Subject: Online Registration for 2019 Regional Contests

Dear Parent,

Note: If your children are not going to participate in NorthSouth Regional contests, please pass this on to friends and families who may benefit by participating in North South Foundation events.

The registration for 2019 Regional contests is now open.

NorthSouth will be conducting regional contests at more than 90 centers across US. These contests focus on the academic development of children starting from the Kindergarten through High School level, enabling them to excel in their studies utilizing the full potential immersed in every child. NorthSouth believes every child is a winner and can become a high achiever. Please visit the URL below to find out "How Your Child Can Become a High Achiever":

https://www.northsouth.org/public/others/howyourchildcanbecomeahighachiever.pdf

This year NorthSouth Regional contests include Spelling, Vocabulary, Math, Science, Geography, History (Pilot), Essay Writing, Public Speaking and Brain Bees over the weekends of March 16th / 17th, April 6th/7th , and April 27th/28th, 2019. Chapter Directors will be scheduling contests depending on the availability of venue and volunteers as well as the anticipated participation level in each contest. You can see the contests scheduled for your chapter at the following link:

http://www.northsouth.org/public/USContests/Regionals/calendar.aspx

(Some chapters may not have the contest calendar finalized for registration yet.)

We encourage you to register your children for all eligible contests available in your area. It would be beneficial for the child to participate in at least three contests emphasizing Language, Math & Science. Please register early so that your child will have ample time to prepare for the contests. We have provided contest rules and plenty of resources for preparation on our website. Some of the chapters will also be holding workshops on some subjects. Please contact your local Chapter Director for any other related preparatory classes and information sessions. We also plan to conduct Orientation and Information session webinars by subject (free) and online workshops in a number of subjects (fee based). Please watch for email announcements.

"What is new for 2019?"
1) Registration Open to All - Pilot. 26 Chapters have been selected to participate in a pilot program to open registration for all interested participants without any restriction on national origin.

2) History Bee - Pilot. 21 Chapters will be hosting Junior and Senior History Bees. This will be conducted only at the Regional level and will not be part of 2019 National Finals.

Please contact your Chapter Director if your chapter is participating in the above pilots.

The venue and date for the 2019 National Finals will be announced soon. Invitation to the National Finals is based on scores received in the regional contests. National cut-off scores will be determined for each level after completing contests at all centers. Please note that North South Foundation is all run by

volunteers, and all net proceeds from contests, workshops, coaching and other fundraising efforts are earmarked for providing scholarships for bright children from poor families in India to attend college. Thus your participation in these contests is helping a kid in India receive higher education. This year our plan is to award 6,000 scholarships, bringing the total scholarships awarded so far by NorthSouth to over 25,000. This is a win-win program helping NRI children in the US, which in turn helps meritorious, but poor children in India as well.

We have compiled a list of some important points based on registration experiences in previous years and included at the end of this email. Please read this set of instructions and FAQs before attempting registration. In addition, you can use the "File Support Ticket" link for any technical help with registration issues. Step by step instructions for new parents is available at:

> https://www.northsouth.org/public/uscontests/newparents.aspx

For returning parents, please use the link below:
> https://www.northsouth.org/app9/login.aspx?entry=p

Wish you and your children all the best. Thank you for your continued support of North South Foundation.

Sincerely,
Krishnan Gowri, Ph.D.
On behalf of the National Team

Important Points to Note before Registering

1. Please only use the latest Microsoft Edge or Internet Explorer version. Our volunteers DID NOT test with other browsers like Mozilla Firefox or Google Chrome, and therefore, we are not able to provide help support. Also, please use only desktop or laptop with Windows software. We do not support other devices.

2. If you are unable to complete registration anytime, please send an email to - support@northsouth.org. NorthSouth volunteers will make every effort to solve your problem as soon as possible.

3. Do not try to enter as a new parent if you received an email directly from us. Your record already exists. Duplicate records create a mess and havoc for us volunteers.

4. As in the past, your entry is through a login ID and password. This is the only way you can access the system. If you forgot your password, you can get it from the login page. Please keep the login ID and password in a safe place. Do not share with others.

5. All communications from NorthSouth is done through your registered primary email address, which also acts as your login ID. If you want to change your e-mail address (login ID) or password, you can do it from the login page, profile page or from the Parent Functions page.

6. If you ever forget your login ID in the future, you can request for it from the login page. Please use unique email IDs for both parents so that both email IDs receive our messages. If one becomes invalid for some reason, the other email ID will still receive our message. Never report spam since your email address will be put on a list by our email server vendor that will permanently stop you from receiving future NorthSouth communications.

7. NorthSouth offers a variety of contests including spelling, vocabulary, math, science, geography, history, essay writing, public speaking, and brain bee. Based on the availability of resources and participation, your chapter decides on a particular array of contests to be offered in your center. If your chapter does not offer a particular contest, but it is, however, offered in a neighboring center, you may be able to avail the opportunity by registering in the neighboring center as long as it is in your cluster and the system allows you.

Important: Some chapters are put into a cluster, if they are within driving distance. If you belong to a cluster, the system will show you all chapters where you can register. Please read the chapter names and select the precise chapter where you would like your child to participate. If your center is offering contests, but has not yet selected a date or venue, you can still register. Registration is not complete until you pay online. Once you register and pay, refunds are not allowed for any reason.

8. As an added benefit to the parents, there are 2 links on the parent function page: "Change Center" and "Change Contest." Change Contest link allows you to change contests. You can only change contests that are priced same or lower. You can change center or contest up to two weeks prior to the contest date at the original center or new center, whichever is earlier. Two-week lead time is needed to plan and execute the contests smoothly.

9. During registration, the system saves each page as you navigate. In case of an interruption for any reason, you do not have to re-enter the data that was already saved.

10. NorthSouth activities are run by volunteers as NRI community events. We encourage both parents to volunteer for them. Even if you can spare one hour a week, it will make a big difference. Together, we can make things better and accomplish more in serving children, both in the US and India. Please contact/send email to your chapter coordinator if you are interested in volunteering. You can also sign up for volunteering during registration.

11. Do not use the "Back" arrow or "Refresh" button to avoid losing data integrity. Please review each page before continuing. Please avoid registering in a rush to avoid mistakes.

    a) Parent information: Please review and update data in all fields for you and your spouse (or other parent). Please make sure both parents have unique email ids (i.e. email ids need to be different for both parents). You cannot proceed unless you provide profiles including unique email IDs for both parents. Single parents are exempt from this requirement. Make certain that you belong to the right local chapter.
    b) Child information: Please review and update data in all fields including hobbies and accomplishments for each child. Make sure the date of birth is correct, and the grade and the name of school are up to date. The grade should be as of October 1. Due to limited volunteer and venue resources, contests are limited to the children of Indian origin in some chapters.

12. While helping your child excel through these contests, please consider helping an economically disadvantaged child go to college in India and donate generously. Your contribution is fully tax-deductible. On the donation page, there is a suggested donation of $250 to sponsor one child, which you are free to change.

13. After completing registration and making payment, you will get a confirmation email, which you should keep for your records. Please read the confirmation email in full. You may want to bring a copy to the contest venue as evidence of your registration and payment.

14. Please review with your child NorthSouth contest offerings, contest dates, contest location, rules, syllabus, preparation, educational resources and FAQ to make them better prepare. The link is:
http://www.northsouth.org/public/USContests/Regionals/regionals.aspx

15. You might want to register for any workshops being offered in your chapters, and this can better prepare your child for the contests and reduce any anxiety they might have. NorthSouth also offers online workshops. Please watch for NorthSouth emails.

16. Do not wait till the day of the registration deadline to register, to avoid any unforeseen issues, which might cause you to miss the deadline. Also, in some chapters, registration may close early if the capacity is reached. So please register early. Deadline is mid-night on the East Coast on the day of the deadline.

17. Once registered and paid, you will have an opportunity to download practice words and/or sample questions as well as Structured Learning Program (SLP) guide. If you miss this opportunity, you can still get the material by re-logging in and click on View Status on Regional Contests.

Step-by-step Instructions for Registration:

For your benefit, NSF volunteers have made YOUTUBE videos on how to create a new parent login, how to register your child, how to download practice words and how to create volunteer login. You may watch the YouTube training video at this link: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6uyRfBFI7Cs

(1) From www.northsouth.org, place your cursor on "**US LOGIN**" which appears on the top right hand side and click on "Parent Login" link.

