

HOSA Bylaw Changes

The 2004 Voting Delegate Assembly met this year in Orlando, Florida at the Business Session in conjunction with the National Leadership Conference and voted on several motions that have made important revisions to the HOSA Bylaws.

The Membership Composition section of the bylaws received one of the most significant changes. It was voted that the HOSA membership boundaries would expand to include a larger potential group of HOSA members. The new bylaws state that members shall be students who are or have been enrolled in Health Science classes, **and/or** are interested, planning to pursue or pursuing a career in the health professions, and persons associated with, participating in or supporting Health Science in a professional capacity.

This membership revision was made in hopes that those interested in HOSA who are not in a Health Science class due to scheduling conflicts will be able to join HOSA and participate in the organization at the same level as their peers. However, those members who are not in the Health Science class must at least have an interest in pursuing a career in the healthcare industry in order to become a member of HOSA.

In areas beyond membership, other bylaw changes that were made at this year's NLC include a new HOSA slogan that reads, "Health Science and HOSA: A Healthy Partnership." It was also decided that any reference to Health Occupations be changed to Health Science to reflect the new terminology being used in the Career and Technical Student Organization arena. HOSA's tagline has been changed to say, "HOSA – A Student-Led Association of Future health Professionals." The name HOSA will be used instead of *Health Occupations Students of America* whenever possible to take advantage of the branding that has been marketed since 1976.

Overall, the Business Session at the 2004 NLC was successful, and with the new changes to the bylaws, HOSA membership and awareness will greatly increase in the years to come.