



Junior State of America

Founded in 1934, sponsored by The Junior State of America Foundation

The Pacific Northwest Junior State of America
presents

Winter Congress 2018

YOU write the bills.

YOU give the speeches.

YOU cast the votes.

YOU make the laws.

February 3–4, 2018
Red Lion Hotel on the River - Jantzen Beach
Portland, OR

Registration Packet



JSA. BE THE PEOPLE

Winter Congress 2018

On February 3-4, 2018, the Pacific Northwest Junior State of America will hold its annual Winter Congress convention at the Red Lion Hotel on the River - Jantzen Beach. The Pacific Northwest student leaders hope you can join hundreds of other students and teachers from across the region for an exciting educational experience at this weekend-long, 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. Winter 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 students' bills, propose amendments to make them better, or do your best to prevent a bad bill from passing.

The Pacific Northwest JSA student leaders create the Winter Congress simulation through assembling a team led by a Convention Coordinator and Bill Director and selecting students to serve as House and Senate leaders, party whips, committee chairs and clerks, etc. Through engaging in spirited debates, Winter 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. You will also have the opportunity to meet students from other schools throughout the Pacific Northwest through a variety of other events, including a dance and other activities on Saturday night.

We hope you leave Winter Congress 2018 with a broader perspective and deeper understanding of how our country's main legislative body functions and the process through which legislation is created.

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

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If you have any questions or encounter any problems, please do not hesitate to call or email the Pacific Northwest Program Director Steve Bayne at (650) 393-7638 or at sbayne@jsa.org.

See you in February at Winter Congress!



2018 PACIFIC NORTHWEST WINTER CONGRESS INFORMATION

Location: Red Lion Hotel on the River - Jantzen Beach
909 N Hayden Island Dr.
Portland, OR 97217
(503) 283-4466

Check-In: Registration will be from 9:00am – 10:00am on Saturday, February 2, 2018.
- Room keys will be available around late afternoon.
- Storage for luggage will be provided.

Check-Out: The convention will end at approximately 3:30pm on Sunday, February 4, 2018.
- All students must be out of their rooms by 9:00am.
- Storage for luggage will be provided.

Registration Deadlines Early: January 9th
Final: January 16th

Student Rates:

Registration Deadline	Early Jan 9 th	Final Jan 16 th
Students	\$160.00	\$190.00
Extra Night (Friday)	\$60.00 per student, per night	

- A late fee of \$10/student will be added to any registration received after January 16th.
 - **Chapter Presidents:** Every student attending must be a dues-paid member of JSA. \$5.00 membership dues will be added to your chapter's Winter Congress invoice for all non-members.
 - 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 Pacific Northwest Program Director before the standard registration deadline to make these accommodations.

Teacher Rates: Shared Double Room: Free
Private Room: \$100.00 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 check-outs.

Every school MUST bring at least one (1) Teacher/Advisor for every fifteen (15) students.
(i.e. One teacher/advisor for 1-15 students; two for 16-30 students, three for 31-45 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.

Cost Covers: One night's lodging at the hotel, two days of meeting rooms at the hotel, two full days of JSA activities and programs, all educational materials, and the Saturday evening activities.

Refunds: Because JSA must make guarantees to the hotel far in advance of the convention, **JSA cannot decrease the number of students registered from your school, or offer refunds to the school or any student, regardless of reason, after January 16th, 2018.**

- If a student drops after the registration deadline, the chapter is responsible for the that cost. Any student who finds themselves unable to attend after the registration deadline is encouraged to find another student to go in their place and reimburse them the cost.
- **Chapter Presidents and Teacher/Advisors:** Please notify the Pacific Northwest Program Director as soon as possible if you switch delegates.

Scholarships: The Pacific Northwest Junior State is pleased to offer scholarships to help students in need attend our overnight conventions. Students who would like to apply for a Winter Congress scholarship, please go to <https://jsa.wufoo.com/forms/pnw-winter-state-scholarship-form/>, fill out the scholarship application. Applications will be accepted no later than midnight on January 2nd. Applicants and Teacher/Advisors will be notified by January 8th of the scholarship awarded.

