

Pinellas County Model UN

2026 CONFERENCE HANDBOOK

Presented by
Foundations for Leadership

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Welcome to the 2026 Pinellas County Model United Nations Conference (PCMUN)

It is our honor to welcome you to the 11th Annual PCMUN Conference. Over the course of the day, students will step into the role of United Nations ambassadors—representing member states, debating pressing global issues, and collaborating with fellow delegates to craft resolutions addressing some of the world’s most urgent challenges. We look forward to seeing the creativity, diplomacy, and leadership you bring to the table.

Since its founding in 2014, PCMUN has engaged thousands of students and educators across Pinellas County. Foundations for Leadership is proud to host this conference in partnership with the Pinellas County Public Schools Department of Social Studies.

PCMUN is designed to be both intellectually rigorous and enjoyable. Our staff and volunteers from St. Petersburg College are here throughout the conference to ensure the event runs smoothly and remains engaging and rewarding. Please don’t hesitate to reach out with any questions or needs.

We extend our deepest gratitude to the many individuals and partners who make PCMUN possible, especially St. Petersburg College, our conference home for more than a decade. Special acknowledgment goes to the SPC Model UN team for their commitment to serving and supporting the teachers and students of Pinellas County Schools.

Delegates, we encourage you to use this experience to broaden your perspectives, challenge assumptions, and practice thoughtful, respectful, and effective international dialogue.

Good luck—and have a fantastic conference!

Foundations for Leadership

Conference Schedule

Friday, March 27, 2026

St. Petersburg College - Clearwater

START	END	ACTIVITY
8:00 AM	8:40 AM	Bus arrival and check-in at Auditorium – <i>Building AA</i>
8:45 AM	9:15 AM	Opening Ceremony
9:15 AM	11:45 PM	Committee Session I
9:45 AM	10:00 AM	Faculty Advisor Info Meeting - <i>Building ES</i>
11:45 AM	12:30 PM	<p><u>Lunch</u></p> <p>All committees go to ES Building, 1st floor, pick-up lunch and return to committee rooms.</p> <p>Middle School is dismissed for lunch first.</p>
12:30 PM	3:30 PM	Committee Session II
3:30 PM	4:15 PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dismissed by committee to Closing - <i>Building AA</i> Closing Ceremony + Photos Dismissed by staff as buses arrive

Conference Venue

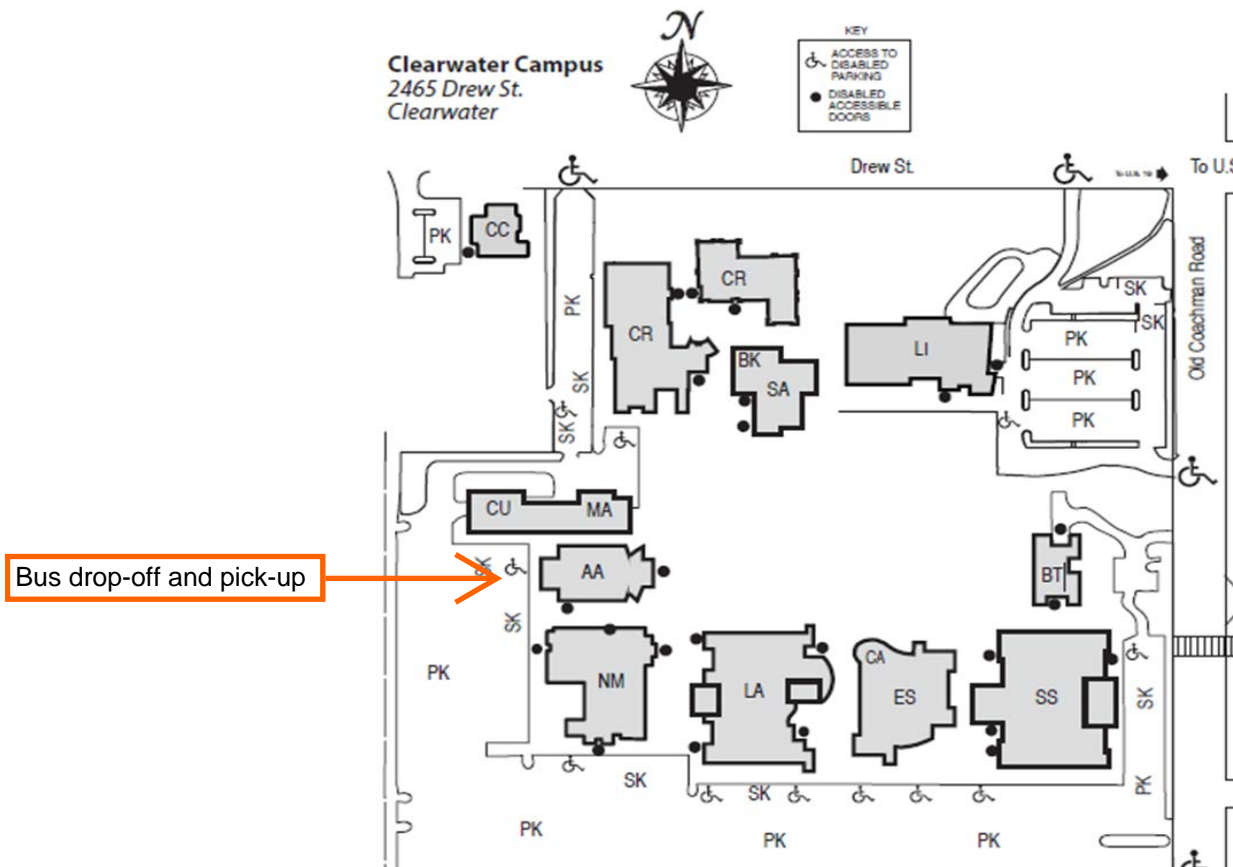
St. Petersburg College - Clearwater Campus

