

Membership Benefits

By Jennifer Zhu, NC-HOSA State President

Sometimes, students may feel that they are surrounded by a sea of clubs and various activities that are all calling their name. Other times, schools without Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) chapters wonder what benefits HOSA would bring to their students. HOSA is a well-known national student organization endorsed by the U.S. Department of Education and the Health Science Education Division of ACTE. While HOSA is a great way to get involved at your school and in your community, what makes HOSA truly special is the full extent of its many tremendous membership benefits:

Gain Knowledge and Professional Experience

If you're interested in pursuing a career in health care, HOSA is *perfect* in exposing you to more knowledge about various fields of medicine. With 57 competitive events, there's an event for everybody and every interest. Use your creativity for Career Health Display, hone your memorization skills for Dental Terminology and Medical Math, practice medical skills in Nursing Assisting and Sports Medicine, or nurture the public speaker in you with Prepared Speaking. When you prepare for competition, you pour time and effort into obtaining medical knowledge necessary for doing well in your event. You may even have the opportunity to practice hands-on skills by learning from a professional in the field—which then establishes valuable connections through networking.

Find your passion

Even if you don't know that you want to pursue a career in medicine, HOSA provides you with the opportunities to explore options and different careers—whether it's by listening to speakers, touring medical facilities, or trying different competitive events. With competitive events that range from photography to public speaking, HOSA can point you in a direction and spark a passion.

Improve Your Future

HOSA's a huge resume and college application builder. Whether it is for a job or for university admittance, people are impressed when they see that you have been active in extracurricular activities, competitions, and community service. By doing HOSA, you show that you already have goals for your life and a strong interest in a specific career. HOSA makes it easy to obtain volunteer service hours by offering a variety of community service projects to be involved in. In addition, there are scholarships that are only available to HOSA members.

Life experiences

Through different levels of competition (Regionals, States, Nationals), you are able to meet so many amazing people who share the same dreams or even quirky similarities! You have many opportunities to form meaningful friendships with people from different parts of the state or completely different states. The experiences of Regional, State, and National Leadership Conferences are simply unforgettable life experiences—Nationals this year is in WALT DISNEY WORLD after all!

Most importantly, don't forget—by being a part of HOSA, you are not only benefiting yourself but your community. As a member of HOSA, you commit to helping our nation's future and the future of health care. Together, we HOSA members are able to promote career opportunities in the health care industry and to enhance the delivery of quality health care to all people. So while we can always ask "What can HOSA do for you?", always remember to think: "What can you do for HOSA?"