The college supports and promotes student organizations and clubs to serve the interest of both the students and the college. Student groups seeking official recognition must be approved by the Student Services Committee. Please contact the Vice President for Student Services (VPSS).

**How to Start an Organization**
Students who would like to establish an organization or club at SouthArk should submit the following to the Vice President for Student Services for consideration and approval. To apply, submit an official application (available in the VPSS office) which includes the following:

1. Name of organization or club
2. A declaration of the purpose, goals, activities, membership requirements, constitution and by-laws
3. SouthArk employee sponsor
4. At least five signatures of potential members (must be students at SouthArk)

The VPSS will take the completed applications to the Student Services Committee for action and approval.

**How to Join a Club or Organization**
Students enrolled at SouthArk are encouraged to participate in extracurricular activities. Most organizations have open membership available to all students. However, some have selective membership based upon local, state, or national criteria. Students interested in joining a club/organization should contact the appropriate club sponsor.

**Clubs and Organizations**

**Association of Radiography Students.** Open to students currently enrolled in the Rad Tech program at SouthArk. Its purpose is to promote the program and to promote ethical conduct while serving as role models/mentors for future students.

**Health Occupations Students of America Secondary School Chapter (HOSA).** HOSA is a national organization for secondary students enrolled in health occupations programs. The activities for HOSA are an integral part of the instructional skills as well as leadership skills. HOSA members are involved in community-oriented, career related, and leadership development activities. Students from local chapters may attend regional, statewide and national conferences for leadership training and chapter management and participate in HOSA competitive events that test and recognize the students’ competencies in their chosen health occupation and related skills.

**Omega Theta Alpha (OTA).** This group was established to support the Occupational Therapy Assistant (OTA) program and its students within SouthArk, to promote the program in college and community activities, to provide curricular and extra-curricular learning experiences, and to serve as role models/mentors for future students.

**Phi Beta Lambda (PBL).** PBL is designed particularly for those students who are preparing for careers in business or business education but is open to all students. Membership in PBL provides students with a variety of activities designed to encourage interest, stimulate motivation, develop business skills, and increase knowledge of the business world. In fall and in spring, PBL will have the opportunity to participate in state leadership conferences.

**Phi Theta Kappa (PTK).** The Alpha Gamma Iota Chapter of PTK was established in 1977. The purpose of this national scholastic honor organization is to recognize outstanding academic
achievement in community colleges. Membership is by invitation and requires a 3.50 GPA and current student status.

**Pi Theta Alpha (PTA).** Pi Theta Alpha was established to support and promote the Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) program at SouthArk and in the community. The organization provides extracurricular learning experiences in the field of physical therapy, and develops its members as role models/mentors for future PTA students at SouthArk. Membership is open to current and former SouthArk PTA students.

**SkillsUSA.** Membership in SkillsUSA is open to secondary and postsecondary students enrolled in the various vocational-technical career fields. SkillsUSA’s purpose is to help students develop social and leadership skills. Activities that enhance the development of these skills are conducted by the club’s members and advisors. Each technical group elects officers from its membership. Members are eligible to represent the college in statewide and national competitive events. Active SkillsUSA groups include students enrolled in Automotive Technology, Criminal Justice, Cosmetology, Welding, and various other program areas.

**SouthArk Nursing Students (SANS).** This group’s activities are an integral part of the development of instructional and leadership skills for practical nursing students. SANS members are involved in community-oriented, career related, and leadership development activities.

**Student Government Association (SGA).** This group of representatives from all college programs serves as an official and representative student organization and the official voice through which student opinion may be expressed. It investigates student issues and takes appropriate action, encourages the development of responsible student participation in the overall policy and decision making process at SouthArk, fosters an awareness of the student’s role in the learning community, enhances the quality and scope of education at the college, and provides a means for responsible and effective participation in the organization of student life.

**National Society of Leadership and Success.** This Society is the nation’s largest leadership honor society. Students are selected by their college for membership based on either academic standing or leadership potential. Candidacy is a nationally recognized achievement of honorable distinction.

In addition to honorable distinction, the Society provides a step-by-step program for members to build their leadership skills through participation at their campus or online. Upon completion of the program, members receive their leadership certificate and take their place among the top student leaders at their campus and across the country. Members are able to list their affiliation on all statements of personal accomplishment, including their resume.

Membership is for life and provides access to benefits including scholarships and awards, exclusive on-campus events.