

Illinois Association
of
Christian Schools

**BIBLE, ACADEMIC, & FINE ARTS
STATE TOURNAMENT**



**TOURNAMENT GUIDE
FOR
IACS STATE COMPETITIONS**

**HANDBOOK OF RULES AND GUIDELINES
FOR THE**

Illinois Association
of
Christian Schools

SENIOR HIGH, JUNIOR HIGH, & ELEMENTARY

BIBLE, ACADEMIC, & FINE ARTS TOURNAMENTS

Revised November 18, 2024

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PURPOSE OF TOURNAMENTS

The IACS Bible, Academic, and Fine Arts Tournaments have been developed to . . .

- provide motivation to the young people in our schools to achieve a greater skill in the use of God's Word,
- provide a challenge to strive for excellence in academic areas and for the fine arts,
- recognize and foster development of their God-given talents,
- provide a forum for measuring their accomplishments against defined standards of competition,
- give opportunity for fellowship with other Christian young people, and to
- select the best prepared senior high contestants to represent Illinois at the AACS National Competition.

The tournaments will encourage Christian young people to develop disciplined skills in various competitive areas so that they might better serve the Lord throughout their lives. Certainly a worthy goal of Christian education is to follow the example of our Savior who "...increased in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and man." (Luke 2:52)

COMPETITION MANUALS AND TOURNAMENT AIDES

The following information is intended to be of help to your school in the tournament preparation process:

A. Rules and Regulations of Competition Categories

The 2020 AACS National Competition Manual will be the guide for competition categories. If a state competition category allows an exception to the national guidelines, it will be noted in this handbook when addressing that particular category. Any questions should be directed to the appropriate tournament office. The 2020 AACS National Competition Manual can be purchased on the AACS website (www.aacs.org).

B. Science Fair

The 2020 AACS Science Fair Competition Manual will be the guide for the Science Fair competition. All Science Fair participants are required to follow the procedures and format described in this manual. This manual can be purchased on the AACS website (www.aacs.org).

C. Bible Quiz Questions

Bible Quiz practice questions can be purchased from the following sources:

Dan Zacharias
Old Dominion Assoc. of Christian Schools
Email: vaodacs@icloud.com
Phone: 540.896.2785

Roy Callan
Heritage Hall (Muncie, Indiana)
Email: coachcallan@sbcglobal.net
Phone: 765.730.5261

Note: There may be other places where Bible Quiz Questions can be purchased. The IACS office purchases the state competition questions from Dan Zacharias.

CLASSES OF COMPETITIONS

Class designations (A and AA) have been eliminated at the state level for the Junior High and Elementary competitions.

For Senior High, two class distinctions shall be made in the categories of Youth Choir, Choral Group, Handbell/Handchime Choir, and Orchestra/Band.

Class A	60 or fewer students in Senior High (grades 9-12)
Class AA	61 or more students in Senior High (grades 9-12)

On the Senior High level, Class A schools may choose to compete as a Class AA school ONLY if this intention is indicated on the tournament registration form. In this case, the Class A school would be expected to compete as a Class AA school in all categories where class distinctions are made. If a Class A school wins the state competition while competing in the Class AA category, that school will be expected to compete at the Class AA level at the AACS National Competition. Class AA schools may only compete as Class AA schools. (2020 AACS National Competition Manual, page 4)

ELIGIBILITY OF CONTESTANTS

A. Senior High Competition

1. Senior High competition is open to students in grades 9-12. (See 9th grade restrictions in Section D.)
2. Students in grades 7-8 may compete in Orchestra/Band, Handbell/Handchime Choir, and Youth Choir.

B. Junior High Competition

1. Junior High competition is open to students in grades 7-9.
2. Students in grades 4th, 5th, and 6th may compete in Orchestra/Band.
3. Students in grade 6 may compete in Youth Choir and Bible Quiz.
4. Students in 9th grade are NOT eligible to take Junior High Academic tests.

C. Elementary Competition

Elementary competition is open to students in grades 4-6.

D. 9th Grade Student Participation

The following is set as the guidelines for the state of Illinois. However, it is up to each school to make the decision as to which competition(s) a 9th grader may participate.

Category	JH	SH	Comments
Bible Quiz	X	X	May participate on JH or SH team or both
Bible Memory	X	X	May participate in JH or SH or both
Bible Teaching	X	X	May participate in JH or SH or both (CANNOT use the same piece in JH and SH competition)
Preaching	X	X	May participate in JH or SH or both (CANNOT use the same piece in JH and SH competition)

Music - Individual	X	X	May participate in JH or SH or both (CANNOT use the same piece in JH and SH competition)
Music - Group	X	X	May participate in JH or SH or both
Speech - Individual	X	X	May participate in JH or SH or both (CANNOT use the same piece in JH and SH competition)
Speech - Group	X	X	May participate in JH or SH or both
Art	X	X	May participate in JH or SH or both (CANNOT use the same piece in JH and SH competition)
Academic Testing		X	May participate in SH only

E. Homeschool Students

Member schools may choose to allow homeschool students to participate in IACS/AACS Bible, Academic, and Fine Arts competitions provided the following guidelines are met:

1. The student must be enrolled at the member school.
2. The student must be on track to earning at least one credit (other than Physical Education) at the member school during the current school year.
3. A participating student must successfully complete at least one credit (other than Physical Education) at the member school in order to maintain eligibility for the following year.
4. The student should be included in the total student count when reporting yearly IACS enrollment.

Note: Member schools may add additional requirements at their own discretion.

LIMITATION OF CONTESTANTS

A. Senior High Competition

1. Individual Participation - A student may enter the following:

- One individual Bible performance category (Preaching, Bible Memory, Bible Teaching)
- One individual Music category
- One individual Speech category (Acting and Debate are considered group categories.)
- Three Art categories (Each school may only send three Art entries per category.)
- One Science Fair category
- The Spelling Bee (*An individual may not be entered in the Spelling Bee and Bible Memory, because these two events occur at the same time.*)
- Unlimited Academic tests
- The same individual may be entered in Bible Quiz, Readers' Theatre, Choric Speaking, and each Music group category.

Keep in mind that if an individual is entered in all of the above, he may have serious scheduling conflicts on tournament day.

2. School Participation - A school may enter the following:
- Art Three entries per individual category
 - Academics Unlimited number of participants
 - Spelling/Science Fair Three contestants per individual category
 - Bible Three contestants per individual category
 - Bible Quiz Two Bible Quiz teams (Team members may not cross over from one team to the other team at any time during the tournament.)
 - Music Two contestants per individual category
Two groups per group category
One Choral Group
One Handbell/Handchime Choir
One Orchestra/Band
One Youth Choir
 - Speech Two contestants per individual category
Two Acting teams (group category)
One Readers' Theatre
One Choric Speaking group

3. Nationals Participation (AACs Manual, page 3)
Competition is divided into 5 areas (Bible, Music, Speech, Art, and Academics).
In individual competition, a student may enter one category in each of these areas: Bible, Music, and Speech. In addition, a student may enter one or two Art categories and one or two Academic categories. However, he may not enter both composition categories or both Science Fair categories. (AACs Manual, page 51, Academic General Rules)

Example: A student may enter Sacred Piano, Declamation, English Testing, Calligraphy, and Sculpture.

Example: A student may enter Expository Preaching, Vocal Solo, Sculpture, and Old Testament Bible Knowledge.

This applies only to individual competition. A student may enter group competition in addition to the three individual categories.

Note: Students entering **Bible Memory, Debate, and Spelling** may encounter **irreconcilable scheduling conflicts** and should limit their competition to **one** of these categories. Bible Memory, Debate, and Spelling are scheduled at specific times and for blocks of time that cannot be adjusted. Debate especially can involve a competitor for several hours. If a competitor is involved in other performance events that conflict, **he will be required to forfeit a conflicting event.**

B. Junior High Competition

1. Individual Participation - A student may enter the following:

- One individual Bible performance category (Preaching, Bible Memory, Bible Teaching)
- One individual Music category
- One individual Speech category (Acting is considered a group category.)
- Two Art categories (Each school may only send two Art entries per category.)
- One Science Fair category
- The Spelling Bee (*An individual may not be entered in the Spelling Bee and Bible Memory, because these two events occur at the same time.*)
- Unlimited Academic tests
- The same individual may be entered in Bible Quiz and each Music group category.
Keep in mind that if an individual is entered in all of the above, he may have serious scheduling conflicts on tournament day.

2. School Participation - A school may enter the following:

- Art Two entries per individual category
- Academics Unlimited number of participants
- Spelling/Science Fair Three contestants per individual category
- Bible Three contestants per individual category
- Bible Quiz Two Bible Quiz teams (Team members may not cross over from one team to the other team at any time during the tournament.)
- Music Two contestants per individual category
Two groups per group category
One Choral Group
One Handbell/Handchime Choir
One Orchestra/Band
One Youth Choir
- Speech Two contestants per individual category
Two Acting teams (group category)

C. Elementary Competition

1. Individual Participation - A student may enter the following:

- One individual Music category
- One individual Speech category
- Three Art categories
- The Spelling Bee
- Unlimited Academic tests
- The same individual may be entered in Bible Quiz and each Music group category.
Keep in mind that if an individual is entered in all of the above, he may have serious scheduling conflicts on tournament day.

2. School Participation – A school may enter the following:

- Art Two contestants per grade per category
- Academics Unlimited number of participants
- Bible Quiz Two Bible Quiz teams (Team members may not cross over from one team to the other team at any time during the tournament.)

- Bible Three contestants per individual category
- Music Three contestants per individual category
(*maximum of 15 per school*)
Two ensembles
One Orchestra/Band
One Handbell / Handchime Choir
One Youth Choir

- Speech Three contestants per category
(*maximum of 9 per school*)

- Spelling Bee One per grade level

ELIGIBILITY OF ENTRIES

A. State Competition

An entry which was used the previous competition year cannot be used again the next year (i.e. speech, music piece, sermon). Each Art entry must have been created since the last state competition.

B. National Competition

The same entry (i.e. music composition, speech manuscript, art entry, Science Fair project, sermon, or Bible teaching lesson) which placed at the state level must be entered in National Competition. See “General Rules” of each area for additional eligibility requirements. (AACCS Manual, page 3)

TIME LIMITATIONS AND DISQUALIFICATION

According to the national office, state judges on the Senior High level may declare a performance or project as first place if they feel the performance or project will represent Illinois the best at the national competition, even if minor adjustments will need to be made before competing at nationals. Art judges should check with headquarters to be sure the adjustment to the project is something that will be allowed by nationals.

If a student’s performance or project advances to the national level, strict adherence to the national guidelines regarding disqualification must be taken into account. On both the state and national level, sponsors and coaches can help students avoid penalties by checking for procedural infraction *before* copies are handed to the judges, performances are done at competition, or projects are submitted.

A. Time Limitations

In any category of competition where time limits are established and a student violates his time limit, points or a fraction of a point may be deducted at the discretion of the state

judges. On the Senior High level, a time infraction will not prevent a student from placing first on the state level if the judges believe that the performance will represent Illinois the best at nationals and adjustments can easily be made before nationals to correct the infraction.

When a student performs at nationals, close adherence to the time limitations in the AACCS Competition Manual must be followed. (AACCS National Competition Manual, page 6, Time Limitations and Disqualification)

B. Disqualification

The AACCS National Competition Manual addresses disqualifications *only* as it pertains to time limits (page 6), inappropriate performance or selection for national competition. (Music, page 27, Rule 4)

It has always been the desire of the Illinois Association of Christian Schools (IACS) to give each student an opportunity to compete and receive a fair evaluation of the performance or project. A point penalty may be imposed at the discretion of the judges, but no student will be disqualified on any level of competition in Illinois.

DRESS AND CONDUCT CODE

The IACS believes that our state competitions should have the highest standards of competition and Christian testimony. Therefore, because these events are the highest level of competition for IACS students, all participating students are expected to display the utmost respect for and strict adherence to these standards.

A. Dress Code - Students must adhere to the following AACCS guidelines when competing:

1. Girls' and ladies' skirts will be knee-length or longer, and necklines will not be exceedingly low or open in the front or back. No slacks or shorts may be worn.
2. Boys and men will wear neat shirts with a collar, tucked in, and dress slacks. Hair should be short - off the collar and ears, above the eyebrows, tapered in the back, combed, with no long sideburns. No beards or mustaches will be permitted for students. Jeans are not to be worn.