Meals: Meals are not included, so please be prepared to purchase your own meals during the convention.

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. Parking is available at the hotel.

- **Chapter Presidents and Teacher/Advisors:** If your chapter is taking a bus to the convention, bus driver rooms are \$100 per driver, per night.
 - We are also working with Amtrak to arrange a JSA group discount. Please email the PNW Program Director if you plan to arrive at the convention this way.

Conduct: Rules of conduct and dress code for the convention are listed on the **Student Participation and Parental Permission Form**. Both students and parents or guardians must read these and sign the Student Permission and Registration Form acknowledging they agree to abide by these policies. **Please ONLY use the permission forms found in this registration packet.** 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.*

- **Chapter Presidents and Teacher/Advisors:** Please review these forms with your chapter and receive either verbal or written guarantees all members will honor them. Please contact the Pacific Northwest Program Director to receive examples of written declarations you can use.

Rep/Sen: Each delegation will be made up of a combination of Senators and Members of the House of Representatives. For every three (3) delegates registered from your high school, one (1) may be designated as a Senator.

Committees: Students will be assigned a committee for Saturday's sessions and a full House or Senate session on Sunday.

Early Registration Deadline: January 9th

Final Registration Deadline: January 16th



THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST JSA SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Pacific Northwest JSA is very fortunate to have a scholarship fund that helps students and families in need afford the cost of our overnight conventions and helps new chapters get started. Since its inception in 2013, the [Pacific Northwest Scholarship Fund](#) has helped hundreds of students experience a JSA convention who would otherwise have been unable to attend because of economic constraints.

Unfortunately, the funds we have are limited, and frequently, even with the help we can offer, many PNW students still can't afford to attend conventions and we have little left over to help build new chapters. Not only does this deny many students the chance to discuss critical issues facing our country and world with their peers, it also denies the students who can attend the opportunity to hear those valuable perspectives.

Would you please consider making a tax-deductible donation to the [Pacific Northwest Scholarship Fund](#) to help Pacific Northwest students and families in need attend conventions and also help build JSA chapters at new schools?

Pacific Northwest JSA receives hundreds of convention scholarship applications each year, and the reasons why students need help vary and are often extraordinarily heartbreaking. This is but one example from Fall 2017:

"My family is pretty big, there are seven people in my house right now. My dad is our only source of money. My mom has terminal breast cancer and requires a lot of extra care, including medicine and supplies that our insurance doesn't cover. The most expensive is her oxygen which my dad pays for. On top of that he is trying to help me pay for college, and we really don't have any money to spare. I really want to go to JSA (it's changed my life), but I also don't want to put financial strain on my family."

The Pacific Northwest Scholarship Fund is frequently the only way we can help students in need attend our conventions. We want every student, no matter the economic realities they face, to have the chance to voice their opinions and participate in our democracy. In the words of one JSAer on their 2017 Fall State scholarship application:

"Though I am relatively new to JSA, I am so thankful that I found this community last year. It has changed my perspective in so many ways and influenced my goals for the future. I am not the best at public speaking or debate, however I care deeply about current events and getting to spend this weekend with my chapter would mean so much to me."

Anything you can contribute to the [Pacific Northwest Scholarship Fund](#) (jsa.org/pnw) to help the students, families, and chapters who need that help most will go a long way:

- **\$25** pays for a start-up kit and all materials a new chapter needs to get off the ground
- **\$50** can reduce a student's Winter Congress convention cost by over 30%
- **\$100** will provide a full scholarship for a student in need who attends a Title I school
- **\$250** can cover over 75% of the cost for two students in need to attend Winter Congress
- **\$500** can send five students trying to start a JSA chapter to Winter Congress
- **\$1,000** can start a new JSA chapter

You can donate to the Pacific Northwest Scholarship Fund either by sending a check made out to JSA along with your Winter Congress payment (noting the check is for the Pacific Northwest Scholarship Fund) or by donating online at jsa.org/pnw. 100% of your donation will go to help PNW JSA students in need. If you send in a check to JSA along with your student's Winter Congress payment, please note your donation on the Student Permission and Registration Form. Receipts will be sent upon receiving the chapter's Winter Congress payment.

