



ALASKA ASSOCIATION OF STUDENT GOVERNMENTS Student Council of Excellence Award

The Alaska Association of Students Governments encourages student councils in Alaska to be strong, active, and responsive.

THE ALASKA

STUDENT COUNCIL OF EXCELLENCE AWARD

honors schools with councils which meet high standards.

All councils demonstrating that they meet the criteria will be recognized at the Spring Conference and receive a trophy plaque for their school!

All Student Councils of Excellence will be inscribed on the AASG STUDENT COUNCIL OF EXCELLENCE PLAQUE, a fantastic honor for student councils in Alaska!

Applications and portfolios must be received on the first day of the Spring Conference no later than the end of Registration.

APPLICATION PROCESS

1. The application must be signed by the principal, student council advisor, and student council president.
2. All student councils that apply must have delegate(s) at the Spring Conference.
3. The application covers activities completed in the 4 semesters before the Conference.
4. Please email notification to Carol Waters, Executive Director, at ma2tna@acsalaska.net that you intend to apply for the Student Council of Excellence Award.
5. The application must be complete and organized to be considered.
6. The portfolio must show documentation for ALL activities in sections A and B; AT LEAST 4 activities in section C, and AT LEAST 5 activities in section D, AND the completed application and certification form.
7. Label all documentation with the correct category (eg. A1, B3) .
8. Use the rubric to check the completeness of your application.
9. Each activity or project may be submitted for only one category, unless you can show that it is effective in meeting more than one area (eg. RSVP implementation).
10. The AASG Committee will announce the Student Councils of Excellence on the last day of the Spring Conference.
11. Student Councils may apply yearly. However, if selected as a Student Council of Excellence, the student council must submit all previous years' portfolios to demonstrate that it has used different activities each year to justify the award in each year, and complete an essay.
12. If a student council is awarded the Excellence Award three years successively, the council will qualify for the Student Council of Excellence Pennant.

A. To be awarded the Student Council of Excellence award, a high school student council must answer ALL three ESSAY questions:

1. Describe what makes your council extraordinary.
2. Describe in detail how you work beyond the school to respond to the needs in the community, and the results of this effort.
3. Describe at least 2 strategies your council used to become more effective in responding to the needs in your school and what are the outcomes.

B. To earn the Student Council of Excellence award, a high school student council must show documentation of all of the following:

1. Membership in AASG for at least the last three years (Executive Director will verify);
2. By-laws or constitution that govern your student council;
3. Must have a designated advisor who participates with student council at meetings, and acts as a “coach” for student leadership;
4. Student council meetings held regularly. Copies of minutes for one meeting, with calendar of dates of meetings, and announcement of meetings;
5. Democratic election/selection process for officers;
6. Sample ballot for elections;
7. Internal communication with administration, student body, school board, teachers, and community on issues;
8. Financial Planning: Show this with a budget of an activity by your council;
9. Evaluation: Provide copy of evaluation tool, RSVP summit, or survey your council has used, including results and action plan.

C. To earn the Student Council of Excellence award, a high school student council must show documentation of at least 4 of the following no more than 4 semesters before the Spring Conference:

1. Attendance by student council members at two state conferences;
2. At least one person from school running for state or national student council office;
3. Workshop presentation at a district, region, or state meeting/conference;
4. Membership in NASC for the current year;
5. Completion of Raising Student Voice and Participation (RSVP) training.

D. To earn the Student Council of Excellence award, a high school student council must show documentation of at least 5 of the following:

1. Document RSVP Summits completed and the results, Civic Action Plan developed and completed in response to school needs;
2. Civic Engagement Activity (voter registration, mock election, candidate forum, working with local government or Native Association to complete a project, speaking on issues at board meeting) with need justified and outcomes;
3. School Service Project, with need justified and outcomes(non-income producing activity that benefits the school);
4. Community Service Project;
5. Teacher/staff Appreciation Activity, with outcomes;
6. Resolution presented at AASG Conference in response to identified school or community need, and resulting actions taken by your council.



Application
Alaska Association of Student Governments
Student Council of Excellence

School Name _____ School Phone _____
Address _____ City, Zip _____

Student Council President's name _____ E-mail _____

Advisor's Name _____ #yrs as advisor _____ E-mail _____
Principal's name _____ E-mail _____

Approximate year Council began _____
9-12th grade students in school _____ number of Council members _____ number of officers _____

Certification Statement

We certify that activities in this application were completed as stated. We agree that student council delegates will attend the Spring Conference.

Council President's signature _____ date _____

Principal signature _____ date _____

Advisor signature _____ date _____

Email notification required to Carol Waters, Executive Director, at ma2tna@acsalaska.net that the packet is being completed. The completed packet including portfolio and all documentation must be delivered at the Spring Conference no later than the end of Registration on the first day of the conference.

RUBRIC FOR STUDENT COUNCILS OF EXCELLENCE

You can use this rubric as you complete the portfolio.

The Student Councils of Excellence Committee will determine your status by using this rubric.

CATEGORY	POINTS AVAILABLE	POINTS AWARDED
A-1 Describe what makes your council extraordinary	20	
A-2 Describe how you work beyond the school....?	20	
A-3 Describe strategies your school has used to become more effective...?	20	
B-1 Membership in AASG for 3 years	5	
B-2 By-laws or constitution documented	5	
B-3 Designated advisor documented	5	
B-4 meetings regularly; copies of minutes for 1 mtg. ; calendar, announcement	5	
B-5 Democratic election documented, with sample ballot	5	
B-6 Sample Ballot	5	
B-7 Effective documentation of internal communication (adm., student body, sch board)	5	
B-8 Effective documentation of budget for activity	5	
B-9 Evaluation tool documented	5	
C: Effective documentation of 4 demonstrations of participation		
Demonstration of participation #1	5	
Demonstration of participation #2	5	
Demonstration of participation #3	5	
Demonstration of participation #4	5	
Bonus for 4 excellent participatory activities	10	
D: Effective documentation of 5 activities		
Documentation of activity #1	10	
Documentation of activity #2	10	
Documentation of activity #3	10	
Documentation of activity #4	10	
Documentation of activity #5	10	
Bonus for 5 excellent activities with need identified and with outcomes	15	
Application complete and certified with signatures	REQUIRED TO BE CONSIDERED	
TOTALS (must have at least 190 pts to be SCE)	200	
E: In order to be considered for consecutive years as SCE, you must include your previous years' portfolios to show that you are using different activities.	REQUIRED TO BE CONSIDERED	
F. Describe how your Council has demonstrated excellence to justify this award for the second/third year.	50	
TOTALS FOR SECOND AND THIRD CONSECUTIVE YEARS MUST BE AT LEAST 240 POINTS	250	