

SCASC Project Awards Information 2025-2026

Entry Instructions

Purpose: In order to meet several worthy objectives, the South Carolina Association of Student Councils sponsors a comprehensive awards program for its member schools on an annual basis.

Objectives:

To provide lasting incentives for councils to strive toward excellence in programming throughout the year.

To emphasize areas of concern to councils in the region and to suggest programs in pursuit of solutions to problems within those common areas.

To recognize and reward councils as well as individuals who achieve excellence in execution of relevant student council programs.

Awards: In pursuit of the objectives listed above, awards program entries are submitted online or brought to the SCASC Conference by member schools for judging.

Contest Entry Rules:

1. Entries in the SCASC Awards Priority areas are to be submitted through an online google form. Projects in the non-priority area should be brought to the annual conference and submitted **prior to the end of registration on the first day of the conference**. (Member schools not attending the conference may upload priority projects via the google form and send non-priority projects to the conference school to be judged.)

2. A school may **enter up to three (3) priority area projects** for the Outstanding Project Competition.

No more than ONE project may be entered per category; the same project may NOT be entered in more than ONE category. Projects are eligible only if they were completed since the previous year's conference and if the same project has not won (first place) in either of the two previous years in that category.

3. Priority Area Projects should be limited to ONE 8.5 x 11 page document. The entry should be typed and submitted in **pdf format** and uploaded to the correct category based on school classification. If you wish to include pictures as part of the explanation of your project entry, pictures may be scanned/uploaded **and included within** the typed one page document. Projects should not be more than ONE page once saved as a pdf.

Project write-ups should include the following:

- a. Dates of Project
- b. Goal/Purpose
- c. Impact
- d. Reflection

Projects should include a **header** with the following:

- a. School Name & Classification (1A, 2A, 3A, 4A, 5A or Middle/ Junior High)
- b. Project Category
- c. Project Name

4. Non-Priority Project entries **MUST** be submitted using the criteria below.

5. A Gold, Silver and Bronze Award or a Certificate will be awarded to schools in each category in priority projects and are separated into Class A units **(1A/2A/3A, 4A, and 5A)** and Middle/Jr High level. Non- Priority projects are judged collectively.

6. Please read the instructions carefully and completely. Any entry not prepared according to the rules will be disqualified. The decision of the judges is final. All awards will be presented at the banquet of the annual conference.

Priority Area Projects will be judged by current Advisors. Advisors will not be allowed to judge in a category they entered a project in.

Judging:

Judging of the Awards Competition will take place at the SCASC Conference each year. Any school submitting an entry must provide an advisor to judge if asked to do so.

7. Priority Area Projects should be submitted via the Google Form by 11:59PM the Friday before the annual conference begins. All late entries will not be accepted. **DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION IS FRIDAY, MARCH 6TH.**

Priority Areas for Outstanding Projects

*** All projects must be implemented by student council**

Community Service Fundraising Projects: projects that raise money that is donated to charities and/or community organizations--i.e. Projects that donate funds to specific charities such as Make-A-Wish, the Red Cross, The United Way, etc.; projects that send money for disaster relief; projects that supply money to buy goods/services that help people in need, etc.

Community Service Outreach Projects: projects in which your council performs a service for an organization or a group--i.e. Hosting a prom for senior citizens; hosting a party for a daycare center; sponsoring a food drive, coat drive; school supply drive, etc. and donating the goods to an organization or charity; sponsoring a blood drive; having council members volunteer to help in Special Olympics event; having council members participating in a Make-A-Wish granting ceremony; Relay for Life event, etc.

Leadership activities: projects related to leadership training and the development of the council. (Leadership conferences and training, etc.)

Recognition: projects associated with faculty, administration, support staff, parent groups, clubs and classes or other groups/students within your school. (Ex. scholarship recipients, awards, special recognitions, awards dinners/breakfasts)

Recreational activities: projects that are related to school enjoyment (Ex. Dodgeball Tournament, dances)

School service: projects that benefit the school and the entire student body/faculty/staff (Ex. campus beautification, purchase of equipment, creating school handbooks, career seminars, college days, etc.)

School pride/school spirit: projects that promote positive school culture and improve the school environment (Ex. Spirit Weeks, Pep Rallies, Student art showcases, school branding events, celebrating school's history, etc.)

Fundraising Projects: projects relating to collecting money to benefit the council and used for your council's budget. These projects do not pertain to the community. (Project must be done by student council, not an outside agency)

Homecoming Projects: projects associated with the celebration of Homecoming. This includes projects both at school and in the community.

******Remember you are limited to ONE entry in three of the above categories.**

Non-Priority Areas for Outstanding Projects

Poster:

- The Poster MUST reflect the Conference theme "The Leadership Games."
- Poster should be made or cut from poster, "16 x 20" only in either colored or white poster board.
- NO FOAM core type posters.
- Poster can be cut in ANY shape.
- Decorate as desired, making sure all three dimensional items, if used, are securely attached.
- The use of three dimensional items is optional.
- School name, classification should be written on the top left of the back of poster
- Judging will be based on originality of theme, creativity, neatness and visual appeal

Photography Contest:

2 Divisions:

Division A: photos submitted without any computer enhancement or altering

Division B: photos submitted with enhancements and alterations

- a. Photographs should be centered around the conference theme "The Leadership Games".
- b. Photographs must be 8x10 inches in size.
- c. Photographs may be in color or black and white.
- d. Photographs must be the student's original work.
- e. Only one photograph per division is allowed per school.
- f. Permission must be obtained from parents of any person included in the picture who is under the age of 18.
- g. School name, school classification, artist name and division (A or B) should be written on the top left of the back of the photo.
- h. Judging will be based on creativity of theme, visual appeal and photographic worth.

Video Project:

- a. Video of a student council event that falls under ONE of the priority area categories (no more than four minutes).
- b. Please be sure to include the following in your video at the beginning:
 - i. School Name & Classification (1A, 2A, 3A, 4A, 5A or Middle/ Junior High)
 - ii. Project Category
 - iii. Project Name
- c. Video should include the following:
 - i. Dates of Project
 - ii. Goal/Purpose
 - iii. Impact
 - iv. Reflection
- d. Produced by the student council- not an outside agency or media class within the school.
- e. MP4 Format
- f. **Bring a copy of the video on a flash drive to turn in at the time of registration.**

**** Remember all Non-Priority Projects should be brought to the annual state conference and turned in by the end of registration.**

Scrapbook Award:

- a. Scrapbooks will be judged using the following classifications. Middle/Junior High, 1A/2A/3A, and 4A/5A
- b. Scrapbooks can be in the following format:
 - i. Digital: A printed scrapbook made using a digital scrapbook site such as Shutterfly, etc.
 - ii. Homemade: Printing out pictures, layout and adding captions and write-ups.
- c. **Scrapbooks must be turned in during registration at the state convention.**
- d. Schools not attending the convention may send scrapbooks to the host school. Scrapbooks must arrive at the school before the beginning of convention registration.
- e. A copy of the scrapbook project rubric is located on the SCASC website under the awards category. www.thegavel.org. Be sure to follow the scrapbook rubric guidelines.