Thank you for your time, and for your generosity. The entire Pacific Northwest JSA community, especially the Pacific Northwest students and chapters in need, greatly appreciate your help.



STUDENT PERMISSION AND REGISTRATION FORM

Pacific Northwest Winter Congress
Red Lion Hotel on the River - Jantzen Beach
February 3-4, 2018

Students: Please give this Student Permission and Registration Form to your JSA Teacher/Advisor once you and your parent/guardian have signed.

Teacher/Advisors: Please mail all forms to the JSA office or to sbayne@jsa.org by **Friday, January 19^h**.

Student Name: _____ Student Email: _____

High School: _____ Grad Year: _____ Gender: _____

Home Phone: _____ Student Cell Phone: _____

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

Parent/Guardian Permission

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

My child and I have read over the JSA Convention Rules, JSA Values, and Dress Code. We agree to abide by said policies and allow our child to attend the 2018 Pacific Northwest JSA Winter Congress convention to be held at the Red Lion Hotel on the River - Jantzen Beach in Portland, OR on February 3-4, 2018.

I agree to pay \$_____ (minus any applicable scholarship award) to _____ for my child to attend the 2018 Pacific Northwest JSA Winter Congress convention.

I understand JSA cannot decrease the number of students registered from my child's school for the 2018 Pacific Northwest Winter Congress convention, **or offer any refunds to the school or any student, regardless of reason, after January 19th, 2018.**

Please accept my additional *tax-deductible donation* of \$_____ to go to the Pacific Northwest JSA Scholarship Fund to help a Pacific Northwest student or JSA chapter in need. (Please make checks out to JSA, noting it is for the Pacific Northwest JSA Scholarship Fund. JSA will send a donation receipt upon receiving the chapter's Winter Congress payment.) You can also donate to our scholarship fund online at jsa.org/pnw.

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____ Home Phone: _____

Parent/Guardian Email: _____ Parent Cell Phone: _____

Emergency Contact: _____ Relationship: _____ Phone Number: _____



STUDENT PARTICIPATION AND PARENTAL PERMISSION FORM

Parents: Please read this information carefully and review it with your child 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 Student Registration and Permission Form above, **you agree to pick up or arrange transportation for your child 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 child cancels after the JSA registration deadline.** If your child 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.

Students and Parents/Guardians: By signing the Student Registration and Permission Form above, you agree to be bound by the:

JSA CONVENTION RULES

- 1. 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.
2. 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.
- 3. 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).
- 4. 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.
- 5. 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).
6. 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.
7. 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 time of purchase. JSA will notify Teacher/Advisors of any charges. Students must have all belongings out of their rooms by 9:00 a.m. on Sunday.
8. Students must attend all convention activities, dress appropriately and professionally as defined by the JSA Dress Code, and wear their official name tag visibly above the waist at all times. No student may go onto guest floors or attend nighttime activities without their name tag. If a student loses their name tag, they must go to the JSA registration table with a photo ID to obtain a replacement.
9. 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.
10. Use of electronic devices during keynote speeches and inside debate rooms, unless the user is a main speaker, is prohibited except in emergencies.
11. No student may drive a car to the convention or ride in a student-driven car during the convention.
12. 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.
13. 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.
14. The Junior State/The Junior State of America 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.
- 15. Students who cancel after the JSA registration deadline or are sent home for rule violations will not receive a refund.**
16. Students and their parents agree that The Junior State may use any photographs taken during the convention for promotional purposes.
17. 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 possession 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 VALUES

The Junior State of America is a civil, all-partisan, welcoming community of students, teachers, alumni, board, staff, and supporters. We respect and care for each other, recognizing that the values that unite us as members of the Junior State community are grounded in learning together how to live together in a democratic society.

Leadership

We believe in lifelong engagement with others to affect positive change. We practice learning by doing, using a student-run and student-led model wherever possible. We support creative problem-solving, communication, delegation, and diplomacy. We embrace challenge, failure, and reflection as opportunities for growth.

