

Georgia Association of Student Councils
Council of Excellence Award Application-Middle School

Introduction

The purpose of the GASC Council of Excellence Award is to provide state-level recognition for student councils that maintain strong year-round programs. This award provides broader recognition for the most worthy efforts of GASC member schools. All councils meeting the determined criteria in this application will receive the appropriate award.

The following pages describe, in list format, the governance, activities, and services that a student council may accomplish. Because of the variances in school size and council structure it is *not* expected that individual councils will complete the entire list.

Eligibility

Schools applying for the GASC Council of Excellence Award must hold an active membership and have been a member of GASC for a minimum of 2 consecutive years, inclusive of the current year. For example, to receive the 2020-2021 award, a school must have been a GASC member for 2019-2020 and 2020-2021.

Regulations

1. The application must be signed by the school principal, student council advisor and president.
2. The application covers activities occurring convention to convention.
3. Type or print the application in a manner that is clear, legible and complete. The preferred font is Times New Roman, 12 pt. size. Follow the given guidelines for length and size of documentation.
4. Submit only the requested forms. No other items will be considered during the evaluation process. All submissions should be made on standard 8½ x 11” paper. Application must be bound by staple or in organized folder.
5. Schools that have grade configurations that include both middle and high school grade (i.e. grades 7-12, 8-12, 9-12, K-12, etc.) must submit the application for the high school level.
6. To be named a Georgia Council of Excellence, the student council must submit a completed application packet and meet a minimum of four criteria from Part II and six from Part III.

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Application Checklist

Please ensure that all parts of final application are included. This checklist provides the page numbers as well. Be sure to include all evidence directly behind each part as necessary.

Required Materials for Final Application (please provide final application packet in this order)

_____ School Information	<i>page 3</i>
_____ Part I: Required Items	<i>page 4</i>
_____ Evidence for <i>Part I: Required Items</i>	<i>*****</i>
_____ Part II: Nat'l, Reg, State, and Local Training	<i>page 5-6</i>
_____ Evidence for <i>Part II: Nat'l, Reg, State, and Local Training</i>	<i>*****</i>
_____ Part III: Local Activities	<i>page 7-10</i>
_____ Evidence for <i>Part III : Local Activities</i>	<i>*****</i>
_____ Calculation of Points and Statements of Validation	<i>page 11</i>

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School Information

School Name: _____ Grades served: _____

School Address: _____

School City/State/Zip: _____

School Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Principal Name: _____

E-mail: _____

Advisor Name: _____

E-mail: _____

Number of years as advisor _____ # of Co-Advisors _____

Current number of members in the student council: _____

Current number of elected members in the student council: _____

Are class officers considered a part of student council? _____

Are there council representatives in every homeroom at your school? _____

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Part I: Required Items

All items on this page must be presented to qualify for Council of Excellence. Description of necessary documentation is provided. Documentation should follow this checklist in final application packet. Please put all documentation items in order in which they are described in the checklist.

_____ The student council is a current member of the Georgia Association of Student Councils.

- Provide proof of current membership such as copy of invoice or any notification from any member of Executive Board indicating current membership.

_____ The student council has a written Constitution and/or Bylaws

- Provide written copy student council constitution and/or by-laws.

_____ The student council holds a minimum of one meeting each month during the school year and a copy of the meeting calendar is provided to members and appropriate administrators.

- Provide written copy of the student council calendar showing dates of meetings between January 1 and December 31, 2020. Please make sure calendar reflects any Executive Meetings as well.

_____ For meetings of the full council, an agenda is prepared and the secretary records minutes, which are made available to the student body in print or electronic format.

- Provide written copy of one meeting agenda and its minutes

_____ The student council holds annual and/or special elections that are structured on the democratic process.

- Provide written copy of election guidelines and a sample ballot.

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Part II: National, Regional, State, and Local Leadership Training & Involvement

Six items from pages five through seven must be presented to qualify for Council of Excellence. Description of necessary documentation is provided. Documentation should follow this checklist in final application packet.

Please put all documentation items in order in which they are described in the checklist.

_____ Attendance at any local or state student council association conferences or workshops such as District Rallies, Leadership Summits, or GASC Convention by a student delegation.

- Include evidence of attendance that includes event name and date.

_____ Running for or holding a regional or state office.

- Include proof of candidacy or office held.

_____ The student council provides leadership training for its members and/or student body. Examples include lock-in, pre-school workshop, winter or summer retreat.

- Include a copy of the agenda or schedule that includes the date, place and schedule of activities.

