

NATIONAL CABINET APPLICATION 2008-2009



**INSPIRE THE WORLD THROUGH KNOWLEDGE.
ENGAGE SOCIETY THROUGH ACTION.
EMPOWER YOUTH THROUGH DEMOCRACY.**

THE COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS OF THE JUNIOR STATE OF AMERICA

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Application Requirements and General Questions

The following components encompass a complete cabinet application:

1. A short essay describing your motivation to participate in JSA, your reasons for applying to cabinet, and your overall goals if you are selected to cabinet.
2. Concise, honest responses to the following questions:
 - a. What distinguishes you from your peers? Why are you qualified for the position for which you are applying for?
 - b. Describe prior experiences within the Junior State that will enhance the quality of your work in the upcoming year.
 - c. In what activities outside of JSA do you also engage? How do you prioritize your extra-curricular activities? How do these activities complement your ability to perform in JSA and how will you make certain that JSA remains your top priority if you are selected?
3. The assignment specific to the position of your top choice. The assignment is found at the end of each position's description.
(NOTE: You may only apply for one national cabinet position per year.)
4. The general application on the next page. Full completion of this section is essential to the selection process.
5. If you wish to further enhance your application, feel free to create a 5-8 minute video response to the following questions.
(NOTE: This method of applying is *optional* and can only be submitted in addition to the written application shown in steps 1-4. This gives us a more detailed image of you, but does not necessarily place you above other applicants. If you choose to create a video application *in addition* to the written application shown above, please send the video or a link to a site on which the video is posted to cog2008-2009@jsa.org, but *do not* send disks or drives with media files on them.)
 - a. How long have you been a member of JSA? What distinguishes you from your peers? Why are you qualified for the position for which you are applying?
 - b. What cabinet position are you interested in applying for and what qualifies you for such a position?
 - c. In what activities outside of JSA do you also engage? How do you prioritize your extra-curricular activities? How do these activities complement your ability to perform in JSA and how will you make certain that JSA remains your top priority if you are selected?
 - d. What is one interesting fact about yourself?

By JUNE 22, please EITHER

Email all parts of the application to:

cog2008-2009@jsa.org, with subject line "National Cabinet Application, [Position Name], [Name]"

Example: National Cabinet Application, Director of Publications, John Smith

Mail all parts of the application to:

Council of Governors

Attn: National Cabinet Application

1600 K St, NW

Suite 803

Washington, DC 20006

Fax: (202) 296-7839



National Cabinet General Application Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: () _____ Email Address*: _____

Instant Messenger Screen Name: _____

Graduation Year: _____ School Name: _____

Desired Cabinet Position: _____

Will you be sending a video? (Circle One): Yes No

What Junior State do you belong to? _____

What, if any, cabinet positions have you held? _____

* Important information will be sent to all cabinet members upon selection; thus, it is imperative that all applicants provide a **frequently-checked** email address.

NATIONAL CABINET POSITIONS:

- **Junior Statement Editor-in-Chief**
 - **Director of Technology**
 - **Director of Activism/Election 2008 Coordinator**
 - **Director of Publications**
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JUNIOR STATEMENT EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

The Editor-in-Chief is directly responsible for the layout and publication of the national JSA newspaper, *The Junior Statement*. (S)he will use the press to inform JSAers across the nation about happenings in the organization and current world events. The Editor-in-Chief is therefore responsible for publishing at least three issues of *The Junior Statement* during the year and compiling articles and cover stories in a creative, professional fashion. Extensive experience with computers and newspaper layout is essential.

Special Application

- Design a layout for the *The Junior Statement* with at least one sample article.
 - Describe prior experiences with newspaper publication.
 - List three article topics or formats that you would include as Editor-in-Chief to catch and keep the readers' attention. How will your suggestions increase overall awareness in JSA as a whole?
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DIRECTOR OF TECHNOLOGY

The Director of Technology is responsible for overseeing and keeping the various state websites consistent with each other, as well as frequently updating the national jsa.org webpage with new, relevant material. (S)he must work closely with each state's Director of Technology to approve website content updates and expand the Junior State's internet programs. This position will require dedication and skill as we hope to shift to using the internet as an important means of communication between all parts of JSA. The Director of Technology must also be prepared to spearhead national technological advancements, such as a potential Election 2008 site which will act as a common hub for election-related activity across the nation, and the implementation of stabilized web registration for conventions.

Special Application

- Describe ways you would improve the layout of the website so as to market it to prospective JSAers.
- How do you propose that we use the internet as a tool to get more student feedback?
- Please describe any tech-based enhancements you can bring with your skills and expertise in technology. Include links to any websites you have designed in the past.

DIRECTOR OF ACTIVISM/ELECTION 2008 COORDINATOR

Success in the Activism Department is vital to increasing the political awareness and overall growth of JSAers as informed citizens. To this end, the Director of Activism will be responsible for promoting activism activities in the various states. The responsibilities of this position have changed from previous years in that the National Director of Activism will not be selecting a single activism project for the nation as a whole, but rather serving to organize and help the individual states, while suggesting possible projects or activities. This person must be articulate, communicative, and willing to put in plenty of time when working with each of the nine state-level Director of Activism. Additionally, (s)he will be responsible for coordinating the Election 2008. This will involve extensive cooperation with the National Director of Technology. The goal of this collaboration is to increase national involvement through political action communicated across the web. The primary role of the Election 2008 Coordinator will be to publish election-related activities and to encourage student involvement in the national Election 2008 site through blogs, articles, and various media.

Special Application

- What ideas do you have for the mobilization of JSAers on the nation level when it comes to activity or interest in Election 2008?
 - What ideas do you have for activism projects that could be easily implemented across several states? Please list and describe at least two.
 - Describe your personal experiences with activism on any level, inside and outside of JSA, and how you could help to bring interest in activism to others around the nation.
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DIRECTOR OF PUBLICATIONS

When starting a chapter, the Chapter President relies heavily on documents (s)he receives in the mail for guidance and direction. The effectiveness and accessibility of these documents impacts the ability for the Chapter President to create and maintain a successful JSA chapter. Because of their important relationship to the expansion process, JSA needs to have a cohesive, comprehensive set of documents. It is the job of the Director of Publications to revise and improve upon the Debater's Handbook, Moderator's Handbook, Chapter Start-Up Guide and the numerous other how-to documents for chapters.

Special Application

- What needs to be changed about the various handbooks in order to make them more effective or up-to-date?
- What ideas do you have for making these resources more widely accessible?
- What experience do you have with design/publication software? What JSA experience or perspective could you bring to the revision and improvement of these resources?