

General Conference Information

Each year, Missouri Technology Student Association holds an annual statewide Championship Conference that brings student members together to work with business and industry, post-secondary institutions, alumni and community leaders in a competitive showcase that recognizes both technical skill and leadership development. Having events such as these, helps our students learn to solve problems through design, innovation, and critical thinking. The Championships Conference includes: the opening ceremony, competitive events, professional development, election of officers, social events, and an awards ceremony that recognizes all student champions. Our students are indeed “Learning to lead in a Technical World!”

DATES

This year’s State Championships Conference will be held virtually from March 15 – April 1, 2021.

Awards Ceremony will be held virtually on April 1, 2021.

THEME

The theme for State Conference 2021 will be “Together Towards Tomorrow.”

Please note that the conference theme is different from the themes used for competitive events.

VIRTUAL

There are pros and cons to hosting a virtual conference. One of the pros is that more members can participate in State Conference who may not have been able to make it to Missouri S&T before! We hope to have representation from our entire state.

A virtual conference also allows us to spread out competitions and professional development over a longer period of time. We will do our best to schedule conference happenings in the late-afternoons and evenings. We hope this format allows you to participate in the conference while being mindful of your work/school schedule.

Important Dates and Deadlines

Please note that these dates and deadlines below are tentative and subject to change.

If changes are made, they will be highlighted and announced to Chapter Advisors.

Date	Item
February 1, 2021	Registration Opens
February 28, 2021	Registration Closes
February 27-28, 2021	Cybersecurity HS Competition (Note – if your students want to compete, there is \$30/student fee. This event is hosted by an outside vendor.)
March 1, 2021	Awards Applications Deadline
March 1, 2021	Chapter Assurance Form Due
March 1, 2021	Preliminary Round Submission Instructions Released Testing Instructions Released
March 15, 2021	Preliminary Round Submission Deadline Testing Deadline
March 22, 2021	Finalist Names Released
March 23 - 30, 2021	Interviews and Presentations Period
March 15-April 1, 2021	State Championships Conference
March 15, 2020 (4pm – 6pm)	Opening Ceremony
March 29, 2020 (4pm 6pm)	Delegate Session

April 1, 2021 (4pm – 6pm)	Awards Ceremony
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Registration

LINK

<https://www.registermychapter.com/tsa/mo>

ELIGIBILITY

Only affiliated chapters and members will be able to register for competitive events at State Conference. ALL ATTENDEES including members, advisors, and support staff who are actively participating in conference activities are REQUIRED to register.

COST

Attendee	Cost
Students	\$45
Advisors	\$10

DEADLINES

Item	Deadline
Registration Opens	Monday, February 1
Registration Deadline*	Sunday, February 28, 2021

* Late registrations requested after the Sunday, February 28, 2021 registration deadline will not be accepted. We have to mail competitor's polos immediately after registration closes.

** Only affiliated chapters may participate in the Preliminary Round.

INFORMATION NEEDED TO REGISTER

- Username and Password = DLG Username and Password (Not the same as National TSA affiliation username and password, unless you made them the same.)
- Judges System Student Password (We have just added this to our system. We will provide a step-by-step on how to upload your projects after our staff goes through training this week.)
 - You will set this yourself and it will be the same for every student in your chapter
 - It allows students to log in to the judges system and upload their own projects
- Competitive Event Selections for Student Participants
 - **MAX 6 EVENTS PER MEMBER**
 - **Please Note: You will need to select a Team Captain for team events** - The Team Captain will be the student designated to upload the materials into the judges system on behalf of their team
 - **Please Note: The Cybersecurity HS competition will cost an additional \$30/participant**

EVENT CHANGES AND SUBSTITUTIONS

You can make changes to your registration as many times as you would like until registration closes on February 28. Simply log back on, edit, and resubmit. **After February 28, you will not be able to make changes to your registration.** This includes, but is not limited to, adding events to students, editing teams, and substituting new students for those who are already registered and unable to attend. If you want to drop a student from an event or from your roster after the February 28 deadline, there will not be a charge for notifying the State Advisor, however no refunds will be granted. Notifying us of no-shows is helpful to our planning.