B. Code of Conduct

1. The conduct of students is expected to meet the standard for believers in I Timothy 4:12. Patience, kindness, and good sportsmanship are to be displayed at all times for all students, sponsors, parents, and visitors. Insubordination or disruptive behavior by any student, sponsor, parent, or visitor toward any judge(s) or competition official(s) will not be tolerated. Inappropriate behavior will be grounds for disqualification from competition and/or expulsion from the campus.
2. Any individual vandalizing or stealing will be subject to disqualification and possible immediate expulsion from the campus at the individual's expense.

JUDGING FORMS

A. State Competitions

Judging forms will be provided by the host site.

B. National Competition

Students competing in a category requiring judging forms must submit three completed judging forms to the judges. There are no judging forms for Bible Memory, Spelling, and Academic Testing categories. In categories where second rounds are called (speech, preaching, Bible teaching), AACS will provide judging forms for the second round. The competitor must provide judging forms for the first round. Students must use the AACS judging forms from the 2020 AACS National Competition Manual. Use of incorrect judging forms will be penalized. (AACS Manual, page 7, pages 101-131)

AWARDS

Recognition will be given through the awarding of appropriate awards. Special awards will be given for State Champion, Runner-Up, and Third Place achievements.

Senior High

- Bible Quiz - First, Second, and Third Place trophies
- Bible Quiz Excellence Award - Medallion (given to each quizzier who correctly answers six twenty-point questions in a game)
- Bible Quiz/Loran Boe Quizzier of the Year - Plaque (given to the quizzier with the most correctly answered questions in the Bible Quiz Tournament)
- Individual Categories - Each participant will be awarded a rating ribbon (Blue-State Champion, Runner-Up, Third Place, Superior; Red-Excellent; White-Good). State Champions will also receive a medallion noting their category.
- Group Categories - Plaques (State Champion, Runner-Up, and Third Place)
- Traveling Plaques - The traveling plaques are awarded based on the total number of points scored for the entire tournament. Plaques are given for First, Second, and Third Place in the areas of Bible, Academic, Art, Speech, and Music.

Note: The State Champion in each category will be invited to represent Illinois at the AACS National Competition. The Runner-Up will be asked to represent Illinois if the State Champion is unable. State Champions will be expected to register for nationals immediately after the awards assembly.

Junior High

- Bible Quiz - First, Second, and Third Place trophies
- Bible Quiz Excellence Award - Medallion (given to each quizzier who correctly answers six twenty-point questions in a game)
- Individual Categories - Each participant will be awarded a rating ribbon (Blue-State Champion, Runner-Up, Third Place, Superior; Red-Excellent; White-Good).
- Group Categories - Plaques (State Champion, Runner-Up, and Third Place)

Elementary

- Bible Quiz - First, Second, and Third Place Trophies
- Bible Quiz Excellence Award - Medallion (given to each quizzier who correctly answers six twenty-point questions in a game)

- Individual Categories - Each participant will be awarded a rating ribbon (Blue-Superior, Red-Excellent, White-Good).
- Group Categories - Plaques (State Champion, Runner-Up, and Third Place)

TOURNAMENT DATES, LOCATIONS, AND COORDINATORS

Tournament dates and deadlines can be found on the IACS website (www.illinoisacs.org), and tournament locations can be found on page 4 of this manual.

Tournament Coordinators: Each IACS school must designate their own school tournament coordinator who will serve as a liaison between the IACS tournament coordinators and that particular school. It will be the responsibility of the school coordinator to distribute information from the IACS tournament coordinators to the interested students, parents, and faculty members at each school.

MAILINGS AND NOTIFICATIONS

Each IACS tournament coordinator will email the participating schools with regular information regarding tournament due dates, deadlines, and general tournament information. It is extremely important that this information be given to the in-house school tournament coordinator. Failure to meet many of the due dates results in late fees. If the school's in-house tournament coordinator has an email address, please notify the IACS tournament coordinator as soon as possible. This will help greatly in the dissemination of information.

TOURNAMENT REGISTRATION

Please respect the registration deadlines. They are important to each tournament site in getting information to participating schools and in scheduling events. Registration forms and specific schedules will be emailed from each IACS tournament coordinator and will also be placed on the IACS website.

A. Initial Tournament Registration

Tournament registration forms will be placed on the IACS website. Once they are available, the school tournament coordinators will receive an email from the IACS tournament coordinator. A listing of tournament dates and deadlines is published each September by the IACS office. It is emailed to all schools, distributed at the General Session Meetings in the fall, and also placed on the IACS website.

B. Dropping and Adding Students

A school can make changes to the names previously submitted by using the Drop/Add Form. The form should be emailed, faxed, or mailed to the IACS tournament coordinator. Please note that changes can be made up to a certain date without incurring a Drop/Add Fee.

AREA ONE: BIBLE

(See AACS Manual, pages 11-23, for rules and regulations.)

A. Bible Usage (AACS Manual, page 11)

IACS state tournaments and the AACS national competition will use the KJV Bible for judging Bible competition categories. The King James Version will be the only authorized translation used in any competition category. (See AACS website for current publication and ordering information.)

B. Bible - Individual Categories

Category	Senior High	Junior High	Elem.	# of Contestants per Category	Cost
Bible Memory	X	X		SH - 3 per school JH - 3 per school	SH - \$12 per person JH - \$10 per person
Bible Teaching	X	X		SH - 3 per school JH - 3 per school	SH - \$12 per person JH - \$10 per person
Preaching - Evangelistic	X	Judged in One Bible Preaching Category		SH - 3 per school JH - 3 per school	SH - \$12 per person JH - \$10 per person
Preaching - Expository	X			SH - 3 per school	SH - \$12 per person
Preaching - Topical	X			SH - 3 per school	SH - \$12 per person

1. Bible Memory

(See AACS Manual, pages 20-22 & 63-92, for rules and regulations.)

