

Dear Parents,

Hope your children had fun learning & participating in the regional contests.

We are excited to announce the finalists for the nationals (both priority 1 and waitlist) based on the scores at the regionals.

As you may be aware, the cut-off score is derived after consolidating the scores across all chapters, irrespective of the ranks at the regionals. Here's the link to the criteria for selection and the cut-off scores for the various contests:

- **Priority 1 cut-off scores:**
<https://www.northsouth.org/national-contests/selection-criteria>
- **Waitlist cut-off scores:**
<https://www.northsouth.org/national-contests/selection-criteria-total/>
- **Link to the qualifiers for "priority list":**
<https://www.northsouth.org/national-contests/finalists-priority/>
- **Link to the "Total List of Finals Invitees" (Wait List and Priority List Combined):**
<https://www.northsouth.org/national-contests/finalists-total/>

Registration for priority 1 and wait lists and key dates:

- Friday, June 5th: Registration for finals will open for priority 1 qualifiers and are guaranteed a spot in the finals until June 11, 2026.
- Friday, June 12: Registration opens for contestants in both priority 1 and waitlists. This will be on a first come first serve basis.
- Friday, June 19: Registration for finals for all contests closes at 11:59 PM ET or when capacity is reached.

Contests with specific eligibility:

Note the exceptions listed below for the eligibility for the mentioned contests. Registration for these specific contests is on a first-come-first served basis.

Brain Bee (SBB) : Priority will be given to students who have participated in Learning Journey Neuroscience and Brain Bee classes. If there are still some open slots, we will open it for contestants who participated in science regional contests.

Public Speaking (PS3): Registration is open only to those who participated in the Public Speaking regional contests. This will be on a first come first serve basis for the first 30 registrations.

Essay Writing (EW3): Registration is open only to those who participated in the Essay Writing regional contests. This will be on a first come first serve basis for the first 30 registrations.

Finals date and venue:

The finals for 2026 will be between July 31st, August 1-2, 2026 at the historic Meredith College, Raleigh, North Carolina.

What's next?

- Registrations open on Friday, June 5th 8:00 AM EST time. Detailed instructions will be available on the website.
- Additional information on hotels and other logistical information will be provided over the coming weeks.