

INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC SOCIETY

School Partnership Proposal

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The International Economic Society (IES) is a student-led, international academic organization designed to enhance global economic literacy among high school students. IES provides a structured yet flexible framework through which students engage in proactive discussion and exploration of economics, public policy, and global affairs, emphasizing real world relevance and accessibility.

Operating as an international network of independent school chapters, IES enables students to participate in meaningful local engagement while contributing to shared global initiatives. Each chapter is founded, led, and managed entirely by students across five core leadership roles, under the supervision of a faculty advisor, ensuring both leadership development and compliance with school policies.

IES chapters meet regularly to collaborate, discuss, and engage with current global economic events through structured, student-led discussions, common formats including forums, debriefs, or panel discussions. Beyond meetings, IES offers three official flagship competitions each diving into a specific aspect. The Global Economics Challenge serves as the assessment competition, the Economic Policy Recommendation as the presentation competition, and the IES Global Research Paper serves as the research competition where the highest scorers will be published in the IES journal. These competitions serve to provide students with opportunities to demonstrate academic excellence across individual and team formats on an international stage.

IES is intentionally designed to be zero-cost, low-barrier, and adaptable. Schools do not need to allocate any monetary resources and advisor workload is designed to be at a minimum. Chapters do not require external speakers, advanced coursework, or funding in order to operate successfully. IES will provide necessary resources and materials for students' education and preparation. Programming is discussion-focused, interdisciplinary, and suitable for students with no prior background in economics.

By hosting an IES chapter, schools provide students with opportunities to develop critical thinking, leadership, communication, and global awareness skills within a structured and academically enriching environment that complements existing curriculum and fosters informed, globally minded students.

MISSION AND VALUES

The mission of the International Economic Society is to make global economics understandable, accessible, and relevant to high school students. IES aims to foster informed discussion, critical thinking, and international collaboration among chapter members, cultivating a genuine interest in the fields of economics, public policy, and global affairs. Through structured chapter programs and official flagship international competitions, IES provides students with both the environment to develop their thinking and the platforms to apply it, show passion, and earn recognition.

Core Values

- **Accessibility:** No prior background in economics is required to participate.
- **Clarity:** Emphasis on real-world applications rather than abstract theory.

- **Student Leadership:** Chapters are founded, managed, and led entirely by students. Fostering students with the accountability, leadership, and responsibility needed to empower their futures.
- **Respectful Dialogue:** Diverse perspectives are encouraged within a structured, respectful environment where all voices are heard.
- **Global Awareness:** Students engage with international viewpoints and current affairs even while remaining grounded in local contexts of their communities.

CHAPTER STRUCTURE AND GOVERNANCE

Each IES chapter is student-founded and student-run, operating under an established, shared international framework. All leadership roles are held by students, providing meaningful organizational and professional experience before future career and academic endeavors.

Leadership Roles

- President
- Secretary
- Head of Competitions
- Head of Research
- Head of Marketing and Media

Faculty Advisor

Each chapter operates under the supervision of an advisor in accordance with school policies. The advisor's role is focused on supervision instead of management, and may include ensuring compliance with school guidelines, providing guidance when needed, and serving as an administrative point of contact. IES is designed to minimize the workload placed on faculty advisors.

PROGRAMS AND COMPETITIONS

In-Person Events and Meetings

IES chapters host regular in-person events designed to promote proactive discussion and engagement with global economic events and issues. Students are expected to collaborate, research, share opinions, and debate about global economic affairs. While lecture and curriculum material will be available, events are structured to be student-led and discussion-based, typically lasting between 30 and 45 minutes. They may be held in classrooms, libraries, or other school-approved spaces subject to administrative approval where applicable.

