Biomedical Debate

Arizona HOSA Event Guideline Supplement

Team Event: 3–4 competitors | At least 3 must speak

THIS EVENT HAS AN ONLINE QUALIFYING TEST
ANNUAL TOPIC — NO DIGITAL UPLOAD REQUIRED

Ask your advisor for testing details. See the official guidelines for the current annual topic.

This supplement is written exclusively for Arizona HOSA events.
Use this checklist with the official event guidelines and debate rubric.

Conference	Event Offered	Required Upload Deadline	Details at a Glance
Regional Leadership Conference (RLC)	NO	N/A	**Not applicable:** Qualify for SLC through the online test, then qualify at SLC for ILC.
Online Test	YES	None required	**Round 1:** Teammates test individually at school during the Arizona testing window. **Advancement:** Top-performing teams qualify for SLC. Results determine bracket placement.
State Leadership Conference (SLC)	YES	None required	**Round 2:** Debate the annual topic. Win matches to advance through the bracket. **Advancement:** Qualifying teams advance to ILC, as confirmed by Arizona HOSA.
International Leadership Conference (ILC / nationals)	YES	None required	**Round 1:** Complete the test. **Round 2:** Top-scoring teams advance to the debate tournament. See official guidelines for ILC procedures.

Required Documents and Materials

Bring to state and nationals. No documents need to be uploaded.

☐ Photo ID for EVERY teammate and nonmechanical #2 pencils with erasers. Optional: paper or index cards for taking notes.

☐ Prepared topic resources in HARD COPY only: folders or containers of notes, printed pages, books or bound materials. Props and additional visual aids are not allowed.

☐ Wear official HOSA uniform or proper business attire. All teammates must be appropriately dressed. Review the HOSA dress rules in Appendix D.

Forgot materials? Ask another chapter to share and report any unresolved supply problem to event staff.

Prepare for the annual topic

☐ Read the current annual topic and listed test references in the official guidelines. Prepare to argue BOTH sides: affirmative supports the statement; negative opposes it.

☐ Plan speaking roles so at least 3 teammates speak. Practice each 2-minute section and the 30-second transitions. Do not bring a personal timing device.

Complete the online test

☐ Ask your advisor to register your team and arrange an approved proctor. Schedule the computer test at school within the published Arizona HOSA testing window.

☐ All teammates test individually at the SAME time, with NO communication. Each takes a 50-question multiple-choice test with 60 minutes from pressing Start. Only registered proctors receive access information.

☐ Your advisor receives qualifying results. If your team qualifies, register for SLC. Otherwise, choose another SLC event with your advisor. Missing the online test means your team cannot qualify for the state debate tournament.

Proctors cannot be current HOSA advisors for any chapter. Before receiving testing access, they must be registered as proctors and submit the signed confidentiality agreement to Arizona HOSA.

Check in and debate at state

☐ Arrive at the EVENT ROOM at the START of the posted event time frame. Check in, show every teammate's photo ID, and receive your appointment time. All teams, including alternates, must remain in the holding room until called.

☐ Be on time. A team more than 5 minutes late to its debate appointment forfeits its right to compete. Check the posted bracket; it is based on online test results. Higher-ranked teams may receive a first-round bye if the bracket is uneven.

☐ Draw affirmative or negative when you enter the competition room. Be ready to begin; the current official guidelines provide NO separate preparation period after the draw.

Follow the debate order

Each section lasts 2 minutes. Allow 30 seconds between sections for strategy discussion and judging.

Order	Speaker	Purpose
1	First Affirmative	Present arguments supporting the topic.
2	First Negative	Respond to the affirmative arguments.
3	Second Negative	Present arguments opposing the topic.
4	Second Affirmative	Respond to the negative arguments.
5	Negative Summary or Rebuttal	Present the negative conclusion.
6	Affirmative Summary or Rebuttal	Present the affirmative conclusion.

A team may start its section early, but receives no extra speaking time. Unused time does not reduce the other team's allowance. No advance time warnings are given; stop immediately when time is called.

☐ You may quietly discuss and write notes throughout the debate. Stay professional and do not distract the other team. Winning teams return to the holding room and must not communicate with other teams.

How scores and advancement work

The online test qualifies your team and determines bracket placement; it is NOT added to your final debate score. Debate winners advance through the bracket. With 4 teams left, semifinal winners play for 1st and 2nd; semifinal losers play for 3rd and 4th.

Arizona HOSA confirms which state teams qualify for ILC. Secondary and postsecondary teams are ranked separately. SLC scores do not carry over to ILC. Complete the event survey when dismissed.

Official guidelines and debate rubric

HOSA event guidelines — select Biomedical Debate under Teamwork Events for the current topic, references, timing rules and rubric.

Your advisor can find testing details on the Arizona HOSA Online Testing webpage and the testing window on the Arizona HOSA Calendar of Events.