(2) Enter your login ID and password in the new login page. (If you forgot your password, you can get it from the login page.)

(3) Select the "Contests Regional" tab and Click on "Register for Regional Contests" and follow the prompts.

(4)   First fill-in/update parent information; then click on "Continue".

(5)   Update the volunteer information; then click on "Continue".

(6)   Add and Update the child information such as grade/school/hobbies. You need
       to update for all children. Otherwise, the system will not show you the eligible
       contests.

(7)   Click on "Choose Contest Details" on the Child Information page.

Child Information

Add Child   Back to Main Page

We must have latest information on your child(ren) including date of birth, place of birth, gender, grade, school, hobbies and achievements. So
please click on Update link to verify and update information. Otherwise you may not be able to select Contests. Further, your child may get
disqualified if the information is not accurate. The grade should be as of January 1st of the contest year.

Name of Child	School Name	Grade	Date Of Birth	Update
Firstname Lastname	Middle School	5	12/24/2000	Update

Choose Contest Details

Please update the Child information for all the children, even if you are not planning to send all of them to NSF regional contests. Only when you
update the grade, school and other data for all the children, then only the "Choose Contest Details" button will be active. If you update one child
and not the other, the "Choose Contest Details" button will NOT be active.

(8)   System shows the list of children and eligible contests, click on "Click here to register".

Child/Children Detailed Information

Name of Child	School Name	Grade		
Firstname Lastname	Middle School	5	Eligible Contests	Stamford
			Senior Spelling	Mar 31, 2012
			Intermediate Vocabulary	Mar 31, 2012
			Math Level 2	Mar 31, 2012

2/3rd of the Registration Fee is tax-deductible.

Click here to Register

(9)   Select all desired contests for each child; then click on "Submit".

(10) Verify your selections and click on "Pay Now" button.

(11) Verify, once more, your selections on the summary page

Name of Child	Contest Selected	Fee	Contest Date	Chapter	Venue
Firstname Lastname	Senior Spelling	$35.00	31-Mar-2012	Stamford, CT	Fairfield University
Firstname Lastname	Intermediate Vocabulary	$35.00	31-Mar-2012	Stamford, CT	Fairfield University
Firstname Lastname	Math Level 2	$35.00	31-Mar-2012	Stamford, CT	Fairfield University

Total Fee to be Paid : $105.00

2/3rd of the Registration Fee is tax-deductible.

Continue

Note: Please verify your selections for each child along with event date, chapter and location.
The date and location are subject to change. Visit www.northsouth.org for the latest information.
Once paid, your payment is non-refundable.

(12) Confirm the terms and conditions and press "Accept".

I have read and understood the terms and conditions described above. Further, from the North South Foundation website, I have read and understood the a) General Rules, b) Specific Rules applicable to my contest(s), c) General FAQs (frequently asked questions), and d) Specific FAQs applicable to my contest(s). I accept and will comply with all the terms and conditions implied therein, all inclusive.

If you choose to decline, the Registrations for the contest(s) will not Complete. In that case, you may come back again at a later date to complete the registration.

Decline   Accept

(13) Enter information in optional donations page and click "Continue". (Note: System shows $250 default donation, please feel free to change it to zero or another amount.)

NSF Donation

Optional Donation(US$) 250   Tell me more

Make it Zero if you don't want to donate.

Donation For: India Scholarships

I am interested in supporting the NSF Scholarships in India (please check one below)

☐ I will contribute at least one scholarship to help a poor child go to college in India ($250 per child per year)

☐ I will make every effort to raise funds for at least one poor child in India ($250 per child per year)

I would like to help the following NSF India chapter

-Select Chapter-

Continue

(14) Refunds will not be given once payment is made. Contests may be changed before close of registration, but cannot be transferred to a sibling. If you have registered for a contest, say, Spelling, instead of Math, and payment has been made, then you can change to Math for that child without additional fees. Enter credit card information and press "Submit for Payment".

Please ensure credit card information entered is accurate. Credit Card holder name, Card number and Card expiration date should be correct. If payment fails for some reason, you will need to start all over again.

Credit Card Information	[card logos]	
Card Holder Name	[blank field]	(as it exactly appears on your card)
Card Number	[blank field]	
Card Expiration	Month [▾] Year [▾]	

*** Please read the following notes before you proceed with payment:

1. After clicking on "Submit for Payment," please be patient and wait for the payment confirmation screen. This can take 10 seconds or up to 3 minutes depending on Internet traffic and the speed of your connection.

