



2018-2019
Model Illinois Government
Information and Preparation Kit

Elizabeth Roehrs, Governor
Sabrina LeBlanc, Lieutenant Governor

Welcome to *Model Illinois Government*

1978-2019



Model Illinois Government
Table of Contents

Welcome from the Governor.....Page 4

Delegate Roles and Definitions.....Page 5

How to Set Up a New MIG Delegation.....Page 8

Head Delegate/President Timeline.....Page 9

Helpful Resources for Delegates.....Page 11

Parliamentary and Debate Procedure.....Page 12

Your 2018-2019 Executive Board.....Page 13



About This Kit

This kit is designed to serve as a helpful tool for both MIG Faculty Advisors and Students to adequately prepare for the annual Model Illinois Government simulation. The kit contains information on roles available to delegates, resources for starting a MIG delegation at your school, and tools for running meetings and holding practice debates. Participating in MIG is a great first step toward entering a career in politics, government, or law; and toward changing the future of Illinois politics for the better.

Model Illinois Government

Welcome from the Governor

Welcome to Model Illinois Government, one of the premier intercollegiate government simulations in the United States.

2019 will mark our 41st and, with your help, greatest simulation. If you are new to our organization, please allow me a moment to outline MIG.

Each spring semester, students from around the state of Illinois participate in the Model Illinois Government simulation. The 2019 simulation will take place at the Capitol Complex in Springfield from February 28th through March 3rd. Nearly 300 students from 15+ colleges and universities will converge on the Illinois State Capital to gain more experiences in a weekend than in a semester of classes.

The MIG simulation is structured for a legislative simulation as well as a Moot Court competition. Students choose among various roles including: Legislators, lobbyists, journalists, attorneys, justices, budget analysts, as well as many leadership positions within the parties and committees. Within the legislature, students are assigned political parties and districts and placed in committees of their interests. The legislators then simulate the legislative processes in the actual committee rooms and chambers of the Capitol building.



In the Moot Court competition, teams of attorneys argue before a panel of student justices and legal professionals and are scored based on presentation and knowledge of the case fact.

Individual and team awards are presented at the end of the simulation, and students may also campaign for Executive Board positions (Governor, Attorney General, Secretary of State, Comptroller, etc.) to take a more active role in the organization of the simulation.

On behalf of the entire 2018-2019 Model Illinois Government Executive Board, I would like to thank you again for your interest in next year's simulation. It is our utmost duty to serve you, so please do not hesitate to contact me or any other member of the board with your questions, comments, or concerns. I look forward to seeing you in February.

Sincerely,
Elizabeth Roehrs
Governor

Delegate Roles and Definitions

Legislators

Legislators have the option of taking on the role of a Representative or Senator. Legislators serve on one of the standing committees in either the House or the Senate. Delegates in this role can apply to serve as a committee chair, vice chair, or party spokesperson. Delegates can also run for a chamber leadership position, including majority or minority leader, assistant leader, or whips. These positions are voted on by their respective party members on the first night of simulation.



Legislators also have the option to write original legislation, which is treated as any other piece of legislation already chosen by the Speaker of the House and the President of the Senate. Legislators meet in multiple caucuses throughout the weekend to formulate strategy.

The role of legislator also carries with it the responsibility of having full knowledge of one's assigned district, as well as their chamber bills. Legislators are also expected to work within the party and committee structure, and work with lobbyists and journalists throughout the simulation.

For more information on this role, contact:

Payton Raso, Speaker of the House – speaker@modelilgov.org

Chloe Compton, President of the Senate – president@modelilgov.org

Lobbyists

Lobbyists play a significant role in the success of the MIG simulation by serving as a source of knowledge for legislators and journalists on select bills. Lobbyists have the responsibility of having in-depth knowledge of the interests and issues related to the bills which they are representing, as well as the arguments for and against those bills. Lobbyists have the option of testifying in committees, and are expected to assist the General Assembly by proposing suggestions and amendments to the committees and floors.



