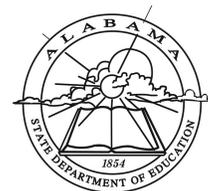




STATE OF ALABAMA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



Eric G. Mackey, Ed.D.
State Superintendent of Education

Alabama
State Board
of Education

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 25, 2026

Contact: Communication
(334) 694-4686
comm@alsde.edu

Governor Kay Ivey
President

2026 ALABAMA HOSA STATE LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE BEING HELD THIS WEEK – STUDENTS CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF HOSA ARE COMPETING FOR STATE HONORS AND THE EXCITING OPPORTUNITY TO ATTEND THE INTERNATIONAL HOSA CONFERENCE IN JUNE

Jackie Zeigler
District I

“HOSA Works to Develop America’s Next Generation of Highly Skilled Health Professionals”

Tracie West
District II

Montgomery, Ala. – This week, over 1,900 Alabama students and teachers will travel to Montgomery to participate in two days of competitive events and advanced leadership study at the [2026 HOSA Future Health Professionals State Leadership Conference](#), February 26-27.

Kelly Mooney
District III
President Pro Tem



Students attending this exciting event at the *Renaissance Montgomery Hotel and Convention Center* will have the opportunity to participate in more than 60 competitions and professional workshops.

Yvette M. Richardson, Ed.D.
District IV

Alabama, one of the original charter states of HOSA, joins International HOSA–Future Health Professionals in celebrating its 50th anniversary this year under the theme: **“50 Years of HOSA–Future Health Professionals: Champions of Change!”**

Tonya S. Chestnut, Ed.D.
District V

Marie Manning
District VI
Vice President

Allen Long, M.D.
District VII

The **2026 Alabama HOSA Awards** ceremony will be held Friday afternoon, starting at 12:30 p.m. The top winners in each competition category will be eligible to represent our state at the 2026 HOSA International Leadership Conference in Indianapolis, Indiana, on June 17-20.

Wayne Reynolds, Ed.D.
District VIII

Some of the exciting competitive events that students will be participating in this year at Alabama’s HOSA State Leadership Conference are *Medical Math, Pharmacy Science, Veterinary Assisting, CPR/First Aid, Sports Medicine, and Biomedical Debate*. These events push students to think fast, problem-solve under pressure, and showcase the real-world skills that make HOSA such a powerful launchpad for future health professionals.

Eric G. Mackey, Ed.D.
Secretary and
Executive Officer

–more–

Students Celebrating 50 Years of HOSA



Currently, the international HOSA organization has more than 330,000 members across the globe. HOSA’s primary mission is to promote career opportunities in health care fields, which will enhance the delivery of quality health care to all people.

The salary potential for young professionals in medical career pathways continues to rise. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the median annual wage for medical and health services managers was \$117,960 in May 2024, up from \$110,680 in 2023.

Alabama’s career and technical education (CTE) program provides students with an opportunity to participate in nine different student organizations, including HOSA.

Students participating in Alabama’s HOSA program have a variety of competitions focused in the areas of Health Science, Health Professions, Emergency Preparedness, Leadership, Teamwork, and Recognition Events with a focus on various health careers in areas of Behavioral & Mental Health, Biotechnology Research & Development, Community & Social Services, Health & Data Administration, Personal Care Services, & Physical Health.

To learn more about Alabama’s HOSA organization, contact State Advisor, Becky Cornelius, at 334-694-4766 or visit the [Alabama HOSA website](#) or the [International HOSA website](#).

###