



STARTING A MODEL UN CLUB

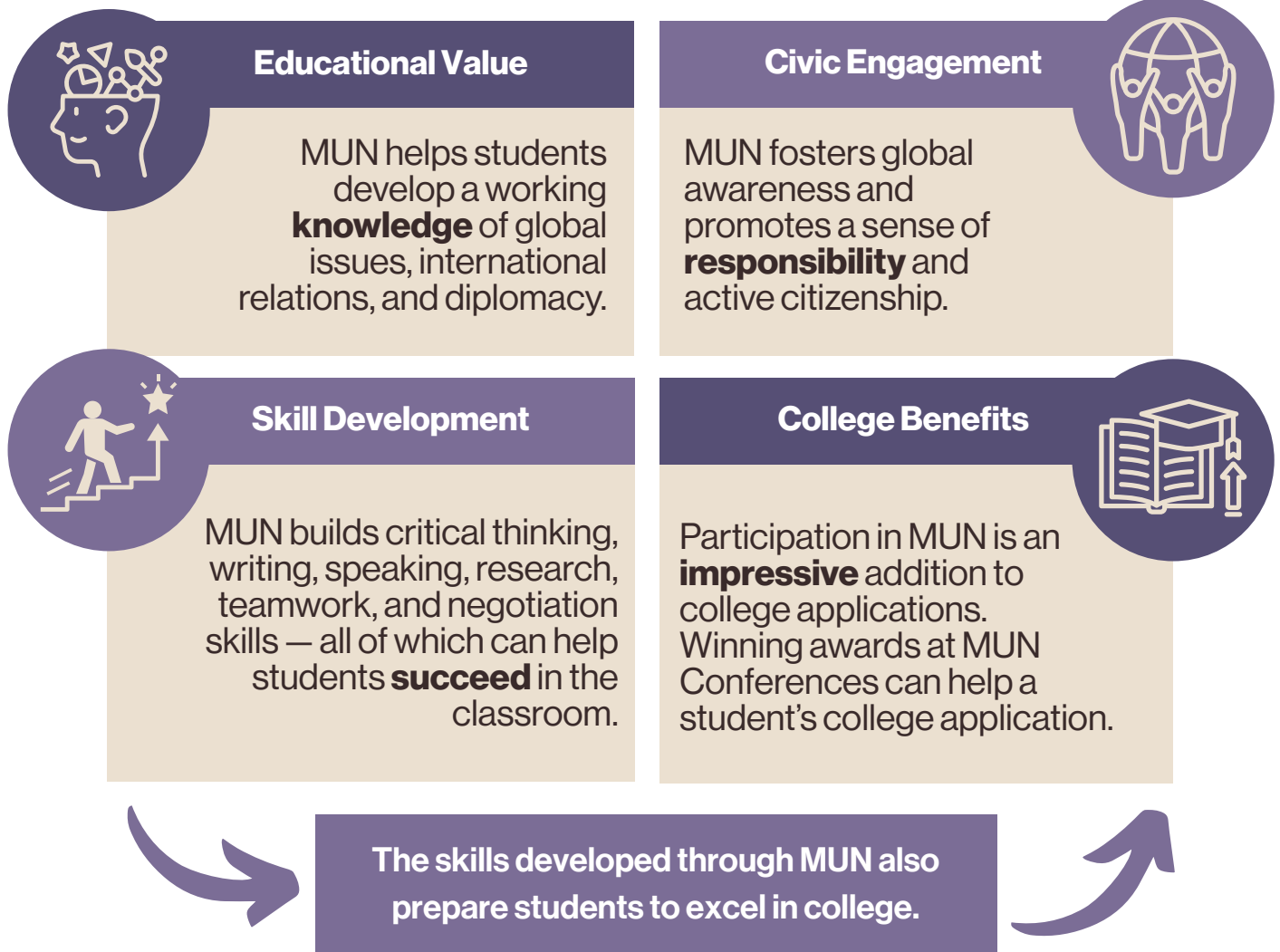
Starting a Model UN Club will look different at every school, as every school has different policies on extracurricular activities. This toolbox aims to provide a general overview of the questions you should think through when starting a club or program and the hurdles you might encounter at your school.

What is Model United Nations?

Model United Nations (MUN) is an educational simulation where students role-play as “delegates” representing different countries at the United Nations (UN) and simulate UN committees, typically at events called “conferences.” Students take on the role of diplomats and work together to resolve global issues through debate, negotiation, and drafting resolutions.



Why Organize a Model UN Club?



What is My Role in the Model UN Club?

As the adult helping organize the club, you may be a teacher, an administrator, a parent, or a school employee. Typically, you will be referred to as the **MUN Advisor, Sponsor, or Moderator**.

As the advisor, your role in the MUN Club can vary, but typically includes:

Administrative Liaison: Work with school administration to ensure the club complies with school policies, budgets, and extracurricular requirements.

Facilitator: Oversee club meetings and activities, ensuring that all students are participating and learning.

Mentor: Guide students in their research, preparation for conferences, and public speaking skills.

Conference Liaison: Register and provide the required materials for the club to attend conferences.

What Processes Might I Need to Address with the School’s Administration?

Before you begin the club, it’s important to know the administrative steps and approvals needed at your school. The advisor-administrator relationship is a key element in setting your club up for success. Some common hurdles to address include:

Club Approval Process

Submit an Application

Most schools require a formal application for any new extracurricular activity. This can involve submitting a written proposal, detailing the purpose, benefits, and logistical needs of the club.

Sponsor Agreement

You will likely need to officially commit as the club’s sponsor, confirming your role and responsibilities.

Student Participation Requirements

Club Rules and Code of Conduct

Many schools have a code of conduct for student clubs, including attendance policies, behavior expectations, and academic standing requirements. Familiarize yourself with these policies to ensure compliance.

Budget and Funding

Understand the School’s Financial Policies

MUN can involve travel costs, registration fees for conferences, and other club expenses. Work with your school’s financial officer to understand if your MUN club can have its own account and learn your school’s requirements for making payments to conferences and hotels.

Request Funding

Work with your administration to understand funding opportunities, create a budget proposal for school funds, and/or organize fundraising initiatives.

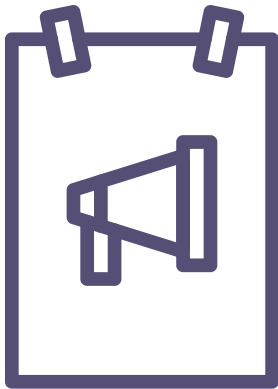
Fundraising

If there is no immediate school funding available, consider organizing fundraising events, seeking sponsorships from local businesses, or reaching out to COMMUN to identify funding opportunities.

How Can I Recruit Students to Join the MUN Club?

Create Awareness

Host an informational session early in the school year. Use posters, flyers, and social media to advertise the informational session. Advertise club meetings in school announcements.



Identify Student Advocates

Encourage interested students to talk to their friends and classmates about starting a MUN club.



Offer Trial Experiences

After identifying interested students, reach out to COMMUN to organize an informal, mock MUN session to help students gain a firsthand understanding of MUN.