Common event formats include:

- **Moderated discussion forums:** A structured conversation where one or more students act as moderators and guide the group through a specific economic topic or question.
- **Current Event Debriefs:** Students come prepared having read recent economic news and data and discuss what happened, why, and the implications it may have.
- **Panel-style student discussions:** A small group of students sit as a panel and present their perspectives on an economic issue while the rest of the chapter listens and asks questions.
- **Case-based economic challenges:** Students are presented with an economic scenario and must analyze and propose a solution.

- Country or region economic spotlights: One or more students research and present on the current economic situation of a specific country or region followed by group discussion.

Outreach and School Engagement

Beyond formal meetings, chapters engage their school communities through school-approved classroom presentations, informational sessions, and communications. These efforts ensure that students who may not traditionally engage with economics related activities are able to participate and contribute.

IES Three Branch Competition

Exam Event (GEC) - **The Global Economics Challenge (GEC)** is IES's flagship individual assessment event. Participants complete an online-proctored 50 question multiple-choice exam (MCQ) built entirely around real-world economic scenarios. The GEC is 75 minutes and open to all active chapter members.

Presentation Event (EPR) - **The Economic Policy Recommendation (EPR)** is IES's premier team online presentation event. Teams of 2–4 students are assigned an economic theme and must develop a structured policy proposal to a live virtual judging panel in a time frame to not exceed 8 minutes, followed by a judge Q&A. The EPR is judged on a multi-disciplinary rubric.

Research Event (GRP) - **The IES Global Research Paper (GRP)** is IES's research and writing competition. Each cycle is centered around a featured country, and participants — individually or in pairs — submit an original research paper exploring any economic topic related to that nation. The GRP rewards depth of research, quality of analysis, and strength of academic writing.

All three competitions recognize top finishers with physical awards and certificates, with additional special recognition categories across each event.

BENEFITS TO THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY

Hosting an IES chapter offers a range of institutional and student benefits that complement existing academic programs.

Academic Enrichment

- Encourages critical thinking, proactive research, and discussion-based learning
- Supports interdisciplinary connections between economics, global studies, and related academic disciplines
- Exposes students to real-world economic events and issues beyond the standard curriculum

Leadership Development

- Provides structured, meaningful leadership roles entirely held by students
- Develops organizational, communication, and collaboration skills applicable beyond the classroom
- Prepares students for university-level extracurricular and professional environments

Competition and Achievement

- Provides students with access to official IES competitions across individual and team formats
- Recognizes academic excellence through a structured awards and recognition system

- Motivates students to apply their learning in meaningful, high-stakes settings

Accessibility and Inclusivity

- No participation fees required
- No prerequisite coursework needed
- Adaptable to schools of varying sizes, resources, and academic environments

OPERATIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

IES does not require chapters to secure funding, pay membership fees, invite external speakers, or gain sponsorships in order to operate successfully. Chapter creation and member participation is completely free and any optional expenses are determined locally and subject to school approval if applicable. All chapter activities are expected to operate fully within school policies and guidelines, and all events and venues are subject to administrative approval as required.

We expect chapters to meet approximately twice per month but understand that schedules vary to due availability. Time commitments beyond standard meetings vary based on leadership role. IES is designed to be a sustainable extracurricular organization alongside students' existing academic and extracurricular obligations. We do not foresee participation in the organization to burden members, and chapter leadership is encouraged to be accommodating with member schedules.

The International Economic Society offers schools a structured, low-barrier to entry, and academically meaningful opportunity to enhance global economics education and student leadership. Through access to curriculum and meaningful competitions, students will gain real-world applicable knowledge and gain an opportunity to show passion for economics. By supporting an IES chapter, schools invest in informed, engaged, and globally minded students.

Contact and Next Steps

We welcome future International Economic Society chapters and are available to discuss how IES could be established at your school. Additional materials including, curriculum, chapter guidelines and bylaws, and onboarding support onto our platforms are available upon request. To submit an application please refer to our website at <https://www.internationaleconomicsociety.org>. We will review your application promptly and contact you for further processes and details required.

Thank you for your consideration.