Empowerment

We believe everyone should have the skills, resources, and opportunities to make their voices heard and generate impact. We promote informed and constructive dialogue through dialogue, debate, collaboration, and public speaking. We encourage service with peers, communities, and government. We offer access to college-level curriculum that teaches critical thinking, research skills, and analyzing and evaluating information.

Accountability

We believe in being informed, improving ourselves, and playing active and positive roles in community and country. We take ownership of our words, decisions, and their consequences. We live up to our commitments.

Diversity & Inclusion

We believe in active, equitable participation. We support opportunities for all. We negotiate and create a constructive environment for open-minded engagement and growth. Through respectful dialogue, sharing perspectives, and challenging ourselves and each other, we explore differences, foster understanding, and learn collaboratively.

Together, we are the Junior State of America!

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 key distribution 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.**

What is appropriate?

- Dress shirt with a collar and tie, blouse, or sleeveless top with cap shoulders
- Shirt must be tucked in and worn with dress belt or suspenders
- Sweater, coat, blazer, or suit jacket
- Dress or skirt reaching two inches above the knee
- Dress pants, dress chinos, khakis, or dress capris
- Flats, three-inch (or less) heels, dress slip-ons
- Dress shoes. Loafers are acceptable
- Dark tennis shoes
- Nylons, tights, or other solid colored hosiery

What will cause you to be asked to change?

- Jeans, corduroys, or cargo pants
- Pants worn without sufficient support
- Inappropriately short dresses or skirts
- T-Shirts, Polo shirts, or rugby shirts
- Revealing, strapless, spaghetti strap, or backless tops
- Athletic sneakers, sandals, flip-flops, Birkenstocks, work boots, or winter boots
- Fishnet or patterned hosiery
- Hooded sweatshirts in lieu of a sweater
- Any clothing, buttons, or jewelry with inappropriate messages

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



PREPARING FOR WINTER CONGRESS

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 your bill is perfect as is? Members of Congress face such questions every day, and now it's your turn. At Winter Congress 2018, as either a Senator or a member of the House of Representatives, you will experience the inner workings of the U.S. Congress firsthand.

Write Legislation

Students' participation in Winter Congress 2018 starts well 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.

Every chapter must submit **one (1) bill for every five (5) delegates** attending the convention. All bills must be submitted by February 5, 2017. Although we cannot guarantee it, we will try to ensure at least one bill from every chapter attending the convention will be placed on the Winter Congress Bill Docket.

You can find complete information on writing and preparing a bill in the PNW Winter Congress Booklet on the [PNW JSA website](#). For a bill to be considered, all sponsors must be dues-paid members.

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 to the floor of the full House or Senate sessions.

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.

Convention Overview

- *Saturday, Day 1 – House and Senate Committee Hearings*
 - Each student is assigned to a House or Senate committee that meets to consider bills. A student chairs each committee, assisted by a vice chair. All bills passed by both a House and Senate committee are placed on the docket for Sunday.
- *Sunday, Day 2 – Full House and Senate Floor Sessions*
 - Students meet in full sessions of the Senate and House of Representatives to debate the bills which passed in both their House and Senate committees. A student will serve as the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and another will serve as the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Leadership Position Applications

Here is the Chair and Vice Chair application: <https://goo.gl/forms/wXAB6hVUPjCb3DaM2>

Whip Applications are coming out soon and will be posted on the PNW Facebook site and sent out to all Chapter Presidents.



SAMPLE WINTER CONGRESS AGENDA AT A GLANCE

Saturday, February 2

Registration: 8:30 AM – 9:30 AM

Opening Session & Keynote Speaker: 9:30 AM – 10:45 AM

Party Caucuses: 10:45 AM – 11:15 AM

- Republican Party
- Democratic Party
- Party Chairs and Clerks
- Teacher/Advisor Meeting

Lunch: 11:15 AM – 12:45 PM

Committee Hearings I: 12:45 PM – 2:45 PM

Committee Hearings II: 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Activity Block: 5:15 PM – 6:00 PM

- Teacher/Advisor Reception
- Council of Chapter Presidents Meeting
- Senate Meeting
- Debate: Resolved, The U.S. mandate companies provide four months of paid paternity leave to new fathers.
- Thought Talk: Can there ever be gun control legislation that all sides could support?

