



NATIONAL Science Bee

ANNOUNCING AN EXPANDED NATIONAL SCIENCE BEE FOR 2018-2019!

International Academic Competitions (www.iacompetitions.com - the organizers of Sunday's and Monday's competitions at Nationals, as well as the US Geography Olympiad, the International History Olympiad, the International Geography Bee World Championships, and the Varsity and JV National History Bee and Bowl, inter alia) is delighted to announce that for the 2018-2019 academic year, we will be launching Intramural and Regional levels of the National Science Bee and additional competition rounds at the 2019 National Championships! Here's what you can expect:

All Levels: There will be 4 separate age divisions: 8th, 7th, 6th, and 5th and younger. Younger students will compete on easier questions. All buzzer-based questions will be read by teachers / experienced academic competition staff. IAC will be hiring additional full and part time staff over the next few months to coordinate this expansion of our competition opportunities and investing in a major nationwide outreach effort in the coming months to promote the National Science Bee.

Intramural Level: Optional Classroom Level Exams or schoolwide "On-Stage" style competition, followed by a Regional Qualifying Exam to determine which students qualify for the regional finals. Registration for schools at this level will be **free of charge**, will open by September 2018, and run through mid-January 2019.

Regional Finals: Approximately 30-35 Regional Level Tournaments will run throughout the country between Presidents' Day Weekend and early April. The top scorers off the Regional Qualifying Exam for a given region will be notified around the beginning of February and given a set period of time to register. If space permits, lower scoring students will be permitted to register for the Regional Finals as well.

The Regional Finals will feature a minimum of 2 rounds of buzzer-based Bee-style competition (following standard IAC Bee rules with 30 questions per round). Students will also have either an exam or a third round of buzzer play (we're not sure yet) as well as a chance to take the National Qualifying Exam for the US Geography Olympiad and the International Geography Bee. The Regional Finals will cost \$30 per student. We anticipate that the majority of these competitions will run on weekends though some may run on weekdays. We also plan on using the Regional Finals as an opportunity to promote the US Academic Bee and Bowl which we want to expand to 20-30 regional tournaments next school year, most of which will run from late March to late April.

If your school might be interested in hosting a Science Bee or a US Academic Bee and Bowl Regional tournament, please email David Madden at david@iacompetitions.com! Benefits include many free registrations at the Regional Finals level and a discount at the National Championships.

National Championships: The National Championships of the National Science Bee will be held in early June in conjunction with all the events that are being held this weekend (including the National History Bee and Bowl) to make it easy for students and teams to plan flights and travel. We anticipate offering 5 rounds of preliminary competition with 30 questions per round, then playoffs and expanded prizes to the top students.

Additional information will be posted to www.nationalsciencebee.com over the coming weeks and months. Thank you for your continued support of our mission to support academic competition throughout the USA!