



Professional Agricultural Student Association

WHAT IS PAS

For nearly forty years, PAS has been developing two and four-year college-level professional agriculture students for the workplace through participation in employment experience programs, skill-set development, network opportunities, and organizational activities.

Its one-of-a-kind national collegiate-level competition-style learning model gives students the practical and hands-on development opportunities essential for career success. Students compete at the local, state, and national levels and are guided by faculty advisors to develop the technical, professional and soft skills required for career success within the agriculture industry.

MISSION

To provide individual growth, leadership and career preparation opportunities for professional agriculture students

VISION

To be the premier leadership and career development organization serving college agriculture students

PAS is one of 11 Career and Technical Student Organizations (CTSO's) approved by the U.S. Department of Education as an integral part of career and technical education. When applied to a school's curriculum, students are better prepared to enter the workforce, become leaders in their fields and develop into quality citizens in their communities. But that's not all, PAS provides its members the opportunity to test and fine-tune career and professional skills while participating in quality programs developed by vocational and technical professionals.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q. HOW DO I START A PAS CHAPTER?

A. Talk with the PAS executive director, Admin@nationalpas.org or 612-355-1266

- Review our chapter guidelines which can be found on our website at www.nationalpas.org

Q: WHAT BENEFITS DO LOCAL PAS CHAPTERS RECEIVE?

A: PAS Chapters are provided:

- Access to a national competition venue for students enrolled as members in PAS
- Access to labor/industry tours at the National PAS Conference
- Access to industry contacts and a career fair at National Conference
- Access to the career programming and career progress and planning curriculum developed by National PAS
- Support from the National PAS Office on national competitions and curriculums
- The opportunity to develop a national adviser network as well as expand on your industry connections
- Ongoing updates around CTE education, trends and supports which will be communicated through the National PAS Office
- The value added to your school's agricultural programming, helpful for marketing your program above others
- Access to continuously developed programming which will become available only to PAS Chapters and their members through a web-based login

Q: HOW DO STUDENTS IN AGRICULTURALLY-RELATED FIELDS BENEFIT?

A: Students receive opportunities for:

- Attending and competing at the National PAS Conference held in March of each year
- Participating in business and industry tours
- Your resume to stand-out from candidates who do not have PAS experiences
- Gauging your progress against peers from across the country
- Participating in work experience programs
- Participating in career enhancement activities
- Participating in Goal Development Training
- Running for state and/or national office and elevating your presence as a leader on a state and national stage
- Developing and practicing leadership and soft-skill development
- Developing a national network of industry professionals and peers
- Gaining knowledge of the broader issues affecting the agriculture and food industry
- Make lifelong friends

Q. WHAT ROLE DOES THE NATIONAL PAS OFFICE PLAY IN SUPPORTING CHAPTERS and WHAT DO MY CHAPTER AFFILIATION FEES PAY FOR?

A. National pas is the only organization representing postsecondary education on the National Council of Agricultural Education (NCAE). Member dues support the following:

- Planning and producing a national competition at the annual national conference
- The creation of ongoing and relevant curriculums, web-based learning videos, and agriculturally specific career materials, support and direction.
- Providing staff positions at the national level to support chapters, advisors, manage and orchestrate opportunities for students and to increase the PAS brand throughout industry and higher education
- A voice representing career and technical educational areas at the postsecondary level

Q: HOW DO AGRICULTURALLY-RELATED INDUSTRIES BENEFIT BY ENGAGING WITH PAS?

A: Partnering with national PAS helps agriculturally-related businesses address talent & labor shortages by gaining direct access to high- caliber, career-ready students trained to work in agriculturally-related jobs. Industry professionals can participate by:

- Serving as judges for the national competitions held at the National PAS Conference each year during March.
- Attending the industry luncheon during the PAS National Conference
- Exhibiting at the career-fair held during the national conference.
- Gaining direct-access to students who are the “cream of the crop”
- Supporting PAS financially through sponsorships, ongoing partnerships, and sharing industry knowledge
- Building stronger relationships with postsecondary agricultural educators