a student is a main participant of a debate, or is planning to make a subsequent speech, Teacher/Advisors can give them a boost just by attending their debate. Since many students use the time just prior to their debate to refine their argument, Teacher/Advisors can also provide educational assistance through providing advice or answering questions before a debate. Discussing a debate and their student's performance after it is over can also help students understand any points they missed or clarify any misinformation.
10. **Because Teachers/Advisors are required to chaperone students and respond to emergencies at any/all times, consumption of alcohol or use of any illegal drugs by Teacher/Advisors during the convention is strictly prohibited.**

I have reviewed the above responsibilities and agree to faithfully execute the duties required of me as a Teacher/Advisor at a Junior State Convention.

Signature

Date

School

Print Name

Cell Phone

Email



PREPARING FOR CONGRESS

Every chapter must submit one bill for every five delegates attending the convention to the Spring Congress Bill Coordinator by [April 2, 2017](#). Most of the bills received will be placed on the bill docket for consideration at Spring Congress. You can find complete information on writing and preparing a bill in the JSA *Preparing for Congress* manual. For a bill to be considered, all sponsors must be tax-paid members.

Serve as a Member of Congress

Can you protect your bill from amendments that might lessen its impact? Should you compromise to gain support or should you hold and try to persuade others that your bill is perfect as is? Members of Congress face such questions every day, and now it's your turn. At Congress 2017, you will experience the inner workings of the U.S. Congress firsthand. Each delegate serves as either a Senator or a member of the House of Representatives - make sure to mark this when registering.

Write Legislation

Students' participation in Congress 2017 starts before the convention begins, as students work in teams to research and write legislation. Students select an issue they really care about and determine how Congress can use its powers to change the law. All bills must be submitted by April 2, 2017. Here is [how to prepare for Winter Congress Bill writing](#).

Committee Action and Mark-up

At the convention, students are assigned to committees where all the legislation is discussed and marked up. Amendments are made and language is clarified while the students learn the art of compromise to earn the committee votes needed to send their legislation the floor of the House or Senate.

Floor Debate

Public speaking skills are emphasized as the sponsors of the legislation that passed in committee take the podium in the full House and Senate sessions. The chambers are always packed as supporters and opponents of each bill get a chance to speak and persuade the members to support their position. Students will have the chance to speak out on the most pressing issues facing our nation today.

Sample Spring Congress Agenda

Friday, April 28th

Registration	5:00 PM – 7:00 PM
Dinner	5:00 PM – 7:00 PM
Opening Session & Keynote	7:30 PM – 8:30 PM
Organizational Block	8:30 PM – 9:30 PM
Teacher/Advisor Meeting	8:30 PM
Evening Activities	10:00 PM – 12:00 AM
Curfew	12:00 AM

Sunday, April 30th

Breakfast	8:00 AM – 9:00 AM
Political Caucus	9:00 AM – 9:30 AM
Full Session I	9:30 AM – 11:00 AM
Lunch	11:30 AM – 12:30 PM
Full Session II	12:30 PM – 1:45 PM
Closing Session	1:45 PM – 3:00 PM
Elections	

Saturday, April 29th

Breakfast	8:00 AM – 9:00 AM
Political Caucus	9:00 AM – 9:45 AM
Committee Sessions	9:45 AM – 12:00 PM
Lunch	12:00 PM – 1:30 PM
Committee Sessions	1:30 PM – 5:00 PM
Political Fair	3:00 PM – 4:00 PM
Dinner	5:00 PM – 7:00 PM
Chapter Caucuses	7:00 PM – 8:30 PM
Evening Activities	8:30 PM – 12:00 AM
Curfew	12:15 AM



JSA ACTIVITIES

Debates

Debates serve as the cornerstone of the Junior State by giving delegates a forum to express their views in an orderly fashion, while promoting a clash of ideas that leads to deeper understanding of controversial issues. Using parliamentary debate style, delegates develop political awareness, attitudes and public speaking skills through participation.

JSA debates center around “resolutions” that outline the issue being discussed. For example, “Resolved, Social Security should be privatized.” Debates begin with six-minute opening speeches by the main affirmative and negative speakers. These two debaters are selected prior to the convention; they research and prepare their arguments beforehand. A pre-selected student moderator guides the action following the opening speeches, where any student in the audience may volunteer for three-minute subsequent speeches in support of either side.

Students vote for a “Best Speaker” at the end of each debate. The main focus of JSA debate is, however, on persuading the audience and imparting a greater understanding of the issues involved, rather than competition between speakers.

Debate Procedure

1. Pro Opening Speech, 6 minutes
2. Con Opening Speech, 6 minutes
3. Subsequent Pro Speech, 3 minutes
4. Subsequent Con Speech, 3 minutes
5. (More Subsequent Pro and Con Cycles)
6. Move to Previous Question
7. Con Closing Speech, 3 minutes
8. Pro Closing Speech, 3 minutes
9. Vote on Resolution
10. Best Speaker Ballots

Debate Motions:

Move to...

- Previous question
- Extend speaker’s time
- Ask a two-part question
- Suspend the rules and have another pro/con speaker
- Caucus

Purpose

- Ends subsequent speech cycle and returns to main speakers for closing
- Allows the speaker to speak for 30 seconds or 1 minute longer
- Allows questioner to ask a speaker two questions in a row
- If nobody wants to speak subsequently for a certain side, you can skip and move to the other side. Try to avoid this though!
- This opens the debate to a thought talk

Thought Talks

Thought talks are student-led discussions on pressing issues or questions. These activities don’t have the formal structure of a debate and allow students to explore issues in-depth, in a less confrontational setting. A moderator guides the participants by posing questions and offering facts about the topic; however, students will have an open opportunity to express their thoughts and let their comments take the discussion in many different directions. No main speakers are chosen for Thought Talks, and no awards are given. This pressure-free atmosphere engages students very differently than debates and helps students gain confidence with their public speaking skills.

Keynote Speakers and Political Fairs

Distinguished politicians, statespersons, journalists, and public policy experts across the political spectrum are invited to address JSA conventions. Delegates gather for opening and closing sessions where these high profile speakers address the students and answer their questions. JSA members have met and posed questions to key personalities from across the entire political spectrum.

In addition, some conventions feature Political Fairs that enable students to meet representatives of lobbying and political groups and get to ask questions regarding their policies and views.

Social Activities

JSA conventions combine the intellectual stimulation of intense political dialogue with some activities in the evenings after dinnertime that are just plain fun. Students get a chance to relax in less formal settings including dances, quiz bowl, impromptu debates, and relax with their friends at a JSA Lounge among others. JSA conventions let students meet others with similar interests and diverse talents, which helps them build a life-long network of friends.

Other Activities

In addition to debates and thought talks, JSA conventions include a variety of other activities. Spring Congress conventions feature dramatic and exciting “political convention style” elections for Junior State offices. Mock trials allow delegates to explore our nation’s judicial system and examine how legal and constitutional controversies are resolved in the United States. Simulations of city council and school board meetings help students grapple with local governance issues. These and various other political seminars give students a wide-range of ways to get involved.



CONVENTION CHECKLIST

Use this convention checklist to help plan and get your chapter to Spring Congress. Remember, many of these steps take time so start planning early!

1. Get School Approval

- Give a copy of the convention flyer to the Student Activities Director.
- Find out and follow the procedure for obtaining school approval for the trip.

2. Publicize

- Pass out flyers to interested students. Tell everyone to take the flyer home and show their parents.
- Distribute flyers to teachers who may know of other interested students.
- Post flyers around campus. Write a contact and email for interested students.