<u>Year</u>	<u>Junior High</u>	<u>Senior High</u>
2020-2021	The Wisdom of God	The Wisdom of God
2021-2022	Soul-Winning	Soul-Winning
2022-2023	The Triune God	The Triune God
2023-2024	Sin and Salvation	Sin and Salvation
2024-2025	Prayer	Prayer
2025-2026	God's Promises	God's Promises

2. Preaching - Time Limits

(See AACS Manual, pages 22-23, for rules and regulations.)

Senior High:	10-15 minutes in length
Junior High:	8-15 minutes in length

3. Bible Teaching - Time Limits

(See AACS Manual, page 22, for rules and regulations.)

Senior High:	10-15 minutes in length
Junior High:	8-15 minutes in length

C. Bible - Group Categories

Category	Senior High	Junior High	Elem.	# of Contestants per Category	Cost
Bible Quiz - Team 1	X	X	X	SH, JH, & EL- up to 5 members, plus 2 substitutes per game	SH - \$60 per group JH - \$60 per group EL - \$60 per group
Bible Quiz - Team 2	X	X	X	SH, JH, & EL - up to 5 members, plus 2 substitutes per game	SH - \$60 per group JH - \$60 per group EL - \$60 per group

1. Bible Quiz

- All three tournaments will follow the Bible Quiz rules as stated in the AACS National Competition Manual. (AACS Manual, pages 11-20)
- 6th graders may participate on the Elementary and/or Junior High level.

2. Bible Quiz Cycle

Year	Elementary	Junior High	Senior High
2020-2021	John 15-21	John	John
2021-2022	Acts 1-6	Acts	Acts
2022-2023	II Corinthians	I & II Corinthians	I & II Corinthians
2023-2024	Matthew 3-10	Matthew	Matthew
2024-2025	Hebrews 1 & 11 I & II Peter	Hebrews I & II Peter	Hebrews I & II Peter
2025-2026	Romans 3-10	Romans James	Romans James
2026-2027	Mark 2-3 I, II, & III John Jude	Mark I, II, & III John Jude	Mark I, II, & III John Jude
2027-2028	I & II Timothy	I & II Thessalonians I & II Timothy Titus	I & II Thessalonians I & II Timothy Titus
2028-2029	Philippians Colossians Philemon	Galatians Ephesians Philippians Colossians Philemon	Galatians Ephesians Philippians Colossians Philemon

AREA TWO: MUSIC

(See AACS Manual, pages 27-32, for rules and regulations.)

A. Music - Individual Categories

Category	Senior High	Junior High	Elem.	# of Contestants per Category	Cost
Brass Solo	X	X	X	SH - 2 per school JH - 2 per school EL - 3 per school	SH - \$12 per person JH - \$10 per person EL - \$8 per person
Female - Vocal Solo	X	X		SH - 2 per school JH - 2 per school	SH - \$12 per person JH - \$10 per person
Male - Vocal Solo	X	X		SH - 2 per school JH - 2 per school	SH - \$12 per person JH - \$10 per person
Male or Female Vocal Solo			X	EL - 3 per school	EL - \$8 per person
Percussion Solo	X			SH - 2 per school	SH - \$12 per person
String Solo	X	X	X	SH - 2 per school JH - 2 per school EL - 3 per school	SH - \$12 per person JH - \$10 per person EL - \$8 per person
Woodwind Solo	X	X	X	SH - 2 per school JH - 2 per school EL - 3 per school	SH - \$12 per person JH - \$10 per person EL - \$8 per person

Individual Categories continued on next page.

Music - Individual Categories (continued)

Category	Senior High	Junior High	Elem.	# of Contestants per Category	Cost
Classical Piano Solo	X	X		SH - 2 per school JH - 2 per school	SH - \$12 per person JH - \$10 per person
Sacred Piano Solo	X	X		SH - 2 per school JH - 2 per school	SH - \$12 per person JH - \$10 per person
Piano Solo* (can be either classical or sacred)			X	EL - 3 per school	EL - \$8 per person

B. Music - Group Categories

Category	Senior High	Junior High	# of Contestants per Category	Cost
Choral Group (1 group per school)	X	X	SH - 13-24 individuals JH - 13-24 individuals	SH - \$45 per group JH - \$40 per group
Duet - Classical Piano* (2 groups per school)	X	1 Piano Duet Category (Classical or Sacred) 2 per School	SH - 2 individuals JH - 2 individuals	SH - \$35 per group JH - \$30 per group
Duet - Sacred Piano* (2 groups per school)	X		SH - 2 individuals	SH - \$35 per group

**Sacred Piano Duet consists of two students and one piano. Only sacred music is acceptable. Classical Piano Duet consists of two students and one piano. Only classical music is acceptable. (AACs Manual, page 32)*

Group Categories continued on next page.

Music - Group Categories (continued)

Category	Senior High	Junior High	Elem.	# of Contestants per Category	Cost
Ensemble - Large Instrumental (2 groups per school)	X	X		SH - 7-12 individuals JH - 7-12 individuals	SH - \$40 per group JH - \$35 per group
Ensemble - Small Instrumental (2 groups per school)	X	X		SH - 2-6 individuals JH - 2-6 individuals	SH - \$35 per group JH - \$30 per group
Ensemble - Instrumental (2 groups per school)			X	EL - 2-12 individuals	EL - \$30 per group
Ensemble - Small Vocal (2 groups per school)	X	X		SH - 2-6 individuals JH - 2-6 individuals	SH - \$35 per group JH - \$30 per group
Ensemble - Large Vocal (2 groups per school)	X	X		SH - 7-12 individuals JH - 7-12 individuals	SH - \$40 per group JH - \$35 per group
Ensemble - Vocal Ensemble (2 groups per school)			X	EL - 2-12 individuals	EL - \$30 per group
Handbell / Handchime Choir (1 group per school)	X	X		SH - 7+ individuals JH - 7+ individuals	SH - \$45 per group JH - \$40 per group
Handbell / Handchime Ensemble (2 groups per school)	X	X		SH - 2-6 individuals JH - 2-6 individuals	SH - \$35 per group JH - \$30 per group
Orchestra / Band (1 group per school)	X	X	X	SH - 13+ individuals JH - 13+ individuals EL - 13+ individuals	SH - \$45 per group JH - \$40 per group EL - \$40 per group
Youth Choir (1 group per school) *Not an AACS National Category*	X	X	X	SH - 25+ individuals JH - 25+ individuals EL - 13+ individuals	SH - \$45 per group JH - \$40 per group EL - \$40 per group

