CURRICULUM OVERVIEW GUIDE
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VISