

WISCONSIN PAGES



WISCONSIN
BUSINESS
PROFESSIONALS
of AMERICA

Giving Purpose to Potential

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Business Professionals of America
**2021 Wisconsin State
Leadership Conference**

A large, stylized eagle graphic with wings spread, rendered in a gradient of gold and blue. The eagle is the central focus of the conference poster.

The BPPA Wisconsin logo, consisting of the stylized 'bpa' letters inside a circle, with 'WISCONSIN' written below it. There are two such logos, one on the left and one on the right.

Conquering Our Challenges

Important WI BPA 2021 SLC Information

*The 2021 Wisconsin State Leadership
Conference will be VIRTUAL!*

Students, please connect with your BPA Chapter Advisor to register for SLC. All testing will happen online and Judged events will be held via Zoom. There will be some great virtual events and activities for you to participate in.

- ***Virtual Opening Session & Awards Ceremony***
- ***Virtual Torch Award Points (TAP) Fair***
- ***Free Microsoft Certiport Certification Testing - open to both students and Alumni members!***
- ***Virtual BPA Cares Activities***
- ***Virtual Social Event***
- ***Virtual Breakout Sessions***
- ***Much, much more!***

Check out the event listings for new events this year:

<https://bpa.org/students/compete/competitive-event-listing/>



ARE YOU READY TO ANSWER THE CALL TO LEADERSHIP?



We are seeking candidates to run for next year's State Officer Team!

Are you ready to take the next step in your Business Professionals of America (BPA) journey? Are you dependable, and ready to help Wisconsin BPA grow to a new level along with yourself? Then run for a position on the WI State Officer Team!

Wisconsin State Officers are members of the "Executive Board", and work closely with their Advisors, the State Officer Coordinator, and State Director in the planning of the Fall and State Leadership Conferences as well as deciding the direction of the organization. More information can be found throughout this newsletter, as well as our February edition.

Please contact a member of the State Officer Team for additional information or if you have questions. Applications are located at the link listed below and are due on Monday, February 15, 2021 by 11:59 p.m. CST.

<https://forms.gle/2YmndojKcQJ3U4ov7>

Good luck to all our candidates and best wishes for a successful campaign!



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WISCONSIN STATE OFFICER CANDIDATE RULES AND REGULATIONS

Eligibility

In order to run for a position on the Executive Board, the applicant must:

- Be a current paid member of the Local, State, and National Associations
- Have at least a 2.5 cumulative grade point average in his/her program and must be enrolled in a minimum of 6 credit hours for the school year and it is expected that a minimum of 6 credit hours would be maintained during the term of the WI State Officer position
- Submit complete Wisconsin BPA State Officer application materials
- Attend a Candidate Orientation at the Wisconsin State Leadership Conference (if running at state)
- Be prepared to present a campaign speech and participate in the Candidate Forum at the General Session of the conference and answer questions from the current officers

Campaign Regulations

Candidates, chapter members, and chapter advisors must follow all campaign regulations. Failure may result in disqualification of the candidate.

Official Starting Time:

- Campaigning may begin immediately at the beginning of the conference

Campaign Materials:

- General Guidelines
 - Campaign speech may not contain reference to a specific Executive Board position
 - Promotional materials (pens, brochures, food products, etc.) are not permitted
 - Hospitality rooms are not permitted
 - The candidate may submit one promotional flyer and/or bio to the State Director twenty-four (24) hours prior to the beginning of the conference for Executive Board approval, to be posted at the conference
 - If the candidate is in doubt about what is allowed, contact the State Director
 - Candidates are encouraged to network with students throughout the conference

Candidate Attire/Behavior

- Candidates are to dress professionally per the BPA Dress Code for all conference activities unless otherwise noted (Casual dress is appropriate for dances, alumni-sponsored activities, and free time)
- Ensure your behavior is appropriate to an officer of our organization, the voting delegates have been instructed to watch your actions carefully

Candidate Seating (specific to SLC)

- All candidates will be seated in the designated reserved section
- All candidates must be seated at least five (5) minutes prior to the start of sessions