For more information on this role, contact:

Sabrina LeBlanc, Lieutenant Governor – ltgovernor@modelilgov.org

Journalists



Just as the State Capitol has a press corps, so does MIG. Working as reporters for the *MIG Journal*, journalists are assigned to report on daily occurrences throughout the MIG simulation. Journalists cover chamber floor action and committee activities, interview Executive Board members and legislative leaders, and present daily issues which are of interest to the MIG community. The *MIG*

Journal is published daily on the MIG website and app, and features reports, editorial, and the “Miggies”, where journalists have the chance to try their hand at political commentary and satire. The MIG Executive Board plans to hold daily press briefings with the chamber heads in the Statehouse press room. MIG journalists will also receive press passes to grant them access to the house floor and committee rooms.

For more information on this role, contact:

Tim Kirsininkas, Attorney General – attorneygeneral@modelilgov.org

Moot Court

The Moot Court competition simulates arguments at the Illinois Supreme Court level. During the competition, teams of attorneys argue their case before a panel of student justices and legal professionals. Success within this competition is determined by knowledge of the case fact, presentation skills, legal forensic skills, and logical arguments. In addition to oral arguments, student attorneys will have the opportunity to write a legal brief on the case fact pattern and submit them for comments by legal professionals. This simulation will help pre-law students with preparing for professional law school by helping them understand the process of legal proceedings and allowing for them to attain legal skills, including but not limited to case analysis, synthesis of cogent arguments, advocating for a client, and writing and speaking effectively.

For more information on this role, contact:

Christopher Dorsett, Chief Justice – chiefjustice@modelilgov.org

Office of Management and Budget

The Office of Management and Budget handles all fiscal aspects of the State Government. OMB delegates take into consideration all the bills passed by the General Assembly and necessary state expenditures, with the goal of creating a balanced state budget. This can be a valuable experience for students interested in accounting or business.

For more information on this role, contact:

Colin Cisco, Treasurer – treasurer@modelilgov.org

Ben Shafer, MIG Staff – tech@modelilgov.org

How to Set Up a New MIG Delegation

1. Find a Faculty Advisor by reaching out to your school's Political Science or Public Administration Departments, and have a discussion about setting up a MIG delegation. Your Faculty Advisor will be integral in assisting with fundraising, recruitment, and preparation efforts.
2. Contact your school's student government or board of trustees to begin the process of becoming a recognized student organization. Organizations typically are ineligible to receive funding from the college or university unless they are officially recognized. Discuss funding options with your student treasurer or president and begin fundraising efforts.
3. Compile a recruitment list and hold your first meeting. In order to make sure everyone is on the same page, it may help to hold meetings monthly or every other week during the fall semester, and every week during the spring semester.
4. Submit your delegation registrations, fees, and hotel reservations by the end of January. Consider contacting a MIG executive board member to assist you in hosting a "pre-sim day", to allow your delegates to practice parliamentary procedure. Pre-sim days are hosted at many locations across the state in the weeks leading up to simulation. Contact an executive board member or faculty advisor to find out where and when they will be hosted.

The members of the Model Illinois Government Executive Board are willing to help your delegation at every step of the way, and are always available for campus visits or phone calls. If you ever need assistance, feel free to contact the Office of the Governor or Lieutenant Governor.

For More Information:

Governor Elizabeth Roehrs
governor@modelilgov.org

Lt. Governor Sabrina LeBlanc
ltgovernor@modelilgov.org



Head Delegate, President, and Faculty Timeline

This timeline has been prepared by the Office of the Lieutenant Governor to assist Organization Presidents, Head Delegates, or Faculty Advisors effectively organize their time and adequately prepare their delegation for the simulation in Springfield. If you have questions or need assistance, contact Lieutenant Governor Sabrina LeBlanc at ltgovernor@modelilgov.org.

August-November

- Hold a recruitment table on campus. Try to get involved in your school's welcome days and involvement fairs, or set request a table spot at your school's commons area or student center.
- Using the names collected from your recruitment table, contact the interested students and call your first meeting one-two weeks later.
- Choose a head delegate. This should be a person with some MIG experience or good organizational and leadership skills. They will be primarily responsible for coordinating your delegation's efforts with the MIG executive board.

December

- Hold at least one meeting before winter break. At this time, ask your delegates what roles they would like to assume during the simulation. If they choose House or Senate, have them look at the committees and bills on the MIG website and begin to think about which party and committee they would like to request.
- Have delegates begin thinking about any original legislation they would like to submit. A guide to creating original legislation is available on the MIG website, and the Attorney General's Office can assist in the process. You may wish to encourage delegates to draft their bills over winter break and have it ready for review when school resumes.

