FELIX SIMON MIDDLE SCHOOL AWARD FOR LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE 2026-2027

One purpose of the Maryland Association of Student Councils (MASC) is to encourage and assist member schools in developing their student council organizations. For this reason, your school's student council is invited to apply for the Felix Simon Award for Leadership and Service. This is NOT a competition among councils, but rather a set of criteria for all school student councils to use to enhance leadership, service, and student empowerment within their schools. This award is only open to MASC member schools.

> The mission of MASC is to foster a statewide environment for all secondary school students to express and exchange ideas, develop leadership skills, and promote student representation and involvement in all groups and organizations impacting the lives of students.

Objective of the Felix Simon Award: To allow student council officers, members, and their advisors to evaluate their council against a shared set of standards and create an opportunity for student councils to be recognized for their effectiveness

On the following pages, a list of criteria with possible points is indicated. Each student council will decide which criteria it has met and how many points to list for each criterion. Please note that many items specifically indicate the current school year, but all other items and activities held between February 16, 2026, and March 8, 2027 can count toward this Felix Simon Application.

Your student council will need to complete information on the following items:

- All information completed
- Links listed for specific items requiring documentation
- Link to a letter of verification and support from the school student council president, the student council advisor, and the school principal
- MASC also encourages each school to produce a two- to three-minute video clip summarizing your student government program that could be used at the awards ceremony. At a minimum, please link and identify a picture to be used at the awards ceremony.

Applications must be submitted online before 5:00 p.m., Monday, March 8, 2027
Application link: https://forms.gle/NgeKXXFwXtKw6THo6

Submission is via a Google Form. Schools will be able to type directly into a copy of this application document and link it and all signed letters and other documents as required. Supporting documents should be titled with the section identification (i.e. II.A.1 Constitution)

Awards will be presented to student councils achieving a total number of points equal to the standards set by the MASC Executive Team

A minimum of 75% of the total points must be earned by a school with a population of 550 or less, and 80% of the total points by a school with a population of 551+ in order to be eligible. The awards committee, which will decide the award recipients, will then verify eligible schools' applications.

(*If you are a private/charter school that is not allowed to join a regional student council or there is no county-level organization, please indicate that here. There would then be a total possible 155 points [Skipping section II, C – Regional Activities]. There is only an eight-point difference covered in Section II-C (Region).

Felix Simon Award Recipients*

1991-92	Calvert Middle School, Calvert County
1994-95	Fallston Middle School, Harford County
1996-97	Redland Middle School, Montgomery County
	Severn River Middle School, Anne Arundel County
1997-98	Central Middle School, Anne Arundel County
	Summit School, Anne Arundel County
1998-99	Northern Middle School, Washington County
	Fallston Middle School, Harford County
1999-00	Aberdeen Middle School, Harford County
	Annapolis Middle School, Anne Arundel County
	Eastern Middle School, Montgomery County
	Holabird Middle School, Baltimore County
	Magothy River Middle School, Anne Arundel County
	Severn River Middle School, Anne Arundel County
	Snow Hill Middle School, Worcester County
2000-01	West Middle School, Carroll County
	Redland Middle School, Montgomery County
2001-02	Montgomery Village MS, Montgomery County
	Rock Hall Middle School, Kent County
2002-03	Snow Hill Middle School, Worcester County
	Severn River Middle School, Anne Arundel County
	Esperanza Middle School, St. Mary's County
2003-04	Centreville Middle School, Queen Anne's County
	Matthew Henson Middle School, Charles County
2004-05	Mattawoman Middle School, Charles County
2005-06	Severn River Middle School, Anne Arundel County
	Burleigh Manor Middle School, Howard County
	Rock Hall Middle School, Kent County
2006-07	Chesapeake Bay Middle School, Anne Arundel County
2007-08	No Submissions
2008-09	Argyle Middle School, Montgomery County
2009-10	Westminster West Middle School, Carroll County
2010-11	Chesapeake Bay Middle School, Anne Arundel County
2011-12	Burleigh Manor Middle School, Howard County
2012-13	Thurmont Middle School, Frederick County
2015-16	Clemente Middle School, Montgomery County
	Northern Middle School, Calvert County
2016-17	No Submissions
2017-18	Benjamin Tasker Middle School, Prince George's County
	Perry Hall Middle School, Baltimore County
2018-19	Thurmont Middle School, Frederick County
2019-20	Plum Point Middle School, Calvert County
	Southern Middle School, Calvert County
2020-21	Lindale Middle School, Anne Arundel County
2022-23	Northern Middle School, Calvert County
	Southern Middle School, Calvert County
2023-24	Plum Point Middle School, Calvert County
2024-25	Urbana Middle School, Frederick County
	Windy Hill Middle School, Calvert County

*Please Note: Schools must be a MASC member to apply.