Candidate Speech

- The speech may not contain any reference to a specific Executive Board position
- The speech is timed and limited to two (2) minutes
- Candidates will be given a time warning when one (1) minute remains
- Candidates who exceed two (2) minutes will be stopped
- The candidate may use note cards or printed speech
- Nominations, introductions, visual aids, and demonstrations are not allowed

Candidates' Forum

- The candidates' forum will be during the General Session at the State Leadership Conference or during the beginning of the BPA Business Meeting at the Fall Leadership Conference
- Each candidate will answer two (2) questions, one from each of the following categories:

BPA Questions

- What qualifications do you have to serve on the Executive Board?
- What do you hope to contribute to the State Association?
- Why did you initially join Business Professionals of America?
- What impresses you the most about our organization?
- Tell us how you prepared to run for this position on the Executive Board.
- What are your goals for Business Professionals of America?
- What do you hope to gain by being a member of Business Professionals of America?
- Special Olympics is our nationally recognized service project, what ideas do you have to increase awareness and support for their organization?

General Questions

- Tell us your definition of a business professional.
- Why do you wish to be an officer?
- What is your greatest strength as a leader?
- What is your greatest weakness, and what steps have you taken to overcome it?
- Tell us about a time when you had to work with others to accomplish a goal?
- Tell us about a time you had to step out of your comfort zone?
- How do you plan to handle school, work, family, and an officer position?
- What are your career goals after you graduate?

2021 Mike Tokheim Scholarship



Apply for the Mike Tokheim Scholarship [Click HERE](https://forms.gle/LZzbcxbQfw3k9JMu5)

<https://forms.gle/LZzbcxbQfw3k9JMu5>

We will be awarding four (4) scholarships in the amount of \$200 each!

What is the Mike Tokheim Scholarship?

This scholarship has been established by the Business Professionals of America Wisconsin Association State Officers to recognize outstanding members in our organization. The recipients of these scholarships will exemplify the core values of Business Professionals of America: leadership, service, and extraordinary involvement. There will be a maximum of 4 awards given during Wisconsin SLC in the amount of at least \$200 each.

Requirements

To be eligible for this award, applicants must meet the following requirements:

- A member in good standing with the organization
- Minimum cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale
- Applications must be completed and submitted by the assigned deadline

NOTE: Advisors and Alumni are not eligible for this scholarship.

Instructions

All applicants must complete the Mike Tokheim application form **NO LATER THAN** the 15th of February at 11:59 p.m. Applications received after this time will not be considered.

Recipients will be announced during the 2021 State Leadership Conference Awards Ceremony.

TORCH AWARD PROGRAM

Why Participate?

- Demonstrate the qualities of leadership and professionalism
- Interact with business leaders, civic organizations and communities
- Learn positive ways to impact the areas where you live
- Grow through the nine pillars of the program

Hope | Faith | Love | Cooperation
Knowledge | Service | Leadership
Friendship | Patriotism



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LEVELS OF TORCH



bpa.org/torch-awards



Torch Awards



THE ROAD TO AMBASSADOR: EARNING YOUR STATESMAN AWARD

It is that time of year to make sure all your Torch Awards are entered, as SLC will be happening soon. We would love to see a record number of you receiving your Statesman Award before achieving Ambassador!

The final day to submit your Torch Points to be recognized as a Statesmen here in Wisconsin is Monday, February 15, 2021 at 11:59 p.m.

To receive the Statesman Torch Award all you need to do is complete 50 points in each category. I am going to provide an example from each category to get you started, as well as example from each category that you can do during the Virtual State Leadership Conference. This will give you a boost in completing your Ambassador Torch Award requirements. Once this is achieved, you will be recognized during the National Leadership Conference in May.

