

MATHCOUNTS

MATHCOUNTS®

NATIONWIDE MIDDLE SCHOOL MATH COMPETITION

TEAMS & INDIVIDUAL

About



- **Mathcounts is a U.S. nonprofit competition program for middle school students (grades 6-8)**
- **Founded in 1983: The program was created through a partnership between the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, the National Society of Professional Engineers, the U.S. Department of Education, and others.**
- **Program structure: Includes school, chapter, state, and national rounds each round getting more challenging and competitive.**

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Why Math Contest?



- **Enhances readiness for premier colleges**
- **Builds confidence in math and strengthens problem-solving skills**
- **Provides international recognition and fosters a lifelong interest in math**
- **Encourages collaboration with like-minded, math-passionate peers**
- **Boosts academic profiles to stand out on applications and qualify for scholarships**

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Competition Format



- **Sprint Round – 30 problems in 40 minutes; focuses on speed and accuracy without a calculator.**
- **Target Round – 8 multi-step problems given in pairs; calculators allowed, emphasizes problem-solving and reasoning.**
- **Team Round – 20 problems in 20 minutes; 4 students work together, testing collaboration and strategy.**
- **Countdown Round – Fast-paced, head-to-head competition for top individuals; emphasizes quick thinking and accuracy.**

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Individual vs Team



- **All students participate in individual rounds (Sprint & Target)**
- **Team Round is only for the 4 team members from each school or chapter**
- **Countdown Round is optional; used to decide national winners**
- **Schools can send up to 1 team of 4 plus 8 additional individuals for a max of 12 competitors**

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Registration & Eligibility



- Register online at mathcounts.org/registration; fees range from \$40–\$50 per student (early bird to late), with Non-School Competitor registration at \$70
- Competitions are held Chapter: Feb, State: Mar, National: May.
- For detailed information and to register, visit the official MATHCOUNTS registration page: mathcounts.org/registration
- Open to U.S. middle school students (grades 6–8); schools can register teams and individuals online, sending 1 team of 4 plus up to 8 additional students, and individuals may participate even without a full team.

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Scoring & Awards



- **Individual Scores:** Sum of Sprint and Target Round points determines individual rankings.
- **Team Scores:** Sum of top 4 individual scores from a school/chapter for the Team Round.
- **Countdown Round:** Optional; used to break ties or determine national winners.
- **Awards:** Medals, trophies, and certificates for top individuals and teams at Chapter, State, and National levels.
- **Advancement:** Top scorers move from Chapter → State → National competitions

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Rules



- **Timing:** Each round has strict time limits (Sprint: 40 min, Target: 6 min per pair of questions, Team: 20 min, Countdown: varies).
- **Sprint round is no-calculator; Target allows calculator use.**
- **Team Composition:** Team Round must consist of 4 students from the same school/chapter.
- **Conduct:** Students must work independently in individual rounds; collaboration allowed only in Team Round.
- **Ties:** Resolved first by Countdown Round, then by pre-determined tie-breaker rules.

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Topics



- **Algebra (equations, inequalities, patterns)**
- **Geometry (angles, areas, volumes, coordinate geometry)**
- **Number Theory (prime numbers, factors, divisibility)**
- **Counting & Probability**
- **Ratios, Proportions & Percents**
- **Word Problems & Logical Reasoning**

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Resources



- **Official: mathcounts.org/resources (practice problems, past competitions, study guides)**
- **Books: The Art of Problem Solving series, Competition Math for Middle School**
- **Online Platforms: AoPS Online, Khan Academy, Brilliant.org**
- **Practice Tests: Chapter, State, and National level past papers available online.**

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THANK YOU!