Memorandum

**DATE: 4/13/20**

**TO: Alabama HOSA Local Chapter Advisors**

**FROM: Becky Cornelius, AL HOSA State Advisor**

 **Dana Stringer, AL HOSA Sr State Advisor**

**SUBJECT: Announcement—2020 HOSA Virtual International Leadership Conference, June 24-27**

There will be several changes made with this year’s Virtual ILC regarding competitions, voting delegates, officer candidates and election, general sessions, etc.; therefore, please read all materials carefully. The changes will be for this year only! Let’s hope we never have a pandemic again anywhere in the world. Prevention is much easier and less painful.

**Conference Registration Information Update:** This year, HOSA’s “Virtual ILC” registration will be available either through a HOSA chapter advisor or individual member registration. An online credit card payment process will be available since a large percentage of schools are not open.

**National Geographic Learning Academic Testing Center (ATC):** HOSA members who did not compete at their State Leadership Conference or have ATC testing eligibility…. HOSA is making available the Academic Testing Center to any HOSA member for $10 a test. They do **NOT** have to register for the “Virtual ILC” to register for an ATC test. Those individuals only participating in the Academic Testing Center will need to register where appropriate and the testers will receiver appropriate registration information. HOSA members who did not qualify through the SLC to register for the ILC are eligible to take as many ATC tests as they want to take with each test being $10 each. Take 14 tests and the cost is $140. Take one test and the cost is $10.

Delegates registering for HOSA’s Virtual ILC will be allowed to take **2** **ATC** tests complimentary with their $40 registration fee. Any additional tests they wish to take in addition to the two ATC tests are $10 each. Instructions on how to add tests to the individual registration will be included in the registration information.

**Houston Hotel Reservations:** Reservations already made at one of the Houston properties will not automatically be canceled. Please be sure to cancel your reservations so you will not be charged.

Please plan to email a copy of your hotel cancellations to alabamahosa@alsde.edu as soon as possible so I can submit those to National

HOSA so they can double check that the hotel has canceled the block of reservations in particular.

**Other Travel Plans:** Make sure you have cancelled any flights or other special reservations related to traveling to Houston.

The Virtual ILC details will be forthcoming on HOSA’s website within the next couple of weeks – so please be sure to keep checking back to see the virtual competition guidelines revision; officer elections and voting delegate information;

registration process; educational symposium, exhibits, the ILC agenda, and more!

Some Virtual ILC Highlights:

1. A dynamic **Opening Session** to rebuild enthusiasm after several State Leadership Conferences were canceled and the expected attendance of 12,000 in Houston, Texas we expect to be reduced to 3,000-4,000 Virtual ILC delegates.  We are still renegotiating with the keynoter, Barbara Pierce Bush, who founded Global Health Corps.
2. A minimum of **20 workshops** to replace the 150 workshops we normally offer at the ILC. Handouts can be downloaded from the website.
3. Conduct **76 competitive events**.
4. Post recognitions in a separate online room so states, chapters, members and advisors can visit the **Recognition Room** to identify those receiving recognition.  (Normally, we conduct a Recognition Session with a keynoter.  Last year, the keynoter was the U.S. Surgeon General.)
5. A set of **Award Sessions** by competitive event categories.  Each Award Session will be approximately 30 minutes with sponsor ads sprinkled in each session.  HOSA secured $250,000 in various sponsorships and, hopefully, the Virtual ILC will be sufficient to keep from refunding all sponsorship funds.
6. A **Business Session** will be held for the Delegate Assembly culminating with a vote for the HOSA Service Project and election of the 2020-2021 Executive Council.
7. A **tribute** will be presented for the service of the 2019-2020 Executive Council who conducted the Washington Leadership Academy, represented HOSA at several State Leadership Conferences, and conducted the Virtual ILC as well as a tribute to all HOSA State Officer Teams.
8. Consideration will be given to time zones for daily starting and ending times.  International locations will be a challenge with Canada, China, Hawaii, etc.
9. The registration fee will be $40 per member.
10. The **HOSA, Inc. Corporate Meeting,** hosted by Jason Huff, Board Chair, will take place on **Thursday, June 25, 1:00-3:00 PM.**

*An AL HOSA virtual champ camp is still pending. We are wanting to see what National HOSA plans to implement as far as some of the skill events, as well as, to survey you all for your students’ ability to participate before we commit to planning a virtual champ camp.*

**Special thanks** to HOSA’s Executive Director, Jim Koeninger, and his staff for all the hours of negotiation they have put in to work with the convention center and hotels to cancel the live event and to reduce the financial burden for the organization. Also, to Jason Huff, Chairman of the HOSA, Inc. Board of Directors, and all members of the Executive Committee for the hours spent in conversation, collaboration and communication regarding the virtual conference versus canceling the ILC and the commitment made to the members of HOSA-Future Health Professionals to support the Virtual ILC.

Executive Committee members include: Jason Huff, Chair | Dana Stringer, Chair-Elect | Jim Scott, Secretary | Janet Villarreal, Immediate Past Chair | Vivian Do, President | Jake Kelley, President-Elect.

Don’t forget to put **HOSA’s Virtual International Leadership Conference, June 24-27, 2020** on your calendar! *We shall gather for the 1st Virtual ILC on June 24—and, in all due respect, we cannot afford a 2nd Virtual ILC!*

*There are CTSOs that chose to cancel their annual national conference and chose not to offer an Annual Virtual Conference. We are pleased that our Alabama students will be able to participate in at least a virtual conference, instead of nothing at all, since so many things have been taken from them in the last month.*

*We look forward to meeting you virtually very soon!*