

STUDENT COUNCIL OF EXCELLENCE AWARD APPLICATION

The Alaska Association of Students Governments encourages student councils in Alaska to be strong, active, and responsive. The High School Student Council of Excellence Award honors schools with councils which meet high standards. All councils meeting the criteria will be recognized and honored at the Spring Conference! All Student Councils of Excellence will be inscribed on the AASG STUDENT COUNCIL OF EXCELLENCE PLAQUE, a fantastic honor for student councils in Alaska!

The awards will be announced at the Spring Conference, Applications must be postmarked/submitted no later than 1 week before the Conference or be delivered on the first day at the Spring Conference no later than the end of First GA.

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. The application must be complete and organized to be considered. The portfolio must show documentation for all activities in sections A and B; 3 activities in section C, and at least 5 in section D, as well as completed application and certification form. The rubric will help you check the completeness of your application.
5. Label all documentation with the correct category (eg. A1, B3)
6. Each activity or project may be submitted for only one category.
7. The application and documentation must be reproducible for committee use.
8. Student Councils must receive 190 of 200 possible points in order to earn the award.
9. The AASG Committee will announce the Student Councils of Excellence on the last day of the Spring Conference.
10. Student Councils may apply yearly. However, if selected as a Student Council of Excellence, they must use different activities each year to justify the next year's award.
11. If a student council is awarded the Excellence Award three years successively, the council will earn the Student Council of Excellence Pennant.
 - A. To be awarded the Student Council of Excellence award, a high school student council must answer the following four questions:
 1. What makes your council extraordinary?
 2. How do you work beyond the school to respond to the needs in the community?
 3. What strategies has your council used to become more effective in responding to the needs in your school?
 4. What outcomes is your council most proud of?
 - B. To earn the Student Council of Excellence award, a high school student council must show DOCUMENTATION of all of the following (5 points each):
 1. Membership in AASG for at least the last two years;
 2. By-laws and/or constitution that govern your student council;
 3. Must document that the council has a designated advisor who participates with student council at meetings and acts as a "coach" for student leadership;
 4. Student council meetings held regularly. Include minutes for one meeting, with calendar of dates of meetings, and public announcement of meetings;
 5. Documentation of democratic election/selection process for officers, including sample ballot and election results;
 6. Internal communication with administration, student body, school board, teachers, and community on issues;
 7. Financial Planning: Show this with a budget of an activity or your council;
 8. Evaluation: Provide copy of evaluation tool or survey your council has used, INCLUDING results of the survey, action plan, and steps completed.

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RUBRIC FOR STUDENT COUNCILS OF EXCELLENCE

This rubric is as follows. The categories will help you determine how to complete the application. The point system will be added.

CATEGORY	POINTS	POINTS
	AVAILABLE	AWARDED
A-1 What do you think makes your council extraordinary?	20	
A-2 How do you work beyond the school?	20	
A-3 What strategies have your school used to become more effective?	30	
A-4 What actions are you most proud of?	30	
B-1 Membership in AASG for 2 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, including sample ballot	5	
B-6 Documentation of internal communication (adm. , student body, school board)	5	
B-7 Documentation of budget for activity	5	
B-8 Evaluation tool documented	5	
C: documentation of 4 activities/actions		
1st	5	
2nd	5	
3rd	5	
4th	5	
D: documentation of 5 activities		
1st	10	
2nd	10	
3rd	10	
4th	10	
5th		
Bonus documents	10	
Application complete and certified with signatures	REQUIRED	
TOTALS	200	
To be awarded Student Council of Excellence, total must be		190

ALASKA ASSOCIATION OF STUDENT GOVERNMENTS

Executive Director: Denise Greene-Wilkinson, dgwk12@gmail.com
 4048 Laurel Street, Suite 203 • Anchorage, AK 99508 • (907) 563-3723 • Fax 561-0720 • www.aasg.org

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- 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 (5 points each):
 - 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;
 - 5. Completion of Raising Student Voice and Participation (RSVP) training by 50% of current student council members.
- D. To earn the Student Council of Excellence award, a high school student council must show DOCUMENTATION of at least 5 of the following (10 points each):
 - 1. RSVP Summits completed and 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);
 - 3. School Service Project (non-income producing activity that benefits the school);
 - 4. Community Service Project;
 - 5. Teacher/Staff Appreciation Activity;
 - 6. Resolution presented at AASG Conference addressing a school/community/statewide need.

Must be postmarked by no later than one week before start of Spring Conference or delivered to Registration on the first day of Spring Conference

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 _____

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