_____ Host or sponsor a leadership workshop or training session for student councils from local schools or school district. Examples include Fundays, pre-school workshop, winter or summer retreat.

- Include a copy of the agenda or schedule that includes the date, place, schedule of activities, and schools attending.

_____ The student council advisor leads a student leadership workshop presentation at a local, state, or regional meeting. Examples include workshops at Fundays or RSVP training

- Include evidence of making the presentation.

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Part II (cont)

_____ Advisor participates in a local, state or national conference or professional development that focuses on student leadership.

- Provide evidence of attendance.

_____ Advisor facilitates a professional development session or activity on student leadership for other advisors during a local, state or national conference, or workshop.

- Provide evidence facilitating a session or activity.

_____ Submission of an article for publication on a student council activity at your school for a local, state, or national publication.

- Include a copy of the article, when submitted and if published, date and name of publication.

_____ Host activities that promote the National Student Leadership Week.

- Include a 1/3 page (approx 150 words) description of activity or activities and the date(s) held.

_____ Attendance by student delegation at SASC Regional Conference.

- Include evidence of attendance.

_____ Attendance by student delegation at NASC National Conference or a LEAD Conference.

- Include evidence of attendance.

_____ Present a student workshop at the GASC Conference, SASC Conference, NASC National Conference, or a LEAD conference.

- Provide evidence of workshop presentation.

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Part II (cont.)

_____ Attendance by student delegation in GASC BLAST summer camp.

- Provide proof of program completion.

_____ Enter at least one completed Student Council project for an Outstanding Project Award.

- Provide first page of entry as evidence.

_____ Enter one participant into the Speech Competition.

- Provide a copy of student's speech as evidence.

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Part III: Local Activities

Six items on pages seven through nine must be presented to qualify for Council of Excellence. For each item, please include a short description of up to six lines, or approximately one hundred words, of text for each activity (space provided) or a flyer that was used for the event. Please put all outside documentation items in order in which they are described in the checklist.

_____ *Teacher/Staff Appreciation Activity:* Any project designed to celebrate the teachers/staff.

Name of Activity: _____

Description:

_____ *Student Recognition Activity:* Any project designed to recognize or award students for their achievements.

Name of Activity: _____

Description:

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Part III: Local Activities (cont.)

_____ *Civic Engagement Activity:* Any project designed to improve citizenship.

Name of Activity: _____

Description:

_____ *School Service Project:* Any non-income producing project designed for benefit of the school.

Name of Activity: _____

Description:

_____ *Community Service Project:* Any project designed to benefit the local, state or global community.

Name of Activity: _____

Description:

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Part III: Local Activities (cont.)

_____ *Council Fundraising Activity:* Any project designed to raise funds to support your StuCo's budget.

Name of Activity: _____

Description:

_____ *School Spirit Activity:* Any project designed to energize school spirit or improve school climate.

Name of Activity: _____

Description:

_____ An additional activity that falls into previous categories not already used. Use same criteria above.

Name of Activity: _____

Category: _____

Description:

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Part III: Local Activities (cont.)

_____ An additional activity that falls into previous categories not already used. Use criteria above.

Name of Activity: _____

Category: _____

Description:

Additional options for Part III

_____ Communication of School Issues: Provide evidence of communication with your student body, principal, faculty, or school board regarding school issues or council activities.

_____ Council goals. Provide a copy of the written student council goals including the date of creation

_____ Financial planning. Provide a one-page summary of a project or student council budget.

_____ Evaluation. Provide a copy of an evaluation form or a survey used by the student council.

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Calculation of Award

Please complete and check level of award earned.

Part I _____ / 5 items

Part II _____ / 6 items

Part III _____ / 6 items

_____ / 17 items

By initialing this line, we hereby affirm that we are eligible for the 2020-2021 Georgia Council of Excellence Award and our application is ready to be evaluated. _____ Date: _____

Statements of Validation:

As principal, my signature affirms that the student council officers and advisor(s) have presented me with evidence of their programs and activities, which I have evaluated and found to meet or exceed the standards required for the council to be named a Council of Excellence by the Georgia Association of Student Councils. Further, the Indicators met have been appropriately identified on the application.

Principal Signature: _____

Principal Name: _____

Date: _____

As advisor and council president, our signatures affirm that all information on this application is complete and correct, and that all evidence and information prepared and submitted for evaluation was accurate and complete.

Advisor Signature: _____

Advisor Name: _____

Date: _____

President Signature: _____

President Name: _____

Date: _____