Dress Code

Each registered participant will receive a blue Missouri TSA polo shirt. Competitors and those attending the virtual opening and awards session are required to wear the blue polo, business casual, or official TSA attire to participate. Chapter Advisors and chaperones are responsible for seeing that all TSA student members wear appropriate attire as the different occasions may require. Adults are also expected to dress appropriately for all TSA occasions they attend. NOTE: Advisors, please make sure that you have the appropriate polo-sizes for your students. Immediately after the Registration site closes, we will begin to ship polos to the schools. There will not be enough time for us to exchange polo-shirts, so having the exact size is important.

While participating in virtual events, please be conscious of your attire that will be seen while on camera.

Please consider the following guidelines:

Occasion	Appropriate Attire
General Sessions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Missouri TSA Blue Polo
Breakout Sessions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Business casual attire*
Social Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Smart casual attire
Competitive Events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Missouri TSA Blue Polo or TSA Attire*
Chapter Team Competition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Blazer: Navy blue blazer with official TSA patch Tie: Official TSA tie (required for males, optional for females) Top: Official royal blue TSA button down shirt Bottoms: Grey slacks or skirt Socks: Black or dark blue Shoes: Black dress shoes worn with black or dark blue socks, hosiery (optional); open-toed shoes or sandals are acceptable Official TSA attire may be purchased online via the TSA Store

** We are making exceptions during Missouri Only State Championships Conference. Those competitors who qualify for the National TSA Conference, must adhere to the Dress Code required. This exception may or may not be permitted when attending and competing at National TSA Conference.*

BUSINESS CASUAL ATTIRE

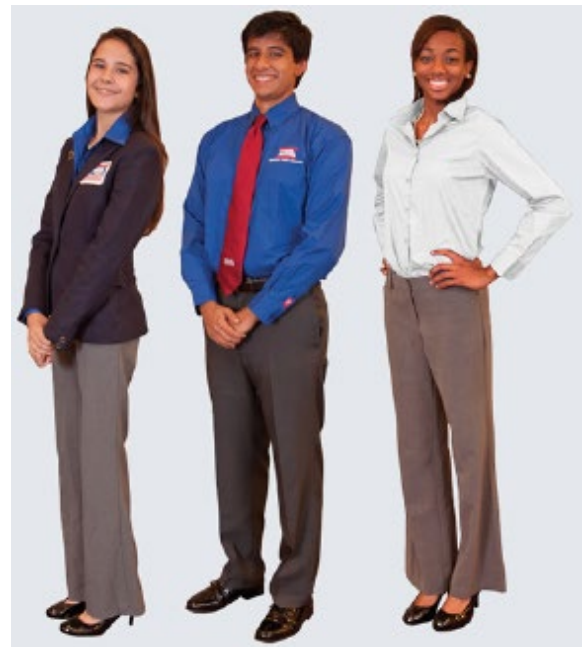
Examples: blouse, polo, button-up, sweater, blazer, slacks, chinos, skirt, flats, loafers, dress shoes

SMART CASUAL ATTIRE

Examples: TSA or school spirit t-shirt, sweatshirt, non-ripped jeans, pants, skirt, sneakers, sandals

UNACCEPTABLE ATTIRE

Examples: sleeveless tops, ripped jeans, leggings, sweatpants, shorts, flip-flops



COMPETITIONS

Since we are holding a *virtual* State Conference, we will be evaluating competitive events using the *virtual* competitive event guidelines and rubrics located in the **Virtual National Competitive Events Guide** and the **Virtual State Competitive Events Guide**.

HELPFUL LINKS

[High School](#) – High School Competitive Events Eligibility Guide

[Middle School](#) – Middle School Competitive Events Eligibility Guide

[Virtual National Competitive Events Guide](#) - Affiliated Chapter Advisors can access through Total TSA

[National Competitive Event Themes and Problems](#)

[National Competition Updates](#)

PRELIMINARY ROUND

National TSA and Missouri TSA converted over 75% of our traditional in-person events to a virtual format. Many of the virtual events now have a preliminary round and a semifinal round. The preliminary round was formerly called “early submission” at the Missouri TSA State Championship Conference. For the preliminary round, individuals and teams will submit their projects before the conference begins - see the competitive event guides for specific preliminary round submission information. These events will be evaluated prior to the conference and then based on the evaluations, semifinalists will advance to the semifinal round.