[2465 Drew Street, Clearwater](https://www.spc.edu/clearwater)

Phone: (727) 341-4772

Arrival Instructions

- Student drop-off/pickup is in front of Building AA (Arts Auditorium)
- Conference check-in is in Building AA (Arts Auditorium)
- Faculty advisors should check-in their entire delegation. Advisors will collect programs and be seated in the auditorium for opening ceremony.
- Faculty advisors receive name badges on arrival. Delegates will receive badges and materials in committee.
- Students will be dismissed and escorted to committees by their dais.
- Committee room numbers will be listed in programs given to advisors at check-in.



Foundations for Leadership and PCMUN staff reserves the right to dismiss any participant from the conference due to violation of any regulation. The Pinellas County Model UN Conference will enforce the following code of conduct:

Delegation of Authority

Delegates must obey instructions from any faculty advisor or conference staff member, both inside and outside of committee sessions. Delegates who do not obey instructions may be removed from the conference.

Name Badges

Name badges for delegates, faculty advisors, staff, and guests must be always kept visible during the conference.

Electronic Devices

Devices must be turned off at all times during committee and working sessions. Delegates are permitted to use devices during PCMUN for conference-related work, and only at times designated by committee staff. *Foundations for Leadership, Pinellas County Schools, and St. Pete College are not responsible for lost or stolen property.*

Trash

Delegates are responsible for their own trash. After each committee session, delegates must clean their own area before leaving any room. Remember, we are invited guests.

Bullying & Harassment

Bullying and harassment of anyone is prohibited. The conference defines bullying and harassment as conduct that has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's academic or work performance, or of creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive educational and social environment. Also prohibited is conduct that may take the form of inappropriate or suggestive comments, sounds or jokes, and unsolicited touching. Incidents should be immediately reported to a faculty advisor or a conference staff member. Delegates who bully will be immediately dismissed from committees.

Conference Dress Code

All delegates at the Pinellas County Model UN Conference must adhere to the following dress code. As a general rule, delegates should be dressed in Western business attire.

Suits

A suit (with pants or a skirt) always looks professional and is the best option.

Shirts & Tops

Students should wear a collared button-down shirt or blouse with an appropriate neckline. Shoulders should be covered. No t-shirts.

Pants, Skirts & Dresses

Slacks and suit pants are acceptable. Students may wear skirts or dresses that are adequate in length (not shorter than one inch above the knee). No jeans, shorts, or sweatpants.

Shoes

Dress shoes should be worn. Heels are acceptable but may be uncomfortable after some time. Open-toe shoes must be professional. No sneakers or flip-flops.

Hats & Head Coverings

Hats and head coverings are permitted only for religious or medical reasons.

All delegates are expected to:

- Prepare for the conference by researching their country and topic in advance;
- Obey the Conference Code of Conduct;
- Obey the Conference Dress Code;
- Listen to any instructions from conference staff;
- Actively participate in the body's debate, including (but not limited to) making speeches, caucusing, proposing resolutions and amendments, and voting; and
- Listen attentively during Opening and Closing Ceremonies.

Prewritten resolutions are not allowed and will not be eligible for votes. Delegates may bring research material but are expected to collaborate on draft resolutions.

AWARDS

The PCMUN Conference will acknowledge delegations that do a superb job of representing their country. Although we provide awards, this recognition should not be construed as the primary purpose of attending a Model UN conference.

The following awards will be given at Closing Ceremonies:

Best Position Paper

Given to the delegates who compose the best position paper in each committee. See Foundations for Leadership [Delegate Prep Resources](#) for writing guidelines.

