

**United States Academic Decathlon®**  
**2021 USAD Online Nationals**  
**Large, Medium and/or Small School Online Teams**

**Purpose**

To enhance learning, growth, recognition and marketing of Academic Decathlon to more schools and students.

**Qualifications for schools to compete**

1. A state association, chartered by USAD, must have a state championship team that participated in USAD Nationals the previous year and intends to participate during the current school year.
2. School enrollment of competing online school must be: large = not to exceed 10,000; medium = not to exceed 1,300; small = not to exceed 650 (grades 9–12).
3. Schools participating in the large, medium and/or small online school competition must not be the same team participating in the 2021 USAD Nationals.

**Certification and selection of teams**

Teams from each state participating in the Online Nationals will be selected and certified by the state director. Teams must participate in the appropriate enrollment category. If their state does not have schools to meet the various enrollment category criteria, and the team participated in the state competition, then a team may compete up, but not down to fill any open enrollment categories for the Online Nationals.

**Competition**

1. Number of events (8): essay, literature, art, music, math, science, economics and social science.
2. The 2021 USAD Online Nationals will be held the same days as the 2021 USAD Virtual Nationals.
3. Gold, silver and bronze medals are awarded in each event and for each category (honor, scholastic, and varsity). All ties are awarded. Trophies will be given to the top three teams.
4. Winners of the 2021 USAD Online Nationals will be listed on the USAD website by May 15, 2021. Schools will be notified of scores by May 15, 2021.

**Competition Guidelines**

1. Contestants will NOT be excused from the testing room for any reason before the scheduled break. If a student leaves a testing room or event, he/she will NOT be permitted to return until the next scheduled break at the conclusion of the subject area tests. Any participant who has a medical condition which requires special provisions of any kind must provide USAD with written documentation from a physician in advance of the competition. The decision to allow a medical exception is at the discretion of USAD and is final.
2. Participants are responsible for being in the proper test location at the time each test begins. If a participant is tardy, he/she will NOT be allowed to enter the testing room.
3. Participants are NOT permitted to bring books, notes, purses, backpacks, coats, hats, mascots, electronic devices, cell phones, computer watches or any other items, except for approved calculators, into the testing room. Any such items will be confiscated by the proctor. Calculators are allowed in the testing room ONLY during the testing session in which the math test is scheduled. Calculators may be used for the math test ONLY. Calculators must be stored beneath

the student's chair and out of sight during all other tests except for the math test. Students may use any hand-held, battery-operated calculator that is considered a four-function or scientific calculator. Students are expected to honor the fact that they are not to refer to information stored in the graphing calculator memory during the mathematics test. Models with an alphabetic (QWERTY) keypad, such as the TI-92 or HP-95, and models with CAS (Computer Algebra Systems), such as the TI-89 are NOT allowed. Students may NOT exchange calculators. Students and coaches should refer to USAD's Calculator Policy for additional information regarding calculators.

4. If the competition official finds a contestant involved in using or possessing a cell phone in any competition area, using any unauthorized means of communication, using any type of crib, sharing, storing or transporting test information (including inappropriate use of a calculator), the proctor must remove the student for the duration of the test. If a participant is proven to have cheated, he/she will be disqualified from the event; however, depending on the severity of the infraction, the participant may be disqualified from the entire competition. Participants removed because of cheating or misconduct will NOT be eligible for any awards. Any person receiving or passing along any current year's tests or test items, except for published practice tests, will disqualify him/her and his/her team from Decathlon participation. The decision of USAD will be final and irrevocable.
5. If a proctor determines that a student has failed to stop when instructed to do so or has started before being instructed to do so, the student will receive a score of zero for that particular test.
6. In the case of an emergency or illness, a participant must formally withdraw in order to be eligible for any awards. To formally withdraw, a participant must give a written explanation of his/her withdrawal to USAD. An alternate student CANNOT be added to a team in the case of a withdrawal.
7. The nine team members who participate in the Online Nationals must be the same nine students who participated in the state competition. No substitutions are permitted. In case of an extreme medical emergency occurring after the state competition, USAD and the State Director will determine if another student may replace the absent team member. Teams shall NOT consist of more than nine members. Teams may compete with fewer than nine members, but must have a minimum of six members, two in each grade point average category. To be eligible for competition, teams must file all required documents in accordance with the deadlines set by USAD.
8. Decathletes and coaches are required to comply with the above competition rules. Failure to adhere to these rules may, at the discretion of USAD, result in the disqualification of the participant and/or his/her team. Decathletes will uphold the highest standards of honesty and integrity while participating in Academic Decathlon. If necessary, a decathlete may be required to re-take an alternate test to validate his/her test results.

**Please note:**

**USAD will do everything it can to make this competition a success. USAD will award medals and trophies based on competition results provided by the vendor. USAD is not responsible for power failures, school lock-outs, etc.**

**The state Academic Decathlon organization is responsible and liable for the administration of the tests and the supervision of students participating in the USAD Online Nationals. Entry to this competition is voluntary.**