LEADERSHIP

- **#135:** Complete Series 1 of the National BPA Student Certification Series (complete now)
Visit the national website for more details: bpa.org/students/student-certification
- **#108:** Campaign as a State Officer Candidate (to complete at SLC)
Review pages XX of this newsletter for more details!
- **#122/#123:** Serve as a voting delegate or head voting delegate (to complete at SLC)

SERVICE

- **#235:** Volunteer and/or participate in a social media campaign, workshop, conference or other educational event to educate others on social justice issues (complete now)
- **#215:** Volunteer and/or participate in an activity that promotes the concept of "going green" (complete at SLC)

COOPERATION

- **#322:** Organize a BPA week event or activity; identify activity complete (complete now)
- **#301:** Participate in presenting a BPA ceremony, such as a Torch Award Ceremony or an Officer Installation Ceremony (participation means having one of the major speaking parts complete at SLC)
Email the State Officers about how you can participate in the Torch Award Ceremony!

KNOWLEDGE

- **#422:** Study the current guidelines for a BPA Cares award in the BPA Cares Award Handbook; cannot be used in conjunction with Knowledge #417 (complete now)
- **#410:** Participate in a BPA nationally approved competitive event at the state level; identify the state conference and name of the competitive event (complete at SLC)

FRIENDSHIP

- **#502:** Attend an official local BPA chapter meeting (complete now)
- **#505:** Attend a BPA State Leadership Conference (identify the conference)

LOVE, HOPE, FAITH

- **#606:** Work with underprivileged, disabled people on an individual basis, such as serving as a tutor, working with a disabled child weekly; does not have to be BPA related (complete now)
- **#620:** Attend a professional play/musical, music concert or recital, dinner theater, ballet or other dance/cultural performance (complete at SLC)

PATRIOTISM

- **#711, 712, 715:** Vote in a local, state or national election (complete now)
- **#724:** Participate in an activity that supports US Military (complete at SLC)

BPA Cares



VIEW THE BPA CARES HANDBOOK ONLINE:
[HTTPS://BPA.ORG/STUDENTS/BPA-CARES/](https://bpa.org/students/bpa-cares/)

It's that time of year again for all of us to show what we have done for BPA, our chapters and our communities. This means it is time to submit your activities for recognition in BPA Cares, and it is time to bring the Professional Cup back to Wisconsin, where it belongs!

BPA Cares is a program coordinated at the national level that shines a light on and recognizes local chapters and members who participate in community service through BPA. Participation in this program means that members are engaging in worthwhile projects that support the betterment of their community while having the opportunity to receive recognition from the national organization.

There are a few areas where you and your chapter can get recognized in this program:

SERVICE LEARNING

The purpose of the Service-Learning Awards Program is to encourage individuals and chapters to be involved in their community through service activities. The awards available in this category include the Community Service Award, the Environmental Action/Awareness Award, Safety Awareness Award, Service Learning Individual Award and the Special Olympics Award.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

The purpose of the Special Recognition Awards Program is to encourage individuals and chapters to support and promote their organizations. The awards available in this category include the BPA Marketing and Public Relations, BPA Merit Scholar, Chapter Activities Award of Excellence, Recruiter of the Year Award, Membership Explosion Award, Social Media Award, and the Professional Cup. Applications are not required for the Merit Scholar, The Professional Cup or Membership Explosion Award. These awards are given directly through National BPA.

PROFESSIONAL AWARDS

The purpose of the Professional Awards Program is to acknowledge the dedication and service of our supporters. The awards available in this category include the Advisor of the Year Award, Emerging Advisor of the Year Award, Emerging Professional of the Year Award, Outstanding Student of the Year, Hall of Fame Award and Outstanding Service Award.

2020 was a trying year for all of us and 2021 is starting out to be a new adventure, as well. This also gives us an opportunity to reinvent ourselves, to take on the world in a whole new way, and to make a difference like no other. In saying such I hope that all of you were able to find a way to make a difference in yourselves, your community, and your environment.



BPA Cares Application

<https://forms.gle/S9Ta8vR1EbDLAffa8>

- WI BPA Marketing and Public Relations Award
- WI Community Service Award
- WI Environmental Action/Awareness Award
- WI Special Olympics Award

Special Recognition Awards Program

<https://forms.gle/WzEpeKBaEB6B6bc36>

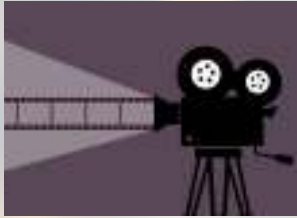
- WI Member Recruiter of the Year Award

Professional Awards Program

<https://forms.gle/wGiWT7Gwwaz3LgDH6>

- WI Advisor of the Year Award

2021 BPA Students Recruiting Students National Center



Video Contest



It's time for students to test their video creation skills!