Chapter Check-Ins / Key Distribution: 6:00 PM – 6:15 PM

Dinner: 6:15 PM – 8:15 PM

Chapter Caucus: 8:15 PM – 8:30 PM

Party Caucus: 8:30 PM – 9:15 PM

Nightlife: 9:15 PM – 12:00 AM

- Candidates Meeting
- Dance
- Impromptu Debates

Curfew: 12:15 AM

Sunday, February 4

Breakfast & Checkout: 7:00 AM – 8:45 AM

Full Floor Session I: 9:30 AM – 11:00 AM

Lunch: 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM

Full Floor Session II: 12:30 PM – 2:00 PM

Candidate Declarations: 2:15 PM – 3:00 PM

Closing Session: 3:00 PM – 3:30 PM



JSA WINTER CONGRESS 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 at Winter Congress center around student-written pieces of legislation. Debates begin with six-minute opening speeches by the sponsor of the bill, followed by a six-minute con speech from a delegate in their House who is opposed to the bill. A pre-selected Committee Chair 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" among the delegates in their House or Senate Committee at the end of the weekend. 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.

Winter Congress Debate Procedure

1. Pro Opening Speech, *6 minutes*
2. Con Opening Speech, *6 minutes*
3. Subsequent Speech, *3 minutes*
4. Subsequent Speech, *3 minutes*
5. (More Subsequent Speeches)
6. Move to Previous Question
7. Con Closing Speech, 3 minutes
8. Pro Closing Speech, 3 minutes
9. Vote on Bill
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

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. In recent years, our Political Fairs have included groups like the National Rifle Association & Handgun Control Inc., NARAL Pro-Choice America & the National Right to Life Organization, the Republican, Democratic, Green, Libertarian, and other political parties.

Social Activities

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



INFORMATION FOR CHAPTER PRESIDENTS AND TEACHER/ADVISORS

Approval: Check with your Principal, Vice-Principal, or Activities Director to find out what you need to receive school approval. Do this in advance to allow time for obtaining approval.

Questions: Please do not hesitate to call or email the Pacific Northwest Program Director, Steve Bayne at (650) 393-7638 or at sbayne@jsa.org if you have questions or run into any registration problems.

Delegation: When looking for students to join your delegation to Winter Congress, you should approach politically aware students. Students involved in JSA, Forensics, Model UN, student government, your school's newspaper, the speech and debate team, and honor society members might all have an interest in attending Winter Congress. History, government, and social studies teachers may even wish to send their entire class.

Chapters are expected to screen prospective delegates. You are responsible for the delegates you bring, so select them carefully. **Convention attendance is a privilege, not a right.** Teachers should only bring delegates who have a history of good conduct and who have demonstrated their serious interest by attending chapter meetings.

Delegates must attend all convention activities. Those not participating in scheduled convention activities will be sent home. We strongly recommend that each chapter have a pre-convention meeting with students and parents to go over convention rules, debates, and travel plans.

No student visitors are allowed in the hotel. Delegates who associate with non-registered students will be sent home. You have a responsibility to inform other students at your school that the convention is for registered students only, and the chapter will be in serious trouble if others drop by. If chapter members associate with non-registered students, The Junior State of America Foundation reserves the right to send the entire chapter home. Nametags will be checked at the dance and at other activities.

Registration: You are responsible for organizing and submitting your chapter's registration in an efficient and timely fashion. Bringing a chapter to a JSA convention takes considerable preparation and often includes receiving school approval for the convention, arranging transportation, and gathering and submitting all the required registration materials before the registration deadline. It can take weeks to get everything organized and finalized, so start planning now!

Putting a JSA convention together is also a large and complex task that takes JSA months to coordinate – especially when it comes to reserving hotel space and rooms. Please register on time and in full. If your registration is not submitted before February 2nd deadline, JSA will likely have to house students based on available space, rather than by your requested rooming list. Contact the Pacific Northwest Program Director Steve Bayne at sbayne@jsa.org if you think you might be delayed in submitting your registration.

