

ASTRA

TYPES OF CLUBS

Here is a list with a brief description and things to think about for the different types of ASTRA Clubs. Important to understand that the different states, counties and school districts will have their own specific laws and guidelines for working within public schools. Private schools and institutions will also employ their own rules and regulations.

You will be working with the ASTRA Club Policies established by Altrusa International but you must be prepared to be flexible in also following and establishing guidelines set by the school as long as they are not in conflict with the Bylaws and Policies of Altrusa International, Inc.

An important factor to consider, if you are looking at starting a club in a school situation, is to have a contact person or advocate within the institution to guide and assist you through their system.

Middle Schools: There are a variety including 7th – 9th grades, 7th & 8th, and 6th – 8th. If you are considering a school with 6th graders you are possibly looking at eleven year olds. Some schools may have a community service requirements. Meetings can be held on campus and usually require a teacher or staff member to be an advisor. Many schools will have rules for non-school personnel coming on campus. Many states will have specific Child Protection laws for schools. You will need to be diligent about maintaining Parent Permission Slips for all off campus activities. You will also need to think about car pool situations and personal liability.

High Schools/

Continuation H.S.: Typically 9th – 12th grades, with some seniors reaching the age of 18 and no longer needing Parent Permission Slips unless specifically requested by the school. Many schools have a community service requirement to graduate. Meetings can be held on campus and usually require a teacher or staff member to be an advisor. Typically short meetings are common at lunch time. Club may be required to participate in Student Government activities. Some of these club members may be of the age to drive themselves and set up their own car pools.

Home Schools: All age ranges. Could have community service requirement for state recognized graduation. Much more flexibility with meeting times and projects and activities. May have some school rules and regulations depending on how the home school is set up and who is sponsoring the school. Need Parent Permission Slips for all members under 18.

Vocational School/Occupational Center: A variety of types and age ranges and would typically be late high school years and college age. Parent Permission Slips for those still under 18. Could have a community service requirement for graduation or certificate completion. May have difficulty setting up meeting times as many of these situations are set up with flexible hours and different classroom sites for the students. Many club members may also have internships or part time jobs.

Community/Jr. College: Age range could start at 17 and have no age limit. Typically won't need Membership Applications with Parent Permission but be aware just in case. There may be a community service requirement or classes or programs on campus that have a community service or volunteer component. Tougher to establish meeting times as everyone is on a very different class schedule and many college students have part time jobs. Most will be able to drive themselves and car pool to projects and activities. Typically club will need to establish itself as a campus club and follow the rules and regulations and participate in the Associated Student Organization.

College/University: Typical age group will be 18 to 23. Similar to Community College clubs even though some students may be from out of the area and live on campus or nearby and will usually be gone during the major school holiday and semester breaks.

Community Club

(On its own): Lots of flexibility, including membership requirements, meeting times, setting up projects, etc. Parent Permission Slips for those still under 18.

Virtual Clubs – New concept