C. Music Approval

All music used at the tournaments for individual and group performances must be approved. The music approval procedure is as follows:

1. Each piece of music must have the appropriate and completed Music Identification Tag attached to it. The Music Identification Tags for each tournament can be found on the IACS website under the appropriate tournament category.
2. All music should be mailed to the location identified by the tournament site coordinator by the given due date.
3. Late submissions of musical selections will carry a penalty fee of \$5 per selection (with a maximum fee of \$25).
4. If the music selection(s) was not approved, the school will be notified immediately so that another selection can be chosen.
5. A contestant or group will not be permitted to compete if the music piece has not been approved. It is vital that all music be submitted by the deadline.
6. If more than one selection was submitted for a particular category and all were approved, it is the school's responsibility to contact the tournament site coordinator with the name of the selection that will be used. Failure to communicate this information at least ten days before the tournament start date will carry a penalty fee of \$5 per category.

D. Numbering Measures (AACS Manual, page 9, #16)

The contestant must number at least every fifth (5th) measure on the music given to judges. Numbers must be very clear and legible. Numbers may be written in pencil. Failure to clearly number at least every 5th measure will result in an automatic penalty or 3 points per selection. Judges are instructed to NOT mark on music.

E. IACS Guidelines for Original Music

1. **Senior High Tournament***

- a. INDIVIDUAL music categories must have one original.
- b. GROUP music categories must have one to three originals (AACS Manual, page 28)

2. **Junior High Tournament***

All music categories must have one original for the judges.

3. **Elementary Tournament***

All music categories must have one original for the judges.

***There will be NO POINT DEDUCTIONS at the IACS State Tournaments for not following the above guidelines regarding original music required. However, at the AACS National Competition (Senior High), points WILL BE DEDUCTED.**

F. Photocopies (AACS Manual, page 28-29)

1. Photocopies are permitted only with the publisher's permission. **Permission from the publisher must be attached to each copy that is supplied to the judges.** Use of photocopies without publisher permission will be penalized. Photocopies of music may be used only under the following circumstances:

- a. The music is in the public domain - either it is not copyrighted or the copyright date is 1922 or earlier.
 - b. The copyrighted music has been ordered but not yet received, and the contestant presents a note from a music store stating that he has ordered and paid for the music.
 - c. The contestant presents a letter from the publisher or the copyright holder giving permission to copy the music. **Permission from the publisher must be attached to each copy that is supplied to the judges.** Publishers often grant permission for adjudication. Band directors should note that most publishers sell an additional score for a significantly reduced price.
 - d. The contestant or accompanist may reproduce single pages to facilitate page turns. The original published score must also be present on the music stand and/or music rack.
 - e. An emergency copy may be made to replace previously purchased copies which for any reason are not available for an imminent performance. The purchased replacement copies must be substituted at the earliest opportunity.
 - f. If the contestant is using digital sheet music or something similar printed from an online download, he will need to provide proof of purchase or a “permission to use letter” with the music. **Permission from the publisher must be attached to each copy that is supplied to the judges.**
2. Please note further the following copyright considerations:
 - a. Copyrighted music may be edited or simplified provided that the fundamental character of the work (melodically and harmonically) is not distorted. Minor deviations from the printed music must be clearly marked on the music given to judges.
 - b. Copyrighted lyrics may not be changed without permission of the copyright holder.
 - c. Personal arrangements of a copyrighted work must have the written permission of the copyright holder.

G. Illinois Modifications from AACCS National Rules

1. Band Scores

Only one original score is required at the state level. Schools will understand that if they win and desire to go to the national competition, they will need to comply with the AACCS requirement of three originals.
2. Band Competition
 - a. For Senior High and Junior High, each school entered is expected to play two selections within 15 minutes.
 - b. For Elementary, each school entered is expected to play one selection within 6 minutes.

3. Youth Choir

- a. This category is for state competition only. It is not an AACNS nationals category. A Youth Choir consists of 25 or more individuals.
- b. For Senior High and Junior High, each school entered is expected to sing two selections within 12 minutes. At least one selection must be sacred.
- c. For Elementary, each school entered is expected to sing one selection within 4 minutes. It can be either sacred or non-sacred.

4. !!! IMPORTANT !!!

To facilitate the time and responsibility placed on the approval committee regarding verification of music purchased online, Illinois has a "Proof of Purchase Statement" to be signed by the competing school's Principal/Administrator. This form is on the following page and can also be found on the IACS website under downloads (www.illinoisacs.org).

H. Elementary Music

Requirements and time limits were not mentioned in previous sections but are as follows:

1. All Individual Categories - one piece within 5 minutes
2. Ensemble (Instrumental) - one piece within 6 minutes
3. Ensemble (Vocal) - one piece within 4 minutes



PROOF OF PURCHASE STATEMENT FOR MUSIC PURCHASED FROM AN ONLINE SOURCE

AACS Manual, Page 28, f: *If the contestant is using digital sheet music or something similar printed from an online download, he/she will need to provide proof of purchase or a "permission to use letter" with the music.*

Title _____

Composer _____

Online Source _____

URL _____

Attach "proof of purchase" printed at time of order or email confirmation.

Student's Name _____

School _____

City _____ State _____

Music Category _____

I/we verify that this music was purchased by the school or the student from a legitimate online source or was legally downloaded from a "free" online source. No copyright laws have been violated in the obtaining of this music.

Name of Student (please print) _____

Signature of Student _____

Name of School Principal/Administrator (please print) _____

Signature of School Principal/Administrator _____

Date _____ (for _____ academic competition)
(School Year)

AREA THREE: SPEECH

(See AACS Manual, pages 35-40, for rules and regulations.)