A few things to keep in mind while registering your chapter:

- **You must note whether a delegate will be a Senator or a Representative.**
- JSA houses four students to a room with two double beds. If a chapter has fewer than four students assigned to a room, students from another school may be added.
- Elected and appointed JSA student officers (approved by the Program Director) who have been invited one day early and stay in a room with other JSA student officers must get the approval of their Teacher/Advisor(s) to do so and should still be listed in their school's chapter registration.
- Because JSA must make guarantees to the hotel far in advance of the convention, **JSA cannot decrease the number of students registered from your school, or offer refunds to the school or any student, regardless of reason, after January 16th, 2018.**

- If a student drops after the registration deadline, the chapter is responsible for the that cost. Any student who finds themselves unable to attend after the registration deadline is encouraged to find another student to go in their place and reimburse them the cost.

Rep/Sen: Each delegation will be made up of a combination of Senators and Members of the House of Representatives.

- **For every three (3) delegates registered from your high school, one (1) may be designated as a Senator; the rest will be Representatives.**
 - For example, a delegation of 19 students would be composed of six (6) Senators and 13 Representatives. (Please remember to round down).

Committees: Students will be assigned to a committee for Saturday. Please make sure to get this information from your chapter members so you can include it in your chapter's registration.

Bills: **Your chapter must submit at least one (1) bill for every five (5) delegates.**

Your chapter may submit as many additional bills as you wish. Although not guaranteed, the Winter Congress Cabinet will try to ensure at least one bill from every chapter attending the convention will be placed on the Winter Congress Bill Docket.

Students are encouraged to research the topic of their choice and volunteer to sponsor a bill at the convention. Refer to the *PNW Winter Congress Booklet* for instructions on how to prepare bills for Winter Congress. Each bill should have a House and Senate sponsor.

The Winter Congress Cabinet will do their best to ensure that every bill is listed in the final bill docket, and will contact all students prior to the convention to resolve any problems with the bills as well as notify them of their bill's placement in the docket.

Your chapter is encouraged to research and discuss other chapter's bills before Winter Congress as well.

Early Registration Deadline: January 9th

Final Registration Deadline: January 16th



TEACHER/ADVISOR CONVENTION RESPONSIBILITY FORM

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 name tags 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 by 9:00 a.m. Sunday morning. Luggage storage has been arranged. Teacher/Advisors should meet their students in the morning at 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. **The use of drugs or alcohol by all chaperons during the convention is 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



CONVENTION CHECKLIST

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

1. Get School Approval

- Find out and follow the procedure for obtaining school approval for the trip. **(START THIS NOW!!)**
- Give a copy of the convention flyer to the Student Activities Director.

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 the name and email of a person for interested students to contact.

3. Write Legislation (Bills are due by January 5th!)

- Discuss federal issues with your chapter members and see who might be interested in writing legislation.
- Divide your chapter into teams of 3-5 people to research each subject.
- Have each subject team decide who will write the bill. Be sure to follow the format provided in the PNW Winter State Booklet!
- Decide who will be the Senator and Representatives officially sponsoring the legislation. This information **MUST** be included with your registration.

4. Register and Pay

- 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.
- Put the cost you are charging for Winter Congress on the **Student Permission and Registration Form** and pass out registration packets to all interested students. If they don't already, have them create MyJSA accounts.
- Set a deadline for returning registration checks and permission forms. This deadline should be at least ONE FULL WEEK before the January 9th or January 16th registration deadlines.
- Collect registration and permission forms. Make sure every student has gone over the permission forms with their parents and has returned their permission form signed.
- 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 2017-2018 school year).
- Register your chapter at MyJSA. (See next page.) Make sure all names are spelled correctly and you have indicated which students will be Senators and Representatives. Your Teacher/Advisor must sign off on the Hotel Rooming List.
- Scan and send, or make copies and mail, the chapter registration form, payment, student permission forms and Teacher/Advisor Responsibility Form to the JSA office. Make a copy of each and keep one for the Chapter President and one for the Teacher/Advisor. Make sure registration materials are submitted by then registration deadline.

5. 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 conventions.**
- Set a time and place for everyone to meet before the convention and the estimated time of arrival for drop off after the convention.

6. 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 debate topics for the convention.