January

- Contact the Springfield Wyndham and reserve your rooms. Your reservations should be in by mid-January.
- Hold meetings once a week during all of January. It may be helpful to choose a different delegate to chair each meeting to allow students a better understanding of parliamentary procedure and bill debate. All meetings should be carried out using Robert's Rules of Order, which can be found on

the MIG website, app, and in the back of this kit. You may also wish to reach out to an executive board member to help you hold a mock meeting.

- Submit your delegation's registrations on the MIG website. You may pay your registration fees at this time or when you arrive in Springfield.
- Make sure your legislators and lobbyists know which bills they will be responsible for, and have them begin researching.
- Finalize which roles your delegates will have. Any last minute switching should have been taken care of by the end of January. Final registration will be due by the meeting of the whole.

February

- Hold meetings **at least once a week** during this month. During these meetings, choose a particular bill from the MIG website to debate. A delegate can serve as the bill sponsor and yield to questions, and add lobbyists and whips to replicate floor proceedings. Before debating, come up with a list of pro and con sides to be sure of party stances. Again, it may be helpful to reach out to an Executive Board member to help you practice.
- Have your delegation's journalists (if any) contact the MIG Editor in Chief. The Attorney General will have the Editor's contact info.
- Make your delegation's travel arrangements to Springfield.
- February 28th, 2019—Simulation begins
- Upon arrival at the Springfield Wyndham, check your delegation in at the MIG registration desk on the lower level to receive your badges and simulation information.
- Freshman delegates are encouraged to attend the First Year Delegate Orientation Program on the first night.

March

- March 1st-3rd, 2018 – Simulation
- Anything after simulation is at the discretion of your school. Some institutions hold a meeting or two after simulation to discuss what they thought went well, and what they'd like to improve on for the coming year.

Helpful Resources for Delegates

Click any link below to access from PDF

[MIG Website](#)

[MIG Constitution](#)

[MIG Rules and Bylaws](#)

[MIG App Download](#)

[Registration and Hotel Reservations](#)

[House Bills and Rules](#)

[Senate Bills and Rules](#)

[Original Legislation Resources](#)

[Lobbyist Handbook and Resources](#)

[Office of Management and Budget Handbook and Resources](#)

[Moot Court Information](#)

[Executive Board](#)

Follow us on social media for MIG updates:



Parliamentary Terms and Debate Procedure



Model Illinois Government
Parliamentary Procedure at a Glance

You want to:	You say:	Can you interrupt:	Does it need a 2nd:	Debatable:	Amendable:	Vote needed:
Close meeting	Move to adjourn	No	Yes	No	No	Majority
Take a break	Move to recess	No	Yes	No	Yes	Majority
Register complaint	Point of Personal Privilege	Yes	No	No	No	Chair Decision
Temporarily move on	Move to table	No	Yes	No	No	Majority
Close debate	Move previous question	No	Yes	No	No	2/3
Limit or extend debate	Move to limit/extend debate	No	Yes	No	Yes	2/3
Modify wording	Move to amend	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority
Bring business forward	Move that...	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority
Enforce rules	Point of Order	Yes	No	No	No	Chair Decision
Appeal decision	Appeal the decision of the chair	Yes	Yes	If motion was	No	Majority
Demand voice or electronic count after vote is taken	Division	Yes	No	No	No	None
Request information	Point of Information	Yes	No	No	No	None
Bring back into consideration	Move to take from the table	No	Yes	No	No	Majority
Cancel previous action*	Move to rescind	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	2/3
Reconsider motion*	Move to reconsider	No	Yes	If motion was	No	Majority

*Must be member of prevailing side

Debate Procedure:

1. Chair calls committee to order
2. Vice Chair reads synopsis of the bill

3. Short Debate (Long Debate)

Opening Statements

1(2) min. majority

1(2) min minority

First Round

3(5) min majority

3(5) min minority

Rebuttal

3(5) min majority

3(5) min minority

Closing Statements

1(2) min majority

1(2) min minority

4. Chair conducts vote on bill. Chair votes only in event of a tie.

Parliamentary Debate Tips

-Always start by saying "Thank you Mr./Madame Chair, thank you Majority/Minority leader"

-Always address the chair and vice chair. Do not address the opposing side directly.

-When you are done speaking, yield your time back to your party leader, **not the chair or the opposing side**

Your Executive Board



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