3. Register

- Find out the procedure for obtaining a school check or purchase order for the entire chapter's registration cost. If the school cannot do this, a Teacher/Advisor or parent can write the check. If this occurs, tell chapter members to whom they should make their checks payable. **JSA cannot accept individual checks from every student.**
- Pass out registration packets to all interested students.
- Set a deadline for returning registration checks and permission forms. This deadline should be before the registration deadlines.
- Collect checks, process them with the school, Teacher/Advisor, or parent, and obtain one inclusive check for all registration costs and membership dues (for students who have not already paid dues for the current school year).
- Collect registration and permission forms. Make sure every student has gone over the permission form with their parents and has returned a signed permission form.
- Fill out the Chapter Registration Form and Hotel Rooming List. Make sure all names are spelled correctly. The Teacher/Advisor must sign off on the Hotel Rooming List. Scan and send, or make copies and mail, the chapter registration form, hotel rooming list, payment check, and permission forms to the JSA DC office. Make a copy of each and keep one for the Chapter President and one for the Teacher-Advisor. Double-check all registration materials for accuracy. Make sure registration materials are submitted by the registration deadline.

4. Arrange Transportation

- Determine how the chapter will travel to the hotel.
- If the chapter is large enough, arranging a bus through the school district or an outside bus company may be necessary. If doing this, **START EARLY.** The process could take a few weeks.
- If the chapter decides to carpool, make sure to find enough Teacher/Advisor or parent drivers to accommodate the entire chapter. **Remember: No students may drive cars to a JSA convention.**
- Set a time and place for everyone to meet before the convention and the estimated time of arrival for drop off after the convention.

5. Have Pre-Convention Meetings

- Invite all students, their parents, and Teacher/Advisors to a pre-convention meeting (scheduled during the late afternoon or evening if possible). Go over transportation, what to bring, the format of the convention, and the convention rules.
- Discuss appropriate behavior and expectations during the convention.
- Have another meeting for the chapter to debate or discuss one or more of the topics for the convention.

6. What to Bring With You to the Convention

- A cell phone list of all students and a list of emergency telephone numbers for parents.
- All balances must be paid **before** the convention, but in the event the chapter has any outstanding convention charges, contact the Arizona Program Director Beth Hager at (602) 505-7671 and make arrangements to pay the outstanding balance.

Make copies of all registration materials including permission forms and convention rules.



ONLINE CHAPTER REGISTRATION GUIDE

The following step-by-step guide walks you through the online registration process. If you run into any problems, or if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call the Arizona Program Director Beth Hager at (602) 505-7671.

- Step 1:** *Log into MyJSA. Go to the My Events tab, and under "Register for a New Event" select "Spring State" and then click "Start registration."* This will create a new event on the My Events page. Click on the link, and select the student chapter leader and primary attending Teacher/Advisor. Please do this as soon as the chapter has permission to attend (even before knowing how many students will attend), as this allows JSA to plan for attendance. If you have a My Chapter tab but you do not see a registration option under My Events, contact your program director at bhager@jsa.org and a staff member will add this option to your account.
- Step 2:** *Update the chapter roster.* Make sure new and returning chapter members are listed under the chapter's membership roster in the JSA database. Ask all new and returning members to create or update their MyJSA account at jsa.org/myjsa. Bring a computer with an Internet connection to the first few meetings and have members create or update their accounts. **All MyJSA information should be complete and accurate.**
- Step 3:** *Collect permission & registration form and payment* from all members who will attend the convention. Keep track of who has paid and who has submitted registration and permission forms using a spreadsheet.
- Step 4:** *Create a rooming list.* Once a list of members attending is finalized, create a rooming list and fill these rooms in online.
- Step 5:** *Log in and complete the chapter registration.* The online registration form will ask for the information that has been assembled above, namely, the students and Teacher/Advisors for your group, the convention pricing packages for each, and your rooming list. The students and Teacher/Advisors are selected from the chapter roster, so make sure the roster is complete as described in Step 3. Once all the information is entered correctly, click "Submit."
- Step 6:** *After submitting registration online, a preliminary invoice will be created showing the total amount due and the chapter list.* Beth Hager, the Arizona Program Director, will review and confirm registration details and then send a final invoice. Review the payment options and arrange to pay before the convention.
- Step 7:** *Send in the payment, membership dues (if applicable), signed student permission & registration and form, and signed Teacher/Advisor Responsibility form to the Junior State of America office.* These can be scanned copies.

