



What is Science Olympiad?

Science Olympiad is a national nonprofit organization providing team-based STEM competitions to students in grades K–12. There are more than 7,600 Science Olympiad teams across the country.

Science Olympiad competitions are like academic track meets, with teams of 15 students competing in 23 events in each division (Division B is middle school; Division C is high school). Events emphasize hands-on, group challenges in subjects like genetics, earth science, chemistry, anatomy, physics, geology, mechanical engineering, and technology.

Some events involve moving through a series of stations, answering questions and solving problems. Others place competitors in a lab setting to test chemicals and perform experiments. For building events, participants spend countless hours prior to the competition designing and creating complex machines that are then put to the test.

Here are a few examples of Science Olympiad events:

Experimental Design: Given a set of unknown objects, teams will design and conduct an experiment, analyze the results, and write up a comprehensive lab report—all in under an hour.

Game On: Teams must design and program an original computer game based on a given theme (again, in under an hour).

Disease Detectives: Students will use investigative skills in the scientific study of disease, injury, health, and disability to diagnose illnesses.

Scrambler: Competitors must design, build, and test a vehicle that uses the energy from a falling mass to transport an egg along a track as quickly as possible and stop as closely as possible to a terminal barrier without breaking the egg.

What happens at the Science Olympiad National Tournament?

After advancing through regional and state tournaments, the best teams in each state qualify for the National Tournament (SONT). More than 120 teams, including one from Japan, will travel to Wright State University for a long weekend of intense competition and fun activities.

Teams will begin arriving on Wednesday and Thursday, May 17 and 18. Some will stay in local hotels, but many will stay in Wright State's on-campus housing.

On Thursday and Friday, the university will provide a series of fun and educational activities that allow the students to make new friends and explore everything our campus has to offer. When Wright State hosted the SONT in 2013, these activities included scavenger hunts; tours of the biology preserve, 3D visualization lab, and anatomy cadaver lab; informal chats with deans and faculty members; and demonstrations of unmanned aerial vehicles, robotic lawn mowers, and adaptive computing. On Thursday, the Student Union will be open for swimming, basketball, racquetball, ping pong, and dancing to DJ-provided music in the Atrium.

Teams and their coaches will attend a barbeque Friday night in the Wright State Nutter Center's McLin Gym. Then everyone gathers in the arena for the tournament's Opening Ceremony. This event is truly a spectacle featuring a Parade of States, welcome remarks, a Wright State video, and a keynote address. Following the ceremony, the students will move to the concourse for a "swap meet" where they can trade items they've brought from their home states with other teams from around the country.

The main competition takes place Saturday from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. The event is held across campus, utilizing more than 120 rooms in 16 buildings. Several events are open to spectators.

After the competitive events are finished, teams change into semi-formal attire to attend a banquet in the McLin Gym. The long day ends with a celebratory Awards Ceremony in the arena. Awards are presented to the top six finishers in each of the 46 events before the overall team results are announced and the tournament champions are crowned.





What does Wright State University gain by hosting SONT 2017?

The Science Olympiad National Tournament is Wright State's chance to showcase our campus, facilities, faculty, and programs to some of the country's best and brightest students.

Nearly 2,000 middle and high school students will compete in the tournament. Most are college bound. They are creative problem solvers who have developed strong work ethics and essential study habits. They are highly motivated and self-disciplined. They are well positioned to become exceptional college students and successful alumni. Typically, the host university offers scholarships to students on the winning teams, providing even more incentive for them to imagine themselves as Raiders.



The tournament brings more than just the student competitors. Most teams bring several more students as alternates. Parents and siblings also travel to Wright State to cheer on their family members. Team coaches will be important influencers to college-bound students for years to come. More than 5,000 students, educators, parents, and spectators are expected to attend the tournament.

Hosting this event brings awareness to Wright State even among the Science Olympiad teams who don't qualify, particularly the teams in Ohio who already know us. These teams work all year towards the common goal of making it to state and then moving on to nationals. Even if they don't actually make it here, they know that the National Tournament will be held at Wright State University.

Beyond the recruiting opportunity, the tournament allows Wright State to continue being an economic driver for our region. Over the course of three to five days, teams will spend money at area hotels, restaurants, and attractions, providing a boost to local businesses.





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Corporate logo on promotional materials and campus signage	
Corporate acknowledgment at opening and closing ceremonies	
Opportunity to present corporate sponsor scholarship at closing ceremony (pending approval from Science Olympiad national office)	
Corporate logo in tournament program and on website	
Corporate acknowledgment in Wright State press releases and newsroom stories	
Six VIP reception tickets and reserved seating for opening and closing ceremonies	

Supporting Sponsor	\$2,500
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