

PRESS RELEASE

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“Model the Way” at the 2019 National Technology Student Association Conference



Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center | National Harbor, MD—

More than 8,500 [Technology Student Association \(TSA\)](#) middle school and high school members from across the country are expected to attend the [2019 National TSA Association Conference](#) from June 28th to July 2nd near one of the world’s most educational destinations—Washington, D.C.

This year’s conference theme is “Model the Way,” as TSA marks more than four decades of enhancing personal development, leadership, and education and career opportunities in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) through intracurricular activities, competitions, and other programs.

At the conference in National Harbor, MD:

- **TSA Competitions**—TSA members will take part in 70+ [middle school](#) and [high school](#) STEM competitions, including two new ones: [Cybersecurity](#) and [CompTIA ITF+ Certification](#).
- **TEAMS**—The [Tests of Engineering Aptitude, Mathematics, and Science](#) finals will feature the theme “The Engineering Brain,” with concepts based on the National Academy of Engineering’s Grand Challenges.
- **JSS**—Fifth through eighth grade students will design, build, and race solar-powered vehicles in the finals of the [Junior Solar Sprint](#) competition, administered by TSA and funded by the [Army Educational Outreach Program \(AEOP\)](#).
- **TSA VEX**—The [TSA VEX Robotics Competition \(VRC\)](#) and the [TSA VEX IQ Challenge \(VIQC\)](#) national championships will be held.
- **Keynote**—TSA alumnus [Guy Cecil](#), chair of Priorities USA, will speak on “Failing and Serving our Way to the Top.”
- **Special Interest Sessions**—Industry experts will cover [trending topics](#) ranging from humanoid robotics to drones; artificial intelligence (AI) to driverless vehicles; 3D design to STEM military technologies; and much more. Speakers include representatives from TSA partner [CompTIA](#), a non-profit trade association that serves as the voice of the information technology (IT) industry.
- **TSA Meet and Greet, and new TSA Partner Hub**—Conference attendees will network with representatives from companies, universities, non-profit associations, and other organizations that support STEM and IT education and careers.
- **Town Hall**—Charles Eaton, the CEO of Creating IT Futures (the IT workforce charity of CompTIA), will chair a panel on [“Preparing Students for Careers in Technology.”](#)
- **Senior Night Celebration**—CompTIA Pro will host a [celebration](#) for the TSA and TEAMS Class of 2019 and TSA alumni.
- **Election**—A new, national TSA officer team will be installed for the 2019–2020 school year.
- **LEAP**—[Mr. Gary Morgan](#) will provide professional leadership training through the TSA program [LEAP \(Leadership, Education, Achievement, Personal Growth.\)](#), based on “The Student Leadership Challenge: Five Practices for Becoming an Exemplary Leader.”
- **Spirit of Service**—Top TSA chapters and state delegations that raised money for [American Cancer Society \(ACS\)](#) research, education, advocacy, and patient services the past year will be recognized for their community service efforts.

More than 250,000 TSA members across the United States are “learning to lead in a technical world.” TSA helps teachers/chapter advisors meet the criteria for STEM education goals. All TSA activities are correlated to the Standards for Technological Literacy, as set forth by the [International Technology and Engineering Educators Association \(ITEEA\)](#). TSA activities can be used in the classroom, and after school through a TSA chapter.

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