



2013-2014 Army JROTC Academic Bowl

Participate the Academic Competition and your team may win a chance to compete in the Academic Championship (JLAB) in Washington, DC!

There are many benefits of participating in the Academic Bowl including:

- Improve SAT/ACT scores
- Increase interest in college admissions
- Demonstrate academic strength of JROTC program
- Boost esprit de corps

Dates of Competition

October 1-22, 2013

Oct. 22 - Nov. 15, 2013

November 1-15, 2013

January 15-31, 2014

February 1-15, 2014

June 20-24, 2014

Practice Round for Level I

Team Registration

Level I – The Challenge

Practice Round for Level II

Level II – Zero Hour Threat

**JROTC Leadership and Academic
Championship**

IMPORTANT NOTES:

- All units may participate in Level I of the Leadership and Academic Bowl – two different tests administered during the same window of dates. For more information on the Leadership Bowl, click on the Leadership Bowl tab.
- All units are encouraged to form two teams – a Leadership Team and an Academic Team.
- Cadets may only participate on **one** team - either the Leadership team or the Academic Bowl team – no crossover between teams.
- Teams with scores in the top 50% in Level I will advance to Level II.
- Twenty-four Army academic teams will advance to the Academic Championship.
- If your school is prone to winter storms and school closings, do NOT wait until the last day to participate. Deadline extensions will be granted on a limited basis.
- All teams advancing to The Championship (JLAB) in Washington, DC will be asked to participate in a peer-to-peer tutoring project covering topics on the SAT/ACT (3-5 hours of prep work). Teams will also be asked to participate in a voluntary fundraiser.



Competition Website

COF Contests – To register and participate in the Practice Rounds, Level I and Level II, go to www.cofcontests.com.

How to Assemble an Academic Team

- Academic Team = 4 primary members and 2 alternates (cadets on Academic Team may NOT participate on Leadership Team)
- Cadets may be Juniors (11th grade), Sophomores (10th grade) or Freshmen (9th grade)
- NO seniors may participate

Each JROTC unit will be allowed one Academic Team consisting of **four cadets** – they may be freshmen, sophomores or juniors. Seniors may not be included on the team. Academic team members may NOT participate in the Leadership team. Two alternates may be named and may participate in the online testing. However, if selected to participate in the final competition in Washington, DC, **only four team members may attend JLAB.**

Selecting Team Members

Instructors may assess and select potential team members using the following criteria –

- Peer selection boards (e.g. interviews, essays)
- Teacher or school recommendations
- GPA
- Performance on the Practice Round (details below)
- Overall enthusiasm for the competition

PRACTICE ROUND

The Practice Round is taken individually, not as a team, and consists of 25 questions similar to those questions in Level I and II. The Practice Round is a great way to evaluate your entire unit's understanding of JROTC curriculum and general subjects. We encourage all cadets in the unit to take the Practice Round at an internet-accessible computer either in the classroom, at home, in the library or other location. The cadets should logon to www.cofcontests.com, select Army Academic Bowl, answer the questions and print out their scores to turn in to the instructor. It is up to each instructor to review the scores and determine members of the team.



How to Prepare the Team

One of the main goals of the JROTC Academic Bowl is to prepare students for state exit/graduation exams as well as college entrance exams, such as the SAT and ACT. However, many JROTC instructors are understandably interested in measuring how well their cadets are learning the JROTC curriculum. Therefore, we will have a mix of JROTC curriculum as well as English, Math and Science in each level of the competition. A few questions about current events are also included – focusing on national and international news, particularly international relations, politics, business and science. All of the current events questions will be taken from major media available on television, the internet and in daily newspapers (see suggested resources below).

Level I – The Challenge will include 25% JROTC questions, 65% SAT/ACT-type questions and 10% current events questions.

Level II – Zero Hour Threat will include 15% JROTC questions, 75% SAT/ACT-type questions and 10% current events questions.

We encourage all cadets, whether they are on the academic team or not, to prepare for the ACT, SAT and ASVAB tests by reviewing English, Science and Math coursework. There are several resources available, free-of-charge, to all students.

Websites to review include:

www.cofcontests.com – practice questions developed by the Foundation

www.cofcontests.com – online SAT and ACT guides

www.number2.com – a free test prep website

www.march2success.com – a free test prep website

www.khanacademy.org – a free website with math, history and science lessons

www.foxnews.com/index.html - FOX News

www.cnn.com/studentnews/ - CNN Student News

www.npr.org/ - National Public Radio

www.reuters.com/ - Reuters

www.usatoday.com/ - USA Today Newspaper

How to Register the Team

Team registration is open **Tuesday, October 22 – Friday, November 15** at www.cofcontests.com. All teams, regardless of previous participation, must register using a new User ID and Password. The instructor should click on Army Academic Bowl and then select Registration. It will take approximately 15 minutes to answer a few required questions to register your team – each unit may register ONE academic team.



The team must be registered prior to competing in Level I. We suggest that each instructor register his or her team before the team is ready to participate in Level I. We strongly encourage all teams to register and participate before the last day of competition.