Payment Options

- School Check:** ONE inclusive check payable to The Junior State of America from the school. If the school cannot process the check request before the registration deadline, send a copy of the documentation showing you have arranged with the school to send the check, **plus** a guarantee from the school that payment will be received **before** the start of the convention.
- Personal Check:** ONE inclusive check payable to The Junior State of America from a parent or Teacher/Advisor (students must pay that individual).
- Purchase Order:** A school purchase order (must be payable within 30 days of the registration deadline).
- Credit Card:** JSA will accept credit card payments for registration by phone or online. If you would like to pay by credit card online, please contact Beth Hager, the Arizona Program Director, and she will walk you through the process.

DO NOT SEND CASH OR INDIVIDUAL PERSONAL CHECKS.



CHAPTER REGISTRATION FORM

Arizona Spring Congress
Hilton Phoenix Airport Hotel
April 28-30

HIGH SCHOOL _____

STUDENT CHAPTER LEADER

NAME _____

HOME ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE NUMBER _____ GRAD YEAR _____

CELL PHONE NUMBER _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

TEACHER/ADVISOR

NAME _____

SCHOOL ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE NUMBER _____

FAX NUMBER _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

Our chapter at Spring Congress will consist of _____ people (_____ students + _____ Teacher/Advisors)

<u>Number</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Total</u>
_____ Student(s) – EARLY Registration	\$155.00 per student	\$ _____
_____ Student(s) – STANDARD Registration	\$165.00 per student	\$ _____
_____ Student(s) – Extra Night	\$50.00 per student	\$ _____
_____ Teacher-Advisor(s) – Shared Room	\$0.00	\$ _____
_____ Teacher-Advisor(s) – Private Room (per night)	\$120.00 per T/A	\$ _____
	Grand Total	\$ _____

Payment Method (Please mark one)

- _____ Credit Card
- _____ School Check
- _____ Personal Check
- _____ Purchase Order

Make Checks Payable to and Mail to:

**The Junior State of America
111 Anza Blvd, Suite 109
Burlingame, CA 94010**



JUNIOR STATE OF AMERICA MEMBERSHIP DUES

SCHOOL: _____ **DATE:** _____

Check below if you have completed the following steps to start a JSA chapter at your school:

- School approval
- Teacher/Advisor from your school
- Minimum of eight (8) student members verified as dues-paid in MyJSA (my.jsa.org)
- Chapter constitution (see example in "Starting a JSA Chapter")

Membership dues are paid to join a JSA chapter at a rate of \$5.00 per member/ per year.

Please mail taxes and completed tax form to:

For the West Coast, Texas, and Arizona:
 THE JUNIOR STATE OF AMERICA
 111 ANZA BLVD, STE 109
 BURLINGAME, CA 94010-1932

For the East Coast and Midwest:
 THE JUNIOR STATE OF AMERICA
 1411 K ST NW, STE 200
 WASHINGTON, DC 20005

CHAPTER PRESIDENT

TEACHER/ADVISOR

Name

Name

Email

Email

Home Address

School Address

City State Zip

City State Zip

Home Phone Grad Year

School Phone

Cell Phone

Cell Phone

_____ (Number of Dues-Paid Members) x \$5.00 per member = \$ _____ Total

_____ Check enclosed (one check)

_____ Please charge the credit card below

Name on Credit Card: _____

Card Number: _____

Expiration Date: _____ Security Code: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

