

Rules for Participation in the U.S. National Chemistry Olympiad

The following rules apply to the National Chemistry Olympiad Competition only. For information on local exams, go to local competitions. Local sections are encouraged to develop their own procedures for identifying outstanding students at the local level and choosing national examination candidates.

1. Students must be U.S. citizens or legal, permanent residents of the United States (green card holders) to take the U.S. national examination.
2. High school students who will graduate no earlier than spring of a year in which they participate in the competition are eligible.
3. Students must be under 20 years of age on the first of July of the year of the competition.
4. No more than two students per high school per local section may be nominated to take the national exam. In the case of magnet programs, split enrollment, or cyber students, a student's school is defined as the high school from which the student will receive his or her diploma.
5. Eligible students who have previously attended the study camp automatically qualify for the national exam and do not count against the limit on the number of eligible students from their local section or school.
6. Winners of gold medals at the International Chemistry Olympiad are not eligible to participate in subsequent International Chemistry Olympiad competitions or study camps.
7. Students who have taken advanced placement courses in chemistry are eligible.
8. A student may participate only in the competition of the section in which the student's high school is located. In the case of a cyber-student, the student shall participate in the local section where he or she is geographically located, regardless of where the cyber school is located.
9. A student who participates in the Physics Olympiad study camp, the Mathematics Olympiad study camp, or the Biology Olympiad study camp is not eligible to participate in the Chemistry Olympiad study camp during the same summer.
10. Only non-programmable calculators are to be used on the national exam and on the ACS local section exam, if used. The use of a programmable calculator, cell phone, or any other device that can access the internet or make copies or photographs during the exam is grounds for disqualification.