



WHAT'S NEW FOR 2009?

HOSA is pleased to offer two new competitive events for 2008-09.

Check with your local and state advisor to find out if these new events will be offered in your state. If they are, study the guidelines and prepare to get involved in these two exciting new events in the Emergency Preparedness category.

EPIDEMIOLOGY

Epidemiology is an individual event that is designed to encourage Health Science students to study the effects of health and disease in populations, to improve their scientific literacy, and to provide insights into public health careers. It is a written examination in which competitors are required to recognize, identify, define, interpret and apply epidemiological concepts in a 50-item multiple choice test and in written responses to a case study.

Preparing for this event is made easier because all of the resources can be found online. Web links are provided in the guidelines, and competitors can explore the world of epidemiology as presented by the CDC, National Institutes of Health, and through the Young Epidemiology Scholar's program.

One of the benefits of participation in this event is the fact that the study of epidemiology crosses over to almost all health careers. This event reinforces classroom instruction in infection control, and helps HOSA members understand the bigger picture of how everything they are learning in health science relates to health and diseases in populations.

You can find the most current copy of the Epidemiology guidelines at <http://www.hosa.org/natorg/sectb/cat-ii/ep.pdf>



PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

This event is designed to encourage Health Science students to work as a team to plan and teach others about public health emergencies. It involves a team of 2-4 members who select a topic of public health concern and create an effective public health presentation to educate the public on the chosen topic. The topic for 2008-09 is Natural Disasters & Severe Weather.

The presentation can be up to 15 minutes long, and should effectively inform the public about public health emergencies when presented to mature adolescent and adult groups in the high school and community.

What makes this event different from other HOSA events is the freedom with which HOSA members can create their presentation. Yes – props, costumes, and creativity is encouraged, and teams should think out of the box when creating a presentation that can truly influence the public to be prepared to respond to natural disasters and severe weather.

Do not confuse this event format with other competitive events. This event is a presentation. Teams do not videotape anything, and they don't turn in notebooks or signed verification forms. Teams are judged entirely on their 15-minute presentation performance. The performance should be dynamic, engaging, entertaining, and substantive.

Go to <http://www.hosa.org/natorg/sectb/cat-ii/phe.pdf> and print out a copy of the event guidelines.