DUES-PAID STUDENT MEMBERS



THE ERNEST A. ROGERS CHAPTER OF THE YEAR AWARD

Each year at Spring Congress/State conventions across the nation, the Junior Statesmen Foundation recognizes the most outstanding chapters in each of its jurisdictions. The award is named in honor of JSA's founder, Professor Ernest Andrew Rogers, who is more commonly referred to as "Prof. Rogers." The idea for what is now known as the Junior State was first conceived by Prof. Rogers, headmaster of the Montezuma School in California's Santa Cruz Mountains in the early 1930s. Rogers had long maintained that one of the primary needs of a democracy was to train its youth in the essentials of good government. Rogers believed that without an informed populace, a democracy is worthless.

On an autumn evening in 1934, Prof. Rogers put the question before his students. Someone suggested a junior government -- an educational project to help create the statesmen and citizens of the future. Excited by the idea, the students began to set out the goals for their junior government. Non-partisan, non-sectarian, non-secret, and non-profit, the organization would rise above the evils of propaganda and dirty politics. Students would not just learn about democracy, but would practice it among themselves. The Chapter of the Year Award is given to schools that fulfill the ideals envisioned by Prof. Rogers.

Rewards for Winning Chapter of the Year

1. An engraved plaque honoring the chapter.
2. A \$1,000 scholarship to a Junior Statesmen Summer School
3. A full scholarship to a Junior Statesmen Symposium for one (1) chapter member.
4. One free private room to the chapter's Teacher/Advisor to all conventions the following year.
5. Become eligible for the Junior State of America's National Civic Impact Award.

The National Civic Impact Award

The Junior State of America annually recognizes the chapter that has had the biggest impact on increasing the level of civic awareness and engagement at their school with the National Civic Impact Award. The award goes to one of the 10 chapters chosen as their state's Chapter of the Year. The winning chapter receives:

1. An engraved plaque honoring the chapter.
2. A \$500 stipend reward given to the chapter's Teacher/Advisor.
3. A \$2,000 grant to the chapter to continue their civic impact and engagement projects.

How to be Recognized as the "Chapter of the Year"

The Chapter of the Year is chosen at each state's Spring Congress/State Convention. Chapter Presidents and Teacher/Advisors submit an essay and make a 6-8 minute presentation during a special activity block at Spring Congress to promote their chapter's candidacy for the Chapter of the Year Award.

Chapter of the Year Application Process

1. Review the "Criteria for Judging the Most Outstanding Chapter" listed below.
2. Submit a complete Chapter of the Year application and essay written by the Chapter President and Teacher/Advisor describing ways in which the chapter has been extraordinary through their activities, events, and participation in the community to your state's Program Director at least one week prior to Spring Congress.
3. At Spring Congress, the Teacher/Advisor and the Chapter President or her/his designee will give a 6-8 minute presentation to a panel of Teacher/Advisors and Junior State staff who will decide which chapter will be the Chapter of the Year.
4. Presentation Requirements
 - a. Chapters should prepare and submit a PowerPoint slideshow or video and have it ready in CD, DVD, or USB memory device.
 - b. The presentation should describe your chapter's achievements and include photos, videos, press clippings, text, charts, and any other audio/visual aids that help to convey the chapter's achievements;
 - c. The student should be able to operate all equipment. Junior State will provide an LCD projector and laptop PC computer. Students should contact their state's program director to ensure that the equipment is compatible for your presentation.
 - d. Videos should not last more than five minutes so that there is time for questions and answers.

Description of the Ideal Junior State Chapter.

The ideal JSA chapter is the center of nonpartisan political activity and awareness on campus. A chapter that is doing the best possible job of educating, involving, and representing the youth of their school and community is living up fully to the goals of the Junior State of America. Outstanding JSA chapters have members who diligently plan, regularly attend, and actively participate in chapter, regional, and state activities such as: chapter conferences, regional one-day conferences, and JSA overnight conventions. Typical chapter activities include student debates of controversial issues, guest speakers, mock trials, candidate debates, and voter education and registration drives. Outstanding JSA chapters go out of their way to encourage involvement in, and understanding of, the democratic process, and participation in programs sponsored by the Junior State of America and the Junior Statesmen Foundation.

