



Civic participation begins with civic education

Preparing Your Students for the Courtroom to Classroom Program Visit

You have registered to participate in our Courtroom to Classroom program. This program provides opportunities for your students to interact with judges and attorneys as they learn about the Constitution, the Bill of Rights, and the U.S. Supreme Court.

Here's how the program works...

- A judge or attorney will come to your class and do a lesson with your students. The lesson will begin with a PowerPoint presentation introducing a law-related concept. After the PowerPoint presentation, your students will participate in a moot court activity that has them take the roles of attorneys and Supreme Court justices. They will hear and argue a real Supreme Court case that deals with the constitutional issues that were introduced in the PowerPoint presentation.

Prior to the Visit...

- Prior to the visit do one of the following to help prepare your students:
Option 1: We have created a PowerPoint presentation that should take less than one class period and will introduce the students to some basic information about the law and the legal system, including the difference between trial and appellate courts.
Option 2: We have created a "student handbook" that you could pass out and review with your students prior to the first visit. We also created a "bar exam," should you want to use it.
Option 3: Take a look at the content that the materials above cover and come up with your own way of ensuring your students are ready for the visits. Your students may already know a lot of the information covered.

Here's how you can help make this a great experience for you, your students, and your judge or attorney volunteer:

- Try to be as flexible as possible in scheduling. The volunteers are excited about the program, but will have to juggle their calendars to find days and times when they can visit. The more options you can give them, the better.
Note: most volunteers will only be able to visit with one class period.
- Be sure your students are prepared by using the [Introductory Lesson](#) or your own activities/discussion.

- It is especially nice if you can send a student to the main office to greet the volunteer when they come for the visit. It is extremely helpful to them to have a student take them to your classroom.
- It is very helpful if you have your students make nametags or desk placards with their names on them so that the guests can call them by name during the lessons.
- When the volunteer is visiting, help with classroom management, dividing students into groups for the moot court, etc.

After your classroom visit, please take a moment to complete the online Teacher Evaluation and have your students complete the online Student Evaluation.