

UNITED STATES ACADEMIC DECATHLON®
National Finals 2017
Explanation of Scoring

1. The United States Academic Decathlon® has ten events. Each event is evenly weighted at 1000 points per competitor for a possible 10,000 point total. However, only six scores per team are counted for the team ranking, (top two Honor, top two Scholastic, and top two Varsity). So the highest possible team score is 60,000.
2. Six of the objective tests have 50 items. The raw score for these tests is converted to 1000 points with each item worth 20 points. The math test has 35 items with each item being worth 28.6 points.
3. The essay is scored based on a rubric. Each essay is independently read twice. If there is a divergence of 200 or more points in the two scores, the essay is read and scored by a third judge. The third score replaces the divergent score. The two scores are averaged for the final score.
4. The speech and interview are performed before a panel of judges (usually three). The judges complete the appropriate scoring forms. These are scanned directly into the computer. The scoring program computes an average score based on a maximum of 1000 points.
5. The Super Quiz™ Relay will include questions from the subjects of art, economics, literature, music, science, social science and mathematics. In the Super Quiz™ Relay all three students from each GPA category will be asked to come to the testing area. All Varsity students will be tested with the first thirteen questions, followed by the Scholastic students answering the next thirteen questions, then the final thirteen questions of the competition for the Honor students. Questions are worth one point each for a total of 39 points per team. The Super Quiz™ Relay is a standalone event, and scores will NOT be added to individual or team scores.
6. Gold, silver and bronze medals are awarded in each division, event and category (Honor, Scholastic, and Varsity). All ties are awarded.
7. Team overall ranking is determined by the six team members that make up the top two scores in each category (Honor, Scholastic, and Varsity).
8. There will be three divisions of schools—Division I, Division II, and Division III—at the USAD nationals competition. These divisions are determined by the enrollment for grades 9–12 of the schools attending Nationals. However, a division must have at least 25% of the teams participating. Each division will have a first (gold), second (silver), and third (bronze) place winner. These are the Division Champions. The Nationals title will be awarded to the team with the highest number of points regardless of division.
9. A winner's list is emailed following the presentation of awards that indicates the gold, silver and bronze medal winners in each event, the special awards, the top five teams in the Super Quiz™ Relay and the top ten teams in the Overall Standings. **Each coach and State Director will be emailed the scores for his/her team.**
10. Special awards are common in Academic Decathlon®. At Nationals they include the B. Franklin Reinauer II Economics Prize, the Kristin Caperton Inspiration Award, Asa Edwin Reaves, Esq. Social Science Prize, the Norman Katz Communication Award, the Highest Scoring Student from each state, and the Most Valuable Team Member Award from each team.