# Student Convention Guidelines

*Where else can one week last a lifetime?*®

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# A.C.E. SCHOOL OF TOMORROW®
# STUDENT CONVENTION GUIDELINES
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*Dear Administrator,*

*A.C.E. fully supports the authority of the local church and does not ask or expect churches or Christian schools to adopt these guidelines as their ministry standard. Furthermore, such standards are not given to imply greater spirituality. It is our privilege to minister to a very diverse group of various denominations, each with particular distinctives. In an effort to show deference to those attending, A.C.E. has set specific standards for our Conventions. We respectfully ask that all sponsors and students maintain good Christian character and graciousness at all times, especially in adhering to and respecting the standards set forth in these guidelines. It's our privilege to serve you and the young people in your educational ministry!*

*In His service,*

*J. Duane Howard, CEO*
*A.C.E. School of Tomorrow*

## PURPOSE

The purpose of A.C.E. School of Tomorrow Student Conventions is to give Christian young people opportunities to develop leadership skills. God's Word states that Christian youth should not only be different from the world (Romans 12:1, 2) but should also set a standard of excellence!

Your students will grow and your school will benefit from participation in the Student Convention process. Preparation and competition will develop skills and attitudes that will prepare them for life.

## AWARDS

Recognition will be given to the top six places in each category. Awards are for contestants only. Sponsors, coaches, and directors do not receive awards. We will be awarding first-, second-, and third-place trophies to the schools that accumulate the most points for each division of academics, athletics, exhibits, music, and platform. Awards are presented in the evening rallies and the Awards Ceremony.
Note: Students must be in attendance to receive medals; no medals will be mailed.

## PREPARATION

Participation in Student Conventions should be the highlight of months of planning, drill, and practice. Principals and supervisors have a tremendous opportunity to teach character through careful goal setting and preparation for these Conventions. Awards are exciting, but they are not the main focus of Convention.

# HOW TO PREPARE

NOTE TO SCHOOL STAFF: It is suggested that you copy this page, along with the rules and judging criteria for the particular event, and distribute them to students preparing for Student Convention.

1. **Select Your Event**
   The A.C.E. Student Convention programs include many events in various divisions. Choose those events that will best develop your talents and gifts for Christian service. (Read Contestant Guidelines very carefully for proper selection.) Your parents and supervisors may also suggest new areas where they see potential in your life.
   **Note: All written entries, vocal entries, and oral performed entries must be in the English language. Any Bible quotes must be from the King James Version (not New King James Version). Christian Soldier, Christian Worker, Golden Apple, Golden Lamb, and Golden Harp entries may be memorized in a student's native language or translation of the Bible.**

2. **Plan and Schedule**
   Consider using an A.C.E. Goal Card to track your preparation. A wise man said, "Those who fail to plan, plan to fail."

3. **Get Input**
   When you have selected your event(s), seek the advice of Godly adults in your family and church who have expertise in your area. Also, consider contacting professionals in this area for input (photographer, music teacher, and so on).

4. **Practice**
   It is best to practice in a setting similar to actual competition. Consider asking for permission to practice before a group. Not only will this accustom you to performing before a group, it will help you test the effectiveness of your entry.

5. **Pray**
   As you prepare, pray that your performance will bring glory to the Lord. Also, pray that the Student Conventions will be a blessing to you and the others who attend. Pray that lives will be transformed and that many will commit their lives to service.

6. **Do Your Best**
   "Good, better, best, let's never rest, until our good is better, and our better is best."

7. **Have Confidence**
   Don't think that you can't do well in competition. What counts is your commitment to practice.