7. 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 Pacific Northwest Program Director Steve Bayne at (650) 393-7638 and make arrangements to pay the outstanding balance.



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 contact the Pacific Northwest Program Director Steve Bayne by phone at (650) 393-7638 or by email at sbayne@jsa.org.

- Step 1:** *Log into MyJSA. Go to the "My Events" tab, and under "Register for a New Event" select "Winter Congress" 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 helps JSA plan attendance.
- *Please note: If you have a "My Chapter" tab but you do not see a registration option under "My Events", contact the JSA office at (800) 317-9338 or email jsa@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.
- *Suggestion: Bring a laptop to the first few meetings and have members create or update their MyJSA accounts.*
- Step 3:** *Collect registration forms, permission forms, and payment.* During November, December, and January, collect Winter Congress registration forms, permission forms, and payments from all members who will attend the convention.
- *Suggestion: Use a spreadsheet to keep track of who has paid and/or submitted the registration forms.*
- Step 4:** *Create a rooming list.* Once a list of members attending is finalized, create a rooming list putting all male students in one set of rooms and female students in another.
- *Please note: Please try to put three to four students in each room. If you have a room with fewer than four students, students from another school may be added if that space is needed. You would be notified in advance if there is a high probability of this happening to any of your chapter's rooms.*
- Step 5:** *Log in and complete your chapter registration.* The online registration form will ask for the information you have assembled, namely, the students and Teacher/Advisors for your group, your rooming list, and who in your chapter will be a Senator and who will be a Representative. Once all the information is entered correctly, click "Submit."
- *Please note: You select all students and Teacher/Advisors from the chapter roster, so please make sure the roster is complete and updated as described in Step 3.*
- Step 6:** *After submitting your chapter registration online, a preliminary invoice will be created showing the total amount due and a list of students and Teacher/Advisors attending.* Review the payment options and arrange to pay before the convention.
- *Steve Bayne, the Pacific Northwest Program Director, will review and confirm your registration details and then send you a final invoice.*
- Step 7:** *Send in your chapter's convention payment (including membership dues if applicable), signed student permission forms, signed Teacher/Advisor Responsibility Form(s), and any donations to the Pacific Northwest Scholarship Fund to the JSA office in Burlingame.*
- *Please note: If paying for the convention by credit card, please contact the Pacific Northwest Program Director to ensure you've received the correct link to pay online or feel free to call the JSA office and supply the credit card information over the phone.*



CHAPTER REGISTRATION FORM

Pacific Northwest Winter Congress
 Red Lion Hotel on the River - Jantzen Beach
 February 3-4, 2018

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 Winter Congress will consist of _____ people (_____ students + _____ Teacher/Advisors)

<u>Number</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Total</u>
_____ Student(s) – Membership Dues	\$5.00 per student	\$ _____
_____ Student(s) – EARLY Registration	\$160.00 per student	\$ _____
_____ Student(s) – STANDARD Registration	\$190.00 per student	\$ _____
_____ Student(s) – LATE Registration	\$200.00 per student	\$ _____
_____ Student(s) – Friday Night	\$60.00 per student	\$ _____
_____ Teacher-Advisor(s) – Shared Room	\$0.00	\$ _____
_____ Teacher-Advisor(s) – Private Room (per night)	\$100.00 per T/A	\$ _____
_____ Pacific Northwest Scholarship Fund Awards / Discounts / Credits		(\$ _____)
_____ Donations to the Pacific Northwest Scholarship Fund		\$ _____
	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 membership dues-paid in MyJSA (my.jsa.org)
- Chapter constitution (see example in "Starting a JSA Chapter")

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

Membership Dues

- Each student must pay \$5.00 membership dues to become an active member in JSA.
- Each chapter must submit membership dues to the Junior State of America to participate in JSA events.

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

Please include your membership dues in your Winter Congress payment or mail a check and a **typed list of dues-paid members*** to:

ATTN: Steve Bayne
Pacific Northwest Program Director
Junior State of America
111 Anza Blvd, Ste 109
Burlingame, CA 94010-1932

**Please include Name, Address, City, State, Zip Code, Grad Year, Email Address, and cell phone number for each student.*