2. Please do not use "Back Button" or "Refresh button" on your Browser to avoid any duplicate charges to your Credit Card.

3. We had instances of people pressing "Submit for Payment" multiple times due to impatience, which resulted in multiple charges.

4. If you do not want to pay at this time Click Here to go back to Registration Page.

Clicking Submit for Payment will enable credit card payment. Your registration will be completed, after your credit card payment is processed and a confirmation is received.

Submit for Payment

(15) After successfully paying with your credit card, you will receive a confirmation email.

(16) Logout from the system.

(17) Please note that the schedule shown in your chapter calendar is tentative. Please reconfirm the schedule two weeks before the contests by checking the calendar on the website or by contacting your chapter coordinator.

Once registered and paid, you will have an opportunity to download practice words and/or sample questions as well as Structured Learning Program (SLP) guide. If you miss this opportunity, you can still get the material by following the steps below.

a) From www.northsouth.org, place your cursor on "**US LOGIN**" which appears on the top right hand side and click on "Parent Login" link

b) Enter your login ID and password

c) Click on "View Status for Regional Contests" and you will see, next to the contestant name, a downloadable link for spelling/vocabulary practice words in .pdf form. We provide 1,000 practice words for spelling or vocabulary bee. For Math/Geography/Science/Public Speaking/Essay Writing bees, the downloadable files contain sample questions and these are for guidance only. You can also download Structured Learning Program (SLP) guide.

d) **How to download the files**: Right-click on the link, and choose *Save file on your hard disk* option. Once saved, you can print a copy for practice.

Some Useful Links:

NSF Facebook Page: https://www.facebook.com/NorthSouthFoundation

NSF Twitter Page: http://twitter.com/NSFBee

Competitions & Scholarships: http://www.northsouth.org/public/others/yp_competitions.aspx

NSF India Scholarships: http://www.northsouth.org/public/india/scholarships.aspx

NSF Math Column: http://www.northsouth.org/public/kidscorner/mathcolumn.aspx

Online Bee Games: https://www.northsouth.org/app9/Login.aspx?entry=G

Spelling Bee
Rules: http://www.northsouth.org/public/uscontests/regionals/spelling/spellingRules.aspx Preparation:
http://www.northsouth.org/public/uscontests/regionals/spelling/spellingPrep.aspx

Vocabulary Bee
Rules: http://www.northsouth.org/public/USContests/Regionals/vocabulary/vocabularyRules.aspx
Preparation: http://www.northsouth.org/public/USContests/Regionals/vocabulary/vocabularyPrep.aspx

Math Bee
Rules: http://www.northsouth.org/public/USContests/Regionals/math/mathRules.aspx
Preparation: http://www.northsouth.org/public/USContests/Regionals/math/mathPrep.aspx

Science Bee
Rules: http://www.northsouth.org/public/USContests/Regionals/science/scienceRules.aspx
Preparation: http://www.northsouth.org/public/USContests/Regionals/science/sciencePrep.aspx

Geography Bee
Rules: http://www.northsouth.org/public/USContests/Regionals/geography/geographyRules.aspx
Preparation: http://www.northsouth.org/public/USContests/Regionals/geography/geographyPrep.aspx

Brain Bee
Rules: http://www.northsouth.org/public/USContests/Regionals/brainbee/BrainBeeRules.aspx
Preparation: http://www.northsouth.org/public/USContests/Regionals/brainbee/brainbeePrep.aspx

Essay Writing
Rules: http://www.northsouth.org/public/USContests/Regionals/essaywriting/essayRules.aspx
Preparation: http://www.northsouth.org/public/USContests/Regionals/essaywriting/essayPrep.aspx

Public Speaking
Rules: http://www.northsouth.org/public/USContests/Regionals/publicspeaking/publicspeakingRules.aspx
Preparation: http://www.northsouth.org/public/USContests/Regionals/publicspeaking/publicspeakingPrep.aspx

History Bee
Rules: http://www.northsouth.org/public/USContests/Regionals/history/HistoryRules.aspx
Preparation: http://www.northsouth.org/public/USContests/Regionals/history/HistoryPrep.aspx