Business Professionals of America is excited to announce the return of the Students Recruiting Students video competition sponsored by MasterMIND Productions. This video contest is open to all three divisions of student membership: Middle Level, Secondary and Post-secondary, and is designed for teams of 2-5 students who will work together to complete their challenge over a 6-week period.

Teams may focus their video on one of the following topics:

- My BPA Story – Personal Student Journeys in BPA
- BPA Torch Awards Program
- BPA Cares Program
- Leadership Development Opportunities
- About BPA / Promoting Business Professionals of America



Videos should be no longer than 2-3 minutes in length and highlight/showcase Business Professionals of America from a student member's viewpoint. Use of copyrighted video, music, images, logos, and trademarks is prohibited; entries that contain any copyrighted materials will be disqualified unless written permission to use the materials is acquired and submitted to the National Center of Business Professionals of America along with the entry.

The contest will launch the third week of January. For full details including technical requirements, specifications, judging, submissions and entry deadline, please visit: <https://bpa.org/nlc/partner-competitions/students-recruiting-students-contest/>. Please direct questions regarding the contest to Heather Bunning, Director of Marketing & Stakeholder Engagement at hbunning@bpa.org.



The National Center is pleased to announce the launch of a brand new Post-secondary Division Virtual Internship Experience

Over the past year, many businesses have reduced or removed internship opportunities completely as a result of the pandemic. This will impact many BPA students seeking an internship experience. The Virtual Internship Experience was designed to support the need for experiential learning opportunities and offer a means for BPA student members to gain practical insight into key career paths, as well as an opportunity to build career skills and experience. There are many meaningful projects available through virtual internships and through remote engagement; BPA students can work with the National Center staff and leadership from anywhere across the country to support various projects ranging from basic social media support or calendar scheduling/coordination to full digital marketing development, grant research, membership data analysis, business projects, basic website updates, and more.

National BPA virtual internships are unpaid, will include training/orientation, focus on learning and developing new skills, as well as offer an opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of concepts through hands-on application of knowledge.



There is an opportunity for students to earn academic credit which is dependent on degree plan requirements and varies by college/university academic program. There are currently two unpaid virtual internship focuses for Post-secondary students to apply for with up to three positions in each focus available. These focuses include: National BPA Grant Analyst Internships and Digital Marketing Internships.

Posts-secondary Division members can learn more about the program in the BPA Member Gateway at: <https://members.bpa.org/virtual-internship-program/>.

Applicants must be dues paying members in good standing with Business Professionals of America to be eligible. For questions regarding the Virtual Internship Experience, please contact Director of Marketing & Stakeholder Engagement, Heather Bunning, at hbunning@bpa.org.



IMPORTANT WI BPA DATES:



BPA **State Leadership Conference** (SLC) will be held on Thursday, February 25 - Friday, February 26, 2021. The conference will be held virtually.

BPA **National Leadership Conference** (NLC) will be held on Wednesday, May 5 - Saturday, May 9, 2021 in Orlando, FL.



Visit us online

<https://bpa.org/wisconsin/>



bpa/mall

Check out the new BPA Mall,
where you can order BPA items/apparel:

<https://bpa.org/mall>

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Giving Purpose to Potential

Mission

The Mission of Business Professionals of America is: To develop and empower student leaders to discover their passion and change the world by creating unmatched opportunities in learning, professional growth and service.

Vision

The Vision of Business Professionals of America is: To be an innovator in Career and Technical Education, providing our members with opportunities for growth through education, competition, community service, and personal development.

Pledge

We are met in a spirit of friendship and goodwill as we prepare for careers in a world-class workforce. We work together to develop professionalism and leadership through Business Professionals of America and pledge our loyalty to our nation.