

NEW – 2017 Nationals Speech Format

USAD is excited to announce a change to the format of the speech event at the 2017 USAD National Finals. As in years past, all participants will present their speeches before a panel of two or three speech judges; however, at the 2017 National Finals, approximately five fellow participants will also be present in the speech room during student speeches. It is our hope that this format will be beneficial to students by allowing them an opportunity to listen to their peers' speeches. Participants will only receive scores from the official speech judges. The peer audience will not score the speeches.

Each group of approximately six students will be assigned a speech room and a session start time. Students are required to be present at their speech room at the given time. The head judge in each room will welcome the group of students and show them their seats prior to calling the first student speaker forward. Once a student has presented both of his/her speeches, he/she will join the peer audience and the next student will be called by the head judge. The group of six students will be released from the speech room at the end of the session after all six students have presented their speeches.