



Maryland Association of Student Councils

September 2024



Dear Maryland Student Leaders and Advisors,

To kick off the 2024-2025 school year, the Maryland Association of Student Councils (MASC) will host its first major in-person conference of the year – **Fall Leadership Conference (FLC)** highlighting our “Olympics of Leadership” theme. The conference is on **Saturday, November 23, 2024, at Havre De Grace Middle High School in Harford County**. Secondary students from across the state will attend multiple workshops, activities and general sessions. Through attending, students will be able to work on developing and honing invaluable leadership skills to bring back to their schools and counties while meeting many other student leaders across Maryland.

The **middle school component** of FLC is designed to help our younger student leaders explore their abilities and engage their potential to serve, inspire, and lead those around them. As participants in this conference, delegates will be given the opportunity to undergo a series of three interactive workshops – Parliamentary Procedure (a middle school-friendly review of Parliamentary Procedure, the organizational system MASC uses during our meetings), Operation Speak Out, and Going Gold for SGA. In addition to workshops, middle schoolers will participate in a mock general assembly to practice introducing legislation, debating, and voting. Lastly, middle schoolers will have the opportunity to both discuss things their student councils are working on in our idea-sharing sessions and network with their peers across the state during our Get to Know You Activities!

The high school portion varies slightly from the middle school portion of FLC. High school delegates will experience a series of three interactive workshops designed by their peers specifically for Maryland’s high school leaders. Workshop topics change from year to year and are based on ideas submitted by high school students around the state and MASC alumni. Previous topics have included advocacy, diversity, school spirit, community service, environmental awareness, or other unique topics that workshop presenters wish to share with our students. High school delegates will also get the chance to participate in a new addition to the conference called MASC’s Project Playbook. This will allow students to learn and participate in various activities that they can bring directly back to their schools. Finally, they will engage with fellow students in round table discussions centering around Maryland’s Blueprint and the Accountability and Implementation Board (AIB).

Something that is unique to MASC is that most workshops are written and facilitated **for the students, by the students**. We believe that peer-to-peer teaching is a great technique used in student leadership that allows everyone involved to make the most of their experience at FLC and MASC’s other conferences. Throughout the day, delegates and advisors may network with hundreds of other student leaders from across the state.

To cover the expense of conference materials and contracts, facilities, food for the attendees, the registration fee is \$30 per delegate and advisor (\$25 for appointed workshop presenters – information will be sent to school advisors). Registration materials, emergency forms, and other conference details can be found on the MASC website: <https://mdstudentcouncils.org/index.php/fall-leadership-conference/>

Registration for FLC opens Monday, October 28, 2024, and closes at 11:59 PM on Friday, November 15, 2024. Only a school advisor or administrator can register a school delegation for this conference.

We hope to see your school this November as we work together to provide the students of Maryland with the opportunity to see their leadership skills flourish.

All the best,

Shradha Bista
MASC President