March 1, 2021	Preliminary Round Submission Instructions Released
March 15, 2021	Preliminary Round Submission Deadline

SEMIFINAL ROUND

There are typically twelve (12) individuals or teams that advance to the semifinal round, but this is dependent on the event - see the competitive event guides for specific semifinal round information. Chapter Advisors will be notified if they have students that qualified as semifinalists. Chapter Advisors will receive instructions on how their semifinalists can sign up for semifinalist round interviews and presentations. These interviews and presentations will take place during the conference. After the semifinalist round is complete, the top five (5) finishers of each event will be announced at Closing Ceremony. The top three (3) finishers will be awarded medallions (Bronze, Silver, and Gold).

March 22, 2021	Chapter Advisors Notified & Students Notified
March 22-23, 2021	Semifinalist Interviews Sign-Up Period
March 23-30, 2021	Semifinalist Interviews

TESTING

For the testing, we will be using the DLGs AnswerWrites. After registration, advisors and competitors will be provided with a link from which they will be able to access their test during a specific time. A link as well as a password will be provided for the advisors and the competitors and at the designated time, students will take their test.

Frequently Asked Questions

This list will be updated regularly with FAQs regarding the 2021 Missouri TSA State Championship Conference.

Q: Why does State Conference cost \$45 when it is virtual?

Hosting Missouri TSA State Championship Conference is a expensive and throughout the years, we have kept our costs low while other CTSOs have increased their costs. Last year, we reimbursed chapters all their conference registrations, but were able to provide the winners with medals, plaques and with every registered member a lapel pin. These are all costs that Missouri TSA had to absorb plus all the printing costs that we had incurred for each competitor. The good news is we were able to lower registration costs to \$45/student and \$10/advisor this year because a virtual conference costs less than an in-person conference, however it still costs a significant amount of money to put on a virtual conference. Virtual conference costs include, but are not limited to, a virtual conference platform, conference management system, video meeting pro accounts, conference app, testing, awards, judge's gifts, postage, and credit card fees. If you have ideas on how to offset the costs of State Conference, we would love to hear them!

Q: When trying to register, it says "Membership Unsubmitted" next to my students' names. How do I fix this?

Students must be affiliated in order to attend State Conference. Only affiliated members populate in the registration system. You will need to log on to the [TSA Membership System](#), check the boxes next to your students' names, click Submit, and then pay for their affiliation. The fastest way to pay is by credit card. Once you follow these steps, students should appear on the registration system.

Q: Where can I find the themes and problems for events?

The themes and problems for national competitive events can be found [here](#).

Q: Where can I find eligibility for each event?

Event eligibility is listed on these two documents;

[High School](#) – High School Competitive Events Eligibility Guide

[Middle School](#) – Middle School Competitive Events Eligibility Guide

These two documents are **ONLY** for the Missouri TSA Virtual State Championships Conference. Please note the differences between who is eligible to compete at State Conference versus National Conference. For more specific event eligibility requirements, view the event's guidelines located in the Virtual National Competitive Events Guide.

Q: Where can I find the competitive event guidelines and rubrics?

The National Competitive Events Guide is located in the [TSA Membership System](#). Follow this path:

www.tsaweb.org > Join/Login > Total TSA > Competitions.

Q: Should I follow the traditional or virtual competitive event guidelines and rubrics?

Since State and the National Conference are both being held virtually, we will be evaluating competitive events using the virtual competitive event guidelines and rubrics located in the Virtual National Competitive Events Guide which can be accessed by clicking on this link: [Virtual National Competitive Events Guide](#).

Q: Can we still compete in the non-virtual events?

Only virtual events will be offered at the 2021 Missouri TSA State Championships Conference. However, there are some competitive events that National TSA is not offering virtually. We will be offering those events, but at this time we are working on the best strategies to fairly offer them to our students.

Q: Can we ask questions of the State Advisor?

Every Thursday between the hours of 3:30pm and 4:30pm, advisors can meet with the State Advisor through Zoom. Please use the following zoom meeting link and meeting ID:

Zoom Link: <https://zoom.us/j/98920471770?pwd=ZnRQdFpVSzA5ckRBKzV5NnY2c1lsdz09>.

Meeting ID: 989 2047 1770.