Honorable Mention

Given to delegates in each committee who deserve honorable mention for their performance, eg. most improved

Outstanding Diplomat

Given to the delegates who use appropriate tone and demeanor, demonstrate kindness, and have a willingness to negotiate for the benefit of the committee.

Best Delegation

Given to delegates in each committee for distinguished performance.

Secretary-General Award

Given to the overall delegation judged to be superior in all areas

Awards Rubric

	<i>Needs Improvement (1)</i>	<i>Average (2)</i>	<i>Above Average (3)</i>	<i>Outstanding (4)</i>
Country Representation	Delegate rarely represents the viewpoints and policies of his/her nation, and speeches and negotiations did not have the best interest of the country in mind	Delegate usually represents the viewpoints and policies of his/her nation, and most speeches and negotiations have the best interest of the country in mind	Delegate always represents the viewpoints and policies of his/her nation, and most speeches and negotiations have the best interest of the country in mind	Delegate always represents the viewpoints and policies of his/her nation, and all speeches and negotiations have the best interest of the country in mind
Knowledge of UN System	Delegate has little or inaccurate knowledge of UN structure and functions and demonstrates this throughout debate	Delegate has some knowledge of UN structure and functions and demonstrates this throughout debate	Delegate has above average knowledge of UN structure and functions and demonstrates this throughout debate	Delegate has exceptional knowledge of UN structure and functions and demonstrates this throughout debate
Knowledge of Topics on Agenda	Delegate has little or inaccurate knowledge of topics	Delegate has basic knowledge of topics based on background guides	Delegate has some knowledge of topics based on additional research outside of background guides	Delegate has outstanding knowledge of topics based on additional research outside of background guides
Knowledge of Rules of Procedure	Delegate rarely follows the Rules of Procedure throughout debate	Delegate usually follows the Rules of Procedure throughout debate	Delegate always follows the Rules of Procedure throughout debate	Delegate always follows the Rules of Procedure throughout debate, and uses them to the country's advantage
Diplomatic Composure	Delegate does not act in a diplomatic manner during speeches, negotiations and committee proceedings	Delegate usually acts in a diplomatic manner during speeches, negotiations and committee proceedings	Delegate always acts in a diplomatic manner during speeches, negotiations and committee proceedings	Delegate always acts in a diplomatic manner during speeches, negotiations and committee proceedings, and uses sophisticated language
Involvement	Delegate is not actively involved in formal and informal debate	Delegate is actively involved in formal and informal debate	Delegate initiates committee proceedings in formal and informal debate and shows willingness and leadership	Delegate always initiates committee proceedings in formal and informal debate and shows exceptional willingness and leadership

Points & Motions Summary

Points and Motions	Description	Vote to Pass
<i>Suspending Debate</i>	Suspending debate means calling for a moderated or unmoderated caucus. Technically, this motion suspends formal debate (the speakers list) in favor of informal debate (a caucus). This motion requires an immediate vote.	Simple majority
<i>Moderated Caucus</i>	A type of caucus in which delegates remain seated and the Chair calls on them one at a time to speak for a short period of time, enabling a freer exchange of opinions than would be possible in formal debate. When moving for a moderated caucus, delegates should specify the purpose for and length of the caucus, and a speaking time.	Simple majority
<i>Unmoderated Caucus</i>	A type of caucus in which delegates leave their seats to mingle and speak freely. Enables the free sharing of ideas to an extent not possible in formal debate or even a moderated caucus. When moving for an unmoderated caucus, delegates should specify a length of the caucus.	Simple majority
<i>Adjourn Debate</i>	Adjourning the meeting ends the committee session until the next session, which may be held the following year. The motion is most commonly made to end a committee session for the purpose of lunch or Closing Ceremonies. It requires an immediate vote.	Simple majority
<i>Close Debate</i>	Closing debate allows the committee to move into voting procedure. Once a delegate feels that his or her country's position has been made clear, that there are enough draft resolutions on the floor and that all other delegates are ready, he or she can move for the closure of debate. Two delegates usually speak against the closure of debate, but none speak for it.	Two-thirds majority
<i>Point of Order</i>	Points of order are used when delegates believe the chair has made an error in the running of the committee. Delegates rising to points of order may not speak on the substance of the matter under discussion. They should only specify the errors they believe were made in the formal committee procedure.	No vote
<i>Point of Inquiry</i>	When the floor is open (<i>i.e.</i> no other delegate is speaking), a delegate may rise to a point of inquiry to ask the chairperson a question regarding the rules of procedure.	No vote
<i>Point of Personal Privilege</i>	Points of personal privilege are used to inform the chairperson of a physical discomfort a delegate is experiencing, such as the inability to hear another delegate's speech.	No vote
<i>Point of Information</i>	After a delegate has given a speech in formal debate, he or she may yield time to points of information, or questions from other delegates concerning the speech.	No vote

Pinellas County Model UN Conference Rules of Procedure

I. INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

Rule 1. Official and Working Language

English shall be the official and working language of all committees during both formal and informal debate.

