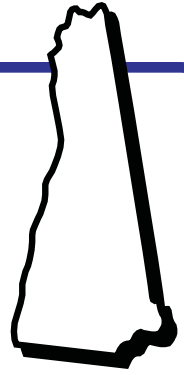


Running For State Office

New Hampshire HOSA



There are many benefits to being a state officer. The development of leadership skills is one of the benefits, which can carry on throughout life. As a leader in your community, you will be faced with many challenges and will learn how to communicate more effectively.

From the moment you decide to run for office until you step to the podium to speak in front of the delegates, **communication is a key factor in this electoral process.** While running for state office, you are forced to speak in public. The speech, which is prepared before the conference, describes why you would like to be a state officer. It is also important to state your goals and the contributions that you can bring to the organization.

A popular method to aid in communicating better that is often used at HOSA conferences is “GNAP”. The “G” stands for greet. First you must greet the person to whom you are speaking by saying hello, shaking hands, and offering a pleasant facial expression. Second the “N” stands for name. By stating your first and last name, there is a better chance the person will remember you during the voting process. The “A” stands for affiliation, which means you should mention the state and chapter of which you are a member. Sharing this information will provide you with material to further the conversation. Finally, mention your purpose, or “P”, which includes the office for which you are running and the reasons why you are running. If you follow this simple method of communication, your time and efforts will be beneficial to this election process.

While running for state office in New Hampshire this past April, **all candidates were required to prepare and present a speech at the State Leadership Conference.** After the speeches,

the Voting Delegates discuss with their chapter members and cast their votes. All offices are open to new executive members annually. The New Hampshire Executive Council positions are President, Vice-President, Secretary, Historian, Treasurer, Parliamentarian, and Post-Secondary Vice-President. **When deciding which office to run for, the candidate should consider their strengths and weaknesses.** One who is excellent with math and money management would make an exceptional Treasurer. A candidate who has strong organizational, speaking, and leadership skills may want to consider the office of President. Being a state officer requires responsibility and dedication, but in the end it is an extraordinary experience.

To those who are planning to partake in the elections this year, good luck. The skills that are developed by being part of an executive council will help you throughout life. **On behalf of the New Hampshire State Executive Council, I urge everyone to consider running for state office because it will be an experience unlike any other.**