A. Speech - Individual Categories

Category	Senior High	Junior High	Elem.	# of Contestants per Category	Cost
Declamation	X	X	X	SH - 2 per school JH - 2 per school EL - 3 per school	SH - \$12 per person JH - \$10 per person EL - \$8 per person
Dramatic Interpretation	X	X		SH - 2 per school JH - 2 per school	SH - \$12 per person JH - \$10 per person
Extemporaneous Speaking	X			SH - 2 per school	SH - \$12 per person
Humorous Interpretation	X	X	X	SH - 2 per school JH - 2 per school EL - 3 per school	SH - \$12 per person JH - \$10 per person EL - \$8 per person
Oral Interpretation of Scripture	X	X		SH - 2 per school JH - 2 per school	SH - \$12 per person JH - \$10 per person
Oral Interpretation of Poetry	X	X	X	SH - 2 per school JH - 2 per school EL - 3 per school	SH - \$12 per person JH - \$10 per person EL - \$8 per person
Original Persuasive Oratory	X	X		SH - 2 per school JH - 2 per school	SH - \$12 per person JH - \$10 per person
Religious Reading	X	X		SH - 2 per school JH - 2 per school	SH - \$12 per person JH - \$10 per person

B. Speech - Group Categories

Category	Senior High	Junior High	Elem.	# of Contestants per Category	Cost
Choric Speaking (1 group per school)	X			SH - 7-15 individuals	SH - \$45 per group
Debate (2 groups per school)	X			SH - 2 individuals	SH - \$60 per group
Acting (2 groups per school)	X	X		SH - 2-6 individuals JH - 2-6 individuals	SH - \$35 per group JH - \$30 per group
Readers' Theatre (1 group per school)	X			SH - 3-6 individuals	SH - \$35 per group

1. Time Limits

- a. Senior High - Each individual category has a time limit of 5-10 minutes; Each group category has a time limit of 5-13 minutes (except Debate)
- b. Junior High - Each individual category has a time limit of 3-10 minutes; Each group category has a time limit of 4-10 minutes.
- c. Elementary - Selections must be a minimum of 1 minute with a maximum of 5 minutes.

2. Debate (AACCS Manual, pages 40 & 93-97)

The debate topic changes each year. The state and national topic will be announced by AACCS in the Annual Competition Update. It is also posted on the AACCS website (www.aacs.org). Use of laptops/tablets is not allowed during competition rounds. Please bring printed notes.

3. Speech Approval

All speeches used at the tournaments for individual and group performances must be approved. The speech approval procedure is as follows:

- a. Each speech must have the appropriate and completed Speech Identification Tag attached to it. The Speech Identification Tags for each tournament can be found on the IACS website under the appropriate tournament category (i.e. Senior High, Junior High, Elementary).
- b. Typewritten copies of all speeches should be emailed, faxed, or mailed to the location identified by the IACS tournament coordinator by the given due date.
- c. Please screen all of speeches and edit any of the following: slang, references to the occult, euphemisms for the name(s) of God, other unwholesome words, or inappropriate/sensual themes.

- d. All selections must be taken from published works.
- e. Late submissions of speech selections will carry a penalty fee of \$5 per selection (with a maximum fee of \$25).
- f. If the speech selection(s) was not approved, the school will be notified immediately so that another selection can be chosen.
- g. A contestant or group will not be permitted to compete if the speech piece has not been approved. It is vital that all speeches be submitted by the deadline.
- h. If more than one selection was submitted for a particular category and all were approved, it is the school's responsibility to contact the IACS tournament coordinator with the name of the selection that will be used. Failure to communicate this information at least ten (10) days before the tournament start date will carry a fee of \$5 per category.

AREA FOUR: ART

(See AACCS Manual, pages 43-48, for rules and regulations.)

Category	Senior High	Junior High	Elem.	# of Contestants per Category	Cost
Acrylic Painting	X	X		SH - 3 per school JH - 2 per school	SH - \$12 per person JH - \$10 per person
Calligraphy	X	X		SH - 3 per school JH - 2 per school	SH - \$12 per person JH - \$10 per person
Crafts	X	X	X	SH - 3 per school JH - 2 per school EL - 2 per grade, per category	SH - \$12 per person JH - \$10 per person EL - \$8 per person
Digital Media	X	X		SH - 3 per school JH - 2 per school	SH - \$12 per person JH - \$10 per person
Garment Construction	X	X		SH - 3 per school JH - 2 per school	SH - \$12 per person JH - \$10 per person
Mixed Media	X	X		SH - 3 per school JH - 2 per school	SH - \$12 per person JH - \$10 per person
Monochromatic Drawing	X	X	X	SH - 3 per school JH - 2 per school EL - 2 per grade, per category	SH - \$12 per person JH - \$10 per person EL - \$8 per person
Oil Painting	X	X		SH - 3 per school JH - 2 per school	SH - \$12 per person JH - \$10 per person
Painting (Acrylic, Oil, Watercolor)			X	EL - 2 per grade, per category	EL - \$8 per person
Photography - Landscapes & Architecture	X	X		SH - 3 per school JH - 2 per school	SH - \$12 per person JH - \$10 per person
Photography - People & Animal	X	X		SH - 3 per school JH - 2 per school	SH - \$12 per person JH - \$10 per person
Photography - Still Life & Macro	X	X		SH - 3 per school JH - 2 per school	SH - \$12 per person JH - \$10 per person
Polychromatic Drawing	X	X	X	SH - 3 per school JH - 2 per school EL - 2 per grade, per category	SH - \$12 per person JH - \$10 per person EL - \$8 per person

AREA FOUR: ART *(continued)*

Category	Senior High	Junior High	Elem.	# of Contestants per Category	Cost
Printmaking	X	X		SH - 3 per school JH - 2 per school	SH - \$12 per person JH - \$10 per person
Sculpture	X	X		SH - 3 per school JH - 2 per school	SH - \$12 per person JH - \$10 per person
Textiles	X	X	X	SH - 3 per school JH - 2 per school EL - 2 per grade, per category	SH - \$12 per person JH - \$10 per person EL - \$8 per person
Watercolor	X	X		SH - 3 per school JH - 2 per school	SH - \$12 per person JH - \$10 per person
Woodworking	X	X		SH - 3 per school JH - 2 per school	SH - \$12 per person JH - \$10 per person

A. Art Projects

- Students are not required to be present with their Art projects. However, the Artist's Idea Statement (AACCS Manual, page 122) or Photography Artist's Idea Statement (AACCS Manual, page 123) must be attached to the project (if possible) or handed to the Art assistants when the project is checked in. **Failure to have the required forms completed and submitted may result in points being deducted.** The Artist's Idea Statement is required for all three tournaments.
- An IACS Art Exhibit Tag must be completed and attached to each Art project. Tags for all three tournaments are available on the IACS website under downloads.