Rule 2. Decorum

Delegates must always maintain a professional demeanor and follow instructions from conference staff. Failure to comply may result in dismissal from the conference.

II. SECRETARIAT

Rule 3. Statements by the Secretariat

The Secretary-General or their representative may address any committee with oral or written statements on any issue.

Rule 4. General Functions of the Secretariat

The Chairperson shall:

- Declare the opening and closing of meetings,
- Moderate discussion, rule on points or motions, and announce decisions,
- Ensure observance of these rules, and
- Take any necessary action not explicitly covered in the Rules to facilitate debate.

The Chair may temporarily transfer duties to another member of the committee staff. All procedural matters are at the Chair's discretion.

III. AGENDA

Rule 5. Agenda

The Secretary-General or their representative shall communicate the agenda to delegates before the conference.

Rule 6. Revision of the Agenda

Additional urgent items may be added during the conference at the discretion of the Secretary-General (most commonly in the Security Council).

IV. CONDUCT OF BUSINESS

Rule 7. Speakers List

The Chair will open a speakers list for each topic. Delegates may request to be added when prompted by the Chair or by submitting a written request to the dais.

Rule 8. Limitation of Speaking Time

The Chair may limit speaking time. Delegates may move to increase or decrease speaking time, subject to a vote. The default speaking time is 90 seconds.

Rule 9. Speeches

No delegate may address the body without permission from the Chair. The Chair may call a speaker to order if remarks are irrelevant.

Rule 10. Yielding Time

Recognized speakers may yield their remaining time:

- To another delegate (time is transferred in full),
- To points of information (delegates may ask questions selected by the Chair), or
- To the Chair (unused time is forfeited).

Once time is yielded, it may not be yielded further.

Rule 11. Right of Reply

Granted only in cases of grave personal insult. Requests must be submitted in writing. The decision is at the sole discretion of the Chair and not subject to appeal.

Rule 12. Appeal of the Chair's Decision

Delegates may appeal a ruling by sending a written request. Appeals are reviewed by the Director-General, who will hear from both the delegate and the Chair before making a decision.

V. POINTS

Rule 13. Point of Personal Privilege

- May be raised for matters of personal comfort or safety.

Rule 14. Point of Order

- May be raised to challenge the observance of rules or the Chair's conduct.

Rule 15. Point of Information

- May be asked if a delegate has yielded to questions after their speech.

Rule 16. Point of Inquiry

- May be raised to clarify procedure, but never to interrupt a speaker.

VI. MOTIONS

Rule 17. Suspend Debate (Motion to Caucus)

Requires a majority vote. May be moderated or unmoderated, with specified time limits and purpose.

Rule 18. Closure of Debate

Ends debate and moves to voting. Requires two-thirds majority. Two speakers against may be heard before the vote.

Rule 19. Adjournment of Meeting

Ends the session or meeting. Requires immediate vote without debate.

Rule 20. Order of Precedence

Motions are considered in the following order:

1. Point of Personal Privilege
2. Point of Order
3. Point of Inquiry
4. Point of Information
5. Introduction of a Draft Resolution
6. Motion to Suspend Debate
7. Motion to Close Debate
8. Motion to Adjourn

VII. RESOLUTIONS

Rule 21. Submission

Draft resolutions and amendments require approval by the Director and 20% of committee signatures.

Rule 22. Introduction

Once approved and distributed, resolutions may be introduced by motion. Operative clauses are read aloud; a five-minute moderated caucus follows.

Rule 23. Amendments

- Friendly Amendments: Automatically adopted if agreed upon by all sponsors.
- Unfriendly Amendments: Require Director approval and 20% of committee signatures. Put to a vote of the committee.
- Amendments to amendments are out of order.

VIII. VOTING

Rule 24. Methods of Decision

Most matters require a simple majority. Security Council resolutions require nine affirmative votes and no veto from permanent members.

Rule 25. Voting Rights

Each member has one vote. Observers/NGOs may not vote on substantive matters.

Rule 26. Conduct During Voting

No communication permitted. Delegates may not enter or leave once voting has begun.

Rule 27. Method of Voting

Normally by placards, though a roll-call vote may be requested. Roll-call votes are alphabetical.

Rule 28. Order of Draft Resolutions

Voted upon in order of submission. If two conflicting resolutions pass, the later one takes precedence.

Rule 29. Voting on Unfriendly Amendments

Amendments voted in order of significance to the text, as determined by the Chair.

Rule 30. Passage of Resolutions

Requires simple majority (except Security Council). Abstentions do not count as votes.

IX. SUSPENSION OF THE RULES

Rule 33. Suspension of the Rules

Rules may be suspended with a majority vote, subject to the Chair's discretion.