

How to Prepare for the Arkansas Model United Nations (AMUN) Conference?

- 1) Students and teachers should establish a **Model United Nations program** (curricular or extracurricular) at their junior high school or senior high school with one or two specific teachers as **faculty advisors**. Model UN can be integrated into the curriculum of a school, or students may choose to establish a Model UN club at the school.
- 2) The faculty advisor should choose one or more countries that the school would like to represent at the AMUN Conference. The countries that are still available will be indicated under "country assignments" on the AMUN website. Generally speaking, the faculty advisor should select one country for every five to ten students that will be participating in the AMUN Conference.
- 3) The faculty advisor should fill out a **registration form** indicating one or more countries, including alternative selections, that the school would like to represent at the AMUN Conference. Email or mail the form with country fees to the AMUN office by the pre-registration deadline. The country assignments will be immediately posted on the AMUN website.
- 4) Student should familiarize themselves with their assigned country. In particular, students should be familiar with the history, politics, government, and foreign policies of their respective countries in order to adequately represent them during the conference.
- 5) Students should collect background information about the **United Nations (UN)**. There are many books and internet resources concerning the UN. In particular, students should know about the history and structure of the UN system since the end of World War II.
- 6) The faculty advisor should assign each of his or her students to a particular committee or council prior to the conference. Each delegation or country should try to have at least one representative on each committee or council on which that delegation or country is represented. All delegations or countries may have at least one representative on each of the four General Assembly committees. Only some of the delegations or countries have representatives on the Security Council, ECOSOC, and other specialized agencies of the United Nations (check the "country assignment" list on the AMUN website for information on which countries have representatives on these councils).
- 7) Students should gather background information about the **committee topics** for each of the General Assembly committees, ECOSOC, and other specialized agencies of the United Nations (the topics will be posted on the AMUN website during the Spring). Each of the committees will have their own specific topics, so students should specifically focus on the topics for their particular committee or council. Students should be familiar with the actions (e.g. UN General Assembly resolutions or Security Council resolutions) that have already been taken by the UN and international community with respect to the various topics.
- 8) The **head delegate** of each delegation should be responsible for coordinating the submission to the AMUN Secretariat of a **position paper** on his or her country's policies concerning each of the official topics. All students should be familiar with the positions of their respective countries concerning the topics to be discussed in their specific committee or council.
- 9) Students may choose to develop one or more **working papers** for each of the committees and councils on which your delegation will be represented. It is recommended that such "working papers" be brought to the conference on a computer disk, rather than hard copy. Students are required to develop **draft resolutions** with other delegates during informal caucuses of the committee or council sessions.

10) Students should learn about the processes and procedures used during committee and council sessions (links to the committee/council processes and parliamentary procedures are provided on the AMUN website).

11) Students should practice or simulate a session of a committee prior to going to the AMUN Conference. Students should debate a particular topic, and should practice using the various parliamentary procedures.