B. Photography Clarifications

- According to the AACCS national office, there is not a category for every photo. Like other competition areas, most problems occur when competitors start with something they have created, and then try to make it fit a category instead of creating a piece that fits the category. Those pieces do not score well because some of the criteria judges are looking for cannot be demonstrated by a piece that does not fit the category.
- The photography categories divide along the lines of subject matter. The national judges will be looking for creative, well composed, technically excellent examples

in each of these categories. Whether the image is a close-up or not is immaterial. It is about content and intent.

3. Still Life and Macro Photography
 - a. The photograph must be a single black & white or color image of a still life, macro photograph, or design.
 - b. Still Life Photography is a grouping of small objects placed in arrangement by human design in a pleasing composition.
 - c. Macro Photography is an extreme close-up of a subject at a magnification of life-size or larger.

4. Landscapes and Architecture Photography
 - a. The photograph must be a single black & white or color image of a landscape of architecture.
 - b. Landscape Photography is an expanse of scenery that is extensive and can be seen from a single viewpoint such as a picture representing natural inland or coastal scenery.
 - c. Architecture Photography is of manmade buildings and structures that capture the entire construction or only a portion.

5. People and Animal Photography
 - a. The photograph must be a single black & white or color image of people or animals.
 - b. People Photography is of an individual or group that is the main subject in the composition. It may be posed or candid.
 - c. Animal Photography is of animals in their captive or natural setting. This category includes any living thing that is not human or a plant.

AREA FIVE: SPELLING AND SCIENCE FAIR

(See AACS Manual, pages 55-59, for rules and regulations.)

Category	Senior High	Junior High	Elem.	# of Contestants per Category	Cost
Science Fair - Biological	X	X		SH - 3 per school JH - 3 per school	SH - \$12 per person JH - \$10 per person
Science Fair - Physical	X	X		SH - 3 per school JH - 3 per school	SH - \$12 per person JH - \$10 per person
Spelling	X	X	X	SH - 3 per school JH - 3 per school EL - 1 per grade level, per school	SH - \$12 per person JH - \$10 per person EL - \$8 per person

A. Spelling (AACS Manual, pages 55-57; IACS website, www.illinoisacs.org; AACS Competition Annual Update, March 2020)

1. Spelling study lists can be accessed on the AACS website as well as the IACS website. All the words listed are from the Meriam-Webster Online Dictionary.
2. AACS Senior High Competition
 - Words are organized into four lists—Contest A & B and Champion A & B. Initial rounds will be from the lists. Additional words for advanced rounds may be chosen from the official contest dictionary.
 - Instruct high school students to study all four lists.
3. IACS State Guidelines for Senior High, Junior High, and Elementary
 - a. Senior High - Study all four lists.
 - b. Junior High – Study the two A lists—Contest A and Champion A.
 - c. Elementary - The elementary word list can be found on the IACS website (www.illinoisacs.org).

B. Science Fair (AACS Manual, pages 58-59)

1. Students are required to follow the procedures and format described in the AACS Science Fair Rules and Regulations Manual (2020 Edition). The Science Fair Manual was significantly changed, and the 2020 Edition can be purchased from the AACS website (www.aacs.org).
2. On the Junior High level, students are required to write a minimum of five double-spaced pages.
3. Science Fair Judging Forms - Senior High and Junior High competitors will use the judging form provided in the 2020 AACS National Competition Manual on page 131.

AREA SIX: ACADEMIC TESTING

(See AACCS Manual, pages 51-59, for rules and regulations.)

The IACS uses the online academic competition testing program from TestPoint (www.testpoint.net) for all three tournaments. TestPoint's online testing program is a significant improvement over the paper-based tests that were used in the past and will provide an up-to-date testing experience for the students. This online testing program was designed specifically for the needs of AACCS state academic testing competitions. Please refer to the chart below for the testing categories for each level of competition.

Category	Senior High	Junior High	Elem.	# of Contestants per Category	Cost
Accounting	X			SH - Unlimited	SH - \$12 per test
Advanced Mathematics	X			SH - Unlimited	SH - \$12 per test
Algebra I (9 th only)	X			SH - Unlimited	SH - \$12 per test
Algebra II / Geometry	X			SH - Unlimited	SH - \$12 per test
Biology	X			SH - Unlimited	SH - \$12 per test
Chemistry	X			SH - Unlimited	SH - \$12 per test
Creative Writing - Poetry <i>(see page 34, C)</i>	X			SH - Unlimited	SH - \$12 per entry
English	X	X	X (4 th , 5 th , & 6 th Test)	SH - Unlimited JH - Unlimited EL - Unlimited	SH - \$12 per test JH - \$12 per test EL - \$12 per test
Expository Writing - Essay <i>(see pages 34-35, C)</i>	X			SH - Unlimited	SH - \$12 per entry
General Math (7 th only)		X		JH - Unlimited	JH - \$12 per test

AREA SIX: ACADEMIC TESTING *(continued)*

Category	Senior High	Junior High	Elem	# of Contestants per Category	Cost
Geography/History		X		JH - Unlimited	JH - \$12 per test
History			X (4 th , 5 th , & 6 th Test)	EL - Unlimited	EL - \$12 per test
Home Economics	X			SH - Unlimited	SH - \$12 per test
Mathematics			X (4 th , 5 th , & 6 th Test)	EL - Unlimited	EL - \$12 per test
Music Theory	X			SH - Unlimited	SH - \$12 per test
New Testament Bible Knowledge <i>(see page 34, B)</i>	X			SH - Unlimited	SH - \$12 per test
Old Testament Bible Knowledge <i>(see page 34, A)</i>	X			SH - Unlimited	SH - \$12 per test
New Testament Survey		X		JH - Unlimited	JH - \$12 per test
Old Testament Survey		X		JH - Unlimited	JH - \$12 per test
Physics	X			SH - Unlimited	SH - \$12 per test
Political Science / Economics	X			SH - Unlimited	SH - \$12 per test
Pre-Algebra (8 th only)		X		JH - Unlimited	JH - \$12 per test
Science		X	X (4 th , 5 th , & 6 th Test)	JH - Unlimited EL - Unlimited	JH - \$12 per test EL - \$12 per test
Spanish	X			SH - Unlimited	SH - \$12 per test
United States History / Geography	X			SH - Unlimited	SH - \$12 per test
World History / Geography	X			SH - Unlimited	SH - \$12 per test

