

TSSP Leadership Opportunities – FAQ

Last updated: October 2025

Who is eligible to serve in a TSSP leadership position?

Only TSSP members may be appointed to TSSP leadership positions.

PIs, P2s, and P3s can apply for MAL and delegate positions. Typically, PIs and P2s apply for these as the time commitment can be difficult to honor while on rotations.

PIs and P2s can apply for TSSP President-Elect.

Students in accelerated programs have slight eligibility differences. Only PIs and P2s in accelerated programs may apply for MAL and delegate positions. Only PIs in accelerated programs may apply for TSSP President-Elect.

How many leadership positions are available at each College?

Each College has 2 MAL positions and at least 2 delegate positions. Additional delegate positions are allocated based on the percentage of TSSP membership at each College.

One College every year will have the chance to nominate candidates for TSSP President-Elect.

How many positions can a student hold at one time?

Students may be selected to serve as both a MAL and a delegate for their College. Students elected to serve as President-Elect may not serve as MAL or delegate while serving as President-Elect.

What is the order for Colleges to nominate candidates for TSSP President-Elect?

With six Colleges in Tennessee, each College will have an opportunity to nominate candidates every six years. The order is as follows:

ETSU (2024) → UTHSC (2025) → Belmont (2026) → South (2027) → Lipscomb (2028) → Union (2029)

What is the time commitment/responsibilities for serving as a TSSP leader?

The time commitment varies depending on the position, but all appointments are by calendar year.

MALs: attend quarterly virtual TSSP executive committee meetings, check in with faculty advisor and submit MAL report quarterly, provide quarterly submissions for the TSSP

newsletter, respond to email and group chat messages as needed, attend TPA Winter Meeting and Summer Meeting, assist TPA staff in arranging campus visits.

Delegates: review delegate packet ahead of House of Delegates sessions, attend TPA Winter Meeting and Summer Meeting House of Delegates sessions, attend mock House of Delegates/virtual TSSP caucus sessions as needed.

President-Elect: attend quarterly virtual TSSP executive committee meetings, provide quarterly submissions for the TSSP newsletter, respond to email and group chat messages as needed, attend TPA Winter Meeting and Summer Meeting, attend TPA Board of Directors meetings if available/interested.

President: schedule and attend quarterly virtual TSSP executive committee meetings, compile submissions for the TSSP newsletter on a quarterly basis, respond and send email and group chat messages as needed, attend TPA Winter Meeting and Summer Meeting, attend quarterly TPA Board of Directors meetings, submit quarterly TSSP reports, communicate with TPA staff when necessary.

When are TSSP leadership applications open?

Typically, TPA will open applications in the fall and have them open for 2 weeks. Applications in 2025 open on 10/10 and close on 10/31, unless a deadline extension is communicated.

How will students be notified about the opportunity to apply?

TSSP members will receive emails directly from TPA staff. TSSP leaders and faculty advisors may also choose to share information with students about TSSP leadership opportunities.

How will students submit their applications?

Students can download and complete the application form for MAL, the application form for delegate, or both. There is a separate application document for President-Elect candidates.

Application forms should be renamed Lastname_Firstname_MAL, Lastname_Firstname_delegate, or Lastname_Firstname_President-Elect.

Once complete, students will email their application form(s) and CV to their faculty advisor by the deadline.

What are the faculty advisors' emails?

ETSU – Dr. Highsmith highsmithm@etsu.edu

South – Dr. Branam dbranam@south.edu

Lipscomb – Dr. Kirby justin.kirby@lipscomb.edu

Belmont – Dr. Poole traci.poole@belmont.edu

Union – Dr. Pugh apugh@uu.edu

UTHSC – Dr. Wheeler jwhee4@uthsc.edu

How will students be selected for TSSP leadership positions?

TSSP faculty advisors will review all applications received for TSSP leadership positions and recommend a candidate for each available position to the TSSP executive committee. Faculty advisors will be evaluating candidates' interest in the position, observed leadership ability, future leadership potential, and ability to honor the time commitment. The TSSP executive committee will then review and ratify the recommendations.

What dates will MALs, delegates, and presidential officers need to attend for TPA events?Required:

TPA Winter Meeting: 1/30–2/1, 2026. Sonesta Nashville Airport. Nashville, TN

TPA Summer Meeting: 7/9–7/11, 2026. Florence, AL

Preferred:

Pharmacy Day on the Hill: 2/25, 2026. DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Nashville Downtown.

Who can students reach out to with any additional questions about TSSP leadership positions?

Students may contact TPA Director of Professional Affairs Olivia Welter at olivia@tnpharm.org, the TSSP President, their College's MALs, or their faculty advisor.