Criteria for Judging the Most Outstanding Chapter

1. *Political Awareness*

- Chapter hosts events such as debates, thought-talks, guest speakers, simulations such as mock trials and mock elections, and mini-conventions that are politically relevant and raise the level of engagement of chapter members and school.

2. *Civic Engagement/Activism –*

- Participation in school governance, school board, and city council meetings.
- Conducts voter registration drives and letter writing campaigns to local, state, or federal representatives.
- Works with elected officials to raise awareness of student concerns and offer action plans, or policy recommendations.

3. *Leadership –*

- Chapter members exemplify leadership qualities in their school, community, and at JSA events through active participation as speakers/moderators in debates, and thought talks.

4. *Community Service –*

- Chapter contributes to the betterment of their city by participating and volunteering at charitable organizations such as food banks, care facilities, and community centers.

5. *JSA Participation –*

- Regularly attends JSA conventions, regional one-day conferences, and chapter conferences.



THE ERNEST A. ROGERS CHAPTER OF THE YEAR AWARD APPLICATION FORM

Chapters interested in competing for the Chapter of the Year Award should complete and submit this application form at least one week prior to Spring Congress to their state's program director.

Name of Chapter:		Date:	
School Address:			
City		State	Zip
Chapter President:			
CP Phone:		CP Email:	
Teacher Advisor:			
TA Cell Phone:		TA Email:	
Description of Presentation:			
Audio/Visual Requirements (Please contact the program director to ensure compatibility)			

JSA Arizona Program Director Contact Information:

Beth Hager

The Junior State of America
111 Anza Blvd, Suite 109
Burlingame, CA 94010
(602) 505-7671
bhager@jsa.org

Arizona Junior State Spring Congress/State 2017 Scholarship Application

* All information you provide in this form will be **held in confidentiality** by the leadership of the Arizona Junior State. Please fill out this application to the best of your knowledge.

The sooner you turn in your application, the sooner you'll know if you've received aid, so turn it in as early as possible. You will be notified if you receive aid and how much via email from your Program Director. No new applications will be considered after midnight on March 13, 2017.

Email completed forms to bhager@jsa.org.

Name: _____ **Birthday:** ____/____/____

Graduation Year: _____ **Gender (circle one):** M / F

Mailing Address: _____

Phone: () _____

Email Address: _____

School/Chapter: _____

Number of years as a tax paid chapter member: _____

Number of conventions attended in the past: _____

Please answer all questions (not answering any question may disqualify you from financial aid):

Number of family members in college or private school: _____

If you attend private school, do you receive financial aid towards the tuition? YES NO

If you attend a public school, do you qualify for a free or reduced lunch? YES NO

Will you personally be paying for the convention costs? YES NO

Do you plan to arrive on Friday? YES NO

Please estimate how much of your convention cost can be paid by on your or your family's behalf: _____

Father, Stepfather, or Guardian:

Occupation _____

Employer _____

Mother, Stepmother, or Guardian:

Occupation _____

Employer _____

Please circle what income bracket (per year) you and your family fall under:

\$200,000 or higher \$150,000-\$200,00 \$100,000-\$150,00 \$80,000-\$100,000
\$60,000-\$80,000 \$40,000-\$60,000 \$20,000-\$40,000 \$20,000 or lower

Please tell us about any unusual or special circumstances that affect your family's or your personal financial situation. (You may use a separate sheet of paper if necessary)

Please tell us why attending a JSA convention is important to you. (You may use a separate sheet of paper if necessary)

Student signature _____

Parent's or guardian's Signature _____

Date _____