A. Old Testament Bible Knowledge (AACS Manual, page 52)

Year	Senior High
2020-2021	Genesis
2021-2022	Joshua, Judges
2022-2023	I & II Samuel
2023-2024	Proverbs
2024-2025	Isaiah
2025-2026	Nehemiah, Daniel, Jonah

B. New Testament Bible Knowledge (AACS Manual, page 52)

Year	Senior High
2020-2021	Mark, Acts
2021-2022	Romans, I Corinthians
2022-2023	II Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians
2023-2024	Philippians, Colossians, I & II Thessalonians, I Timothy
2024-2025	II Timothy, Titus, Philemon, Hebrews, James
2025-2026	I & II Peter, I, II, & III John, Jude, Revelation

C. Creative Writing: Poetry / Expository Writing: Essay

All registrations for this competition must be submitted to the IACS office no later than the Friday before writing competition week in mid-January. Writing packets will be emailed to participating schools on the Monday of writing competition week in mid-January (see Tournament Dates & Deadlines Calendar for competition date). Topics are not given to students until the day of the contest, and all entries must be mailed / postmarked to the IACS office the same day tests are taken.

CREATIVE WRITING: POETRY

- The writing period will be 90 minutes in length.
- The title will not be announced until the beginning of the contest.
- Previously written poems will not be accepted.
- No reference materials (except for a dictionary) will be permissible.
- Each student will be expected to provide and use a black ballpoint pen.

EXPOSITORY WRITING: ESSAY

- The writing period will be 90 minutes in length
- The title will not be announced until the beginning of the contest.
- An essay will be defined as a written expression of the author's opinion.
 - Stated in a thesis in the first paragraph.
 - Supported and proven in three to four paragraphs in the body, each introduced by topic sentences that relate directly to the topic but each providing a different argument or fact.
 - Concluded with a summarizing paragraph which restates the thesis.
- Essays may not make use of either first person or second person. Essays written in either first person or second person will be disqualified. However, essays that contain occasional or infrequent first or second person pronouns will receive a point deduction. Points or a fraction of a point will be deducted which will prevent an otherwise first-place winner from placing first, a second-place winner from placing second, or a third-place winner from placing third.
- No reference materials (except for a dictionary) will be permissible.
- Each student will be expected to provide and use a black ballpoint pen.

D. SH State Test Details by Subject Area (from Testpoint)

1. Accounting

The first test will center upon theory and transactions, the second upon terminology, and the third upon short problems. The examinations will consist of questions which may be drawn from any of these topics:

- Special journals
- Cash short and over
- Bank reconciliations
- Correcting checkbook balances
- Recording transactions
- Classification of accounts
- Adjusting and closing entries
- Worksheet
- Cost of goods sold
- Combination journals
- Estimating bad debts
- Losses and depreciation
- Recording bad debts
- Recording accruals and deferrals
- Financial statements

2. Advanced Mathematics

The examination will consist of questions covering:

- Trigonometry
- Analytical Geometry
- Permutations, combinations, and probability
- Pre-Calculus
- Theory of Equations

- Sequences and series
- Statistics
- Limits
- Advanced Algebra
- Function analysis
- Matrix Algebra
- Vectors
- Complex numbers

3. Algebra I and Algebra II/Geometry

The examinations will consist of questions covering:

- Algebra I (will be in the Algebra I test only)
- Algebra II
- Geometry

4. Biology

The examination will consist of questions covering:

- Cells
- Protozoa
- Algae and fungi
- Plants
- Genetics
- Vertebrate and invertebrate physiology
- Human anatomy
- Fossils

5. Chemistry

The examination will consist of questions covering:

- Matter and energy
- Atoms
- Formulas and equations
- Gases, liquids, and solids
- Periodic table families
- Equilibrium
- Chemistry laws
- Acids and bases
- Metric units
- Scientific methods
- Chemical bonding

6. English

The examination will consist of questions covering:

- Grammar and usage: eight parts of speech, phrases, clauses, agreement, etc.
- Vocabulary in context and spelling recognition
- Mechanics: capitalization and punctuation

- Library: research techniques, bibliography, footnote forms
- Diagramming
- No composition will be required.
- No questions pertaining to literature will be asked.

7. Home Economics

The examination will consist of questions covering:

- Food and nutrition
- Clothing
- Housing and home furnishings

8. Music Theory

Objectives for the test will include the following:

- Major and minor key signatures
- Major and minor scales
- Harmony
- Part-writing
- Figured bass
- Cadences
- Rhythm and time signatures
- The test does not include melodic dictation or aural recognition.

9. New Testament Bible Knowledge

Competition in this category will be by written examination, testing knowledge of factual or objective material (rather than interpretive) from pre-assigned New Testament books (see AACS Manual, page 52). No Bibles, reference materials, notes, or study guides will be allowed in the testing room.

10. Old Testament Bible Knowledge

Competition in this category will be by written examination, testing knowledge of factual or objective material (rather than interpretive) from pre-assigned Old Testament books (see AACS Manual, page 52). No Bibles, reference materials, notes, or study guides will be allowed in the testing room.

11. Physics

The examination will consist of questions covering:

- Motion and energy
- Metric units
- Light
- Electricity
- Heat
- Magnetism
- Physics laws
- Sound

12. Political Science/Economics

The examination will consist of questions covering:

- General principles of political science, including the nature and historical development of the various types or forms of governments in the world
- Specific test on the nature and historical development of the United States government
- General principles of free enterprise economic theory

13. Spanish

The examination will consist of questions covering:

- Grammar and usage
- Vocabulary
- Conjugation and agreement
- Spanish-to-English translation and English-to-Spanish translation

14. United States History/Geography

The examination will consist of questions covering:

- United States History
- United States Geography

15. World History/Geography:

The examination will consist of questions covering:

- World History
- World Geography