All teams will be competing against similar teams within each Brigade. Each team will be automatically placed into a Division based on demographics including socio-economic and geographic factors.

Please be prepared to answer the following questions when registering:

High School Name, Address, Phone Number
Instructor Name, Email Address, Phone Number (office and cell)
Cadet Names, Grade, Gender, GPA, Email Address
High School Demographics – Number of students, Number in Free Lunch Program, Athletic Category (ex. 3A, 8A), type of school (suburban, rural, private, public, etc.)

*** Be prepared to create a User ID and Password to use throughout this year's competition and keep it in a secure place for future reference.**

How to Participate in Levels I and Level II (online)

1. The instructor or team captain should logon to www.cofcontests.com
2. Select the Army Academic Bowl
3. If the team has not registered, click on Team Registration (see instructions above)
4. Select **Level I – The Challenge** (Nov. 1-15)
5. Enter your User ID and Password – your high school name should appear
6. Follow directions on that page and begin the competition
7. Level I consists of approximately 75 questions and takes approximately 1 hour to complete. It is a **TEAM** event – all cadets on the team (incl. alternates) should sit at one computer and answer questions as a team.

If your team advances to **Level II – Zero Hour Threat** (Feb. 1-15), you will follow the same procedure, using the same User ID and password. **Keep your User ID and Password for this year's use.** If you misplace your password, you may go to www.cofcontests.com and Select Your Branch and Contest then click on Retrieve Your Team Password.



The Army Academic Championship (JLAB)

The twenty-four teams advancing to the Academic Championship in Washington, DC will be notified by email as soon as results of Level II are verified. At the Championship, teams will compete in a minimum of 10 rounds of competition using buzzers in a “college bowl” game. Teams will have one day to sightsee in Washington, DC.

Teams will be allowed to bring four cadets and one instructor. Additional male and female chaperones will be on staff at JLAB; however, a chaperone from the high school may also attend if required by the school district. If teams make more than one substitution to the roster recorded at the beginning of the online competition series, the instructor must provide a written explanation for the changes.

Travel costs, gas prices, additional airline fees and most importantly, cuts in educational funding, require that we are all as frugal as possible in our travel arrangements. All travel costs directly related to the event will be covered, but we will endeavor to minimize travel costs where possible and we hope the instructors will assist us in that area.

Each team will receive a travel allowance to cover transportation expenses such as:

1. ground transportation to/from Washington, DC airport to George Mason University
2. airfare or mileage (if driving)
3. incidentals – baggage, tips, etc.

The amount of the travel allowance will be determined by the location of the team and the average cost of travel from that area. Travel allowances will not exceed \$3,500; however, few teams, other than teams traveling from abroad, will require that amount. If travel costs are determined to exceed the authorized limit, the team may choose to either:

1. fundraise to collect the balance of the travel costs OR
2. receive a trophy and certificates of achievement donated by the Foundation in lieu of traveling to JLAB.

Official Rules of the Online Competition

1. The designated contact should be a JROTC instructor with access to email. Most correspondence with teams is through email; therefore, it is essential that instructors check their email and respond as soon as possible. Foundation staff is also available by phone for questions or concerns. (1-888-576-8287 or edonahue@collegeoptions.net)
2. Each JROTC unit will be allowed one academic team consisting of four cadets. The team may include juniors, sophomores and/or freshmen. Two alternates may be named and



- may participate in the online portion of the competition. No seniors may participate in the Academic Bowl. Academic team members may not participate on the Leadership team.
3. Level I and Level II are internet-based competitions. The team must have high speed (DSL, cable, etc.) internet access (not a dial-up connection).
 4. The Challenge and Zero Hour Threat each require approximately one hour to complete. Once a team has logged in, there is no ability to stop and start over. The competition must be completed in one sitting.
 5. No one is allowed in the room during the competition except for the 4 members of the team, 2 alternates and one instructor who will act as proctor for the test. Instructors may not assist the team with questions during the test.
 6. No outside sources (dictionary, thesaurus, text book, newspaper, etc.) are allowed. Calculators, pens/pencils and scratch paper are permitted.
 7. No communication about the competition with other JROTC teams or schools is allowed. Teams are not permitted to discuss the questions or design of the competition with anyone outside of the team members and instructors.
 8. All scores will be sent to the Foundation's server automatically. If a team believes there has been an error in scoring, the team must contact the Foundation via phone or email within 12 hours of the completion of their participation (upon finishing the game). A written explanation of the problem will be required and should be sent via email (edonahue@collegeoptions.net).
 9. If there is an electrical outage or other technical difficulty during the competition, the team must contact the Foundation via phone or email within 12 hours of the difficulty. A written explanation of the problem will be required and should be sent via email (edonahue@collegeoptions.net).
 10. The JROTC Academic Challenge relies on the adherence by all teams to the JROTC Code of Honor/Core Values. The Foundation expects that all team members and instructors will abide by all rules.
 11. Finally, we believe the **No. 1 rule in this competition is.... Have Fun!** We hope you enjoy this challenge.