Recipients of the Felix Simon Middle School Award for Leadership and Service are eligible to reapply for this award three years following the receipt of the award.

FELIX SIMON MIDDLE SCHOOL AWARD FOR LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE

2026-2027 *(for MASC member schools)*

Events between February 16, 2026 - March 8, 2027

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS FOR PLANNING PURPOSES. THE AWARD APPLICATION MUST BE SUBMITTED ONLINE. **Application link: https://forms.gle/NgeKXXFwXtKw6THo6**

Basic Information:
Schools will be asked to complete basic information about their school, advisor, principal, etc.

A signed letter verifying the content of the application and supporting documents is also required from each of the following:

- Student council president
- School advisor
- School principal

Organizational Involvement
This section will ask about your school's involvement at the national, state, and regional levels.

The regional advisor will need to provide a signed letter addressing the school's involvement at the Regional level.

- See specific items listed in II. Organizational Involvement C. Regional

FOR THE APPLICATION, PAY ATTENTION TO ITEMS REQUIRING DOCUMENTATION THAT NEEDS TO BE UPLOADED TO THE SCHOOL'S DESIGNATED GOOGLE FOLDER OR DROPBOX.

- All items that ask for proof must be uploaded or included in this application to receive the points.
- Pay attention to items that need your review, description, and/or certification in a letter uploaded to the application.

It is recommended that schools upload this document to a student council folder to allow several students and the advisor to gather information, save required documentation, and type in this application where requested. "Save-As" this application and call it *"School Name MS – Region – Felix Simon App."* Create folders for each section of the Application (Sections I – V). Documents should be titled with the section identification (i.e. II.A.1 Constitution) or other specified criteria (i.e. I - Principal letter).

Be sure that MASC would be able to have access to the folder (***not restricted to school/school system***). If need be, create a free student council Gmail account and get 15 GB free storage on the Google drive for the account.

Submission of this application is via a Google form. Schools will complete the basic information, then type in the URL of the folder where the application and documentation are saved.

Please ask if you have any questions!

- Supporting documents or descriptions must be clearly explained or uploaded for each category in which your school earns points.

Feel free to contact Mrs. Karen Crawford (Karen.Crawford@mdstudentcouncils.org) if you have any questions about the award application.

Schools may type directly on a copy of this application to be used in completing the Google Form with the same information. In other words, this is a good draft to complete before starting the actual Google Form, which is the official application.

I. Basic Information

A. MASC Region/County	
B. School Name	
C. School Mailing Address	
D. Public School/Private School	***Public School***
E. School Population Amount	
F. Advisor's Name	
G. Advisor's Email	
H. Principal's Name	
I. Principal's Email	

J. A signed letter of verification of the content of the application and support is also required from each of the following:

- ☐ Student Council President– upload letter *(save document as "President Letter")*
- ☐ Student Council Advisor– upload letter *(save document as "Advisor Letter")*
- ☐ School Principal– upload letter *(save document as "Principal Letter")*

SECTION I – Must be completed for the application to be considered

II. Organizational Involvement (Please include the following as

Name of Organizational Involvement	*Points*	*What you need to upload*
B. National Membership		
2026-2027 National Association of Student Councils (NASC) Membership	5 pts	☐ Upload certificate/letter of membership
B. State Membership		
2026-2027 MASC Membership	5 pts	☐ No upload required
March 2026 MASC Convention attendance	1 pt per person, 3 pts max	☐ Provide names
November 2026 MASC Fall Leadership Conference attendance	1 pt per person, 3 pts max	☐ Provide name(s)
January 2027 MASC Legislative Session attendance	1 pt per person, 3 pts max.	☐ Provide names
Student workshop presenter for a MASC conference (Convention 2026, November 2026 Fall Leadership Conference, Legislative Session 2026)	1 pt per person, 3 pts max	☐ Provide names and conference (Each student can only be listed for one event)
2026 Summer Leadership Workshop attendance	1 pt per person, 2 max	☐ Please indicate which program: Maryland Leadership Workshops or other leadership programs such as Boys State, HOBY, etc. – ☐ Provide names and a short statement on their most important "takeaway" from the experience.

C. Regional: Please <u>have the regional advisor submit a signed letter addressing each of the areas below</u> as it pertains specifically to your school's participation. If any of these items do not pertain to your region (membership, leadership training, general assemblies, etc.), then the regional advisor must include specific language to address the specific point in the letter. Points would then be awarded.		
2026-2027 Membership in your regional student council organization	4 pts	☐ Upload Regional Advisor Letter
Regional Leadership Training Activity attendance	1 pt	☐ Name(s) provided in letter
School delegation attendance at <u>every</u> Regional General Assembly (Feb. 17, 2026 - March 8, 2027)	2 pts	☐ Name(s) provided in letter
Regional Executive Board or Committee Members	1 pt	☐ Name(s) provided in letter
SECTION II TOTAL (32 POINTS MAXIMUM) **24 points for any private or charter school IF the regional student council does not include private or charter schools in the organization or there is no county-level organization (Section II, C – Regional Activities)*		

III. Council Organization

Category/Item	Points	Documentation/Requirement/Links
A. Structure of the Organization		
Constitution - Written copy	5	☐ Upload constitution
Constitution - Revision or review within last 4 years	3	☐ Describe the constitutional revision or review process used.
Meetings - Scheduled regularly	4	☐ Upload calendar
Meetings - Copies of agendas provided	3	☐ Upload at least two copies of agendas from different meetings
Meetings - Run by a student or students	2	☐ Describe student leadership roles in meetings.
Representation - List of leaders distributed	2	☐ Upload list and <u>describe</u> how it is shared
Representation - Written election/appointment procedures	2	☐ Upload documentation

Category/Item	Points	Documentation/Requirement/Links
Committees - Solicitation of participation	3	☐ Explain the process used to solicit student participation.
Committees - Formation process and activity	3	☐ Describe formation, frequency of meetings, and types of activities.
B. Communication		
Process for receiving student input	5	☐ Explain processes used, how input affects the council, and how it is used.
Process for receiving faculty input	2	☐ Explain processes used, how input affects the council, and how it is used.
Outreach - Designated area for council postings	4	☐ Link to folder of pictures of designated area(s)
Outreach - Regular reports to student body	6	☐ Explain process for reporting to students and faculty.
Outreach - Regular updates to admin and faculty	5	☐ Explain communication process with administration and faculty.
Outreach - Liaisons to other student organizations	2	☐ Explain which organizations and how; upload documentation if available.
C. Process of the Organization		
Goal Setting - Established goals for 2026-2027	4	☐ Upload documentation
Goal Setting - Established process	4	☐ Explain process, involvement, and implementation.
Improvement - Formal self-evaluation process	5	☐ Explain process; upload documentation if available.
Improvement - Evaluation results used for future	5	☐ Explain how evaluations are used to improve future projects.
Orientation - Candidates for office	2	☐ Upload flyer, agenda, etc.
Orientation - Newly elected officers session	3	☐ Upload flyer, agenda, etc.

Category/Item	Points	Documentation/Requirement/Links
Orientation - Written resources provided	2	☐ Upload documentation (job descriptions, expectations, calendar, etc.)
SECTION III TOTAL (76 POINTS MAXIMUM)		

III. Activities

Activity Category	Points (Max 5 pts each)	Documentation/Requirement/Links *Describe the event and impact on school/community. Link documentation if available*
School Service	5	☐
Community Service	5	☐
School Spirit Activities	5	☐
Fundraising Activities	5	☐
Activities to Recognize Students and Members of the School Community	5	☐
Leadership Activities	5	☐
Environmental Activities	5	☐
Health/Wellness Awareness Activities	5	☐
Student Advocacy Activities	5	☐
Educational Awareness Activities	5	☐
Additional Activities to Accomplish the Student Council's Goals	5	☐

SECTION IV TOTAL (55 Points Maximum)

TOTAL POSSIBLE POINTS – 163 POINTS

A minimum of 75% of the total points must be earned by a school of 550 or fewer population (122 points) and 80% of the total points by a school of 551+ population (130 points) to be eligible. The awards committee, which will decide the award recipients, will then verify eligible schools' applications.

***155 points for any private or charter school IF the regional student council does not include private or charter schools in the organization or there is no county-level organization** (Section II, C – Regional Activities). *A minimum of 75% of the total points (116 points) must be earned by a school with a population of 550 or fewer, and 80% (124 points) of the total points by a school with a population of 551+ to be eligible. The awards committee, which will decide the award recipients, will then verify eligible schools' applications.*

REMINDER: **Online application and documents uploaded must be completed on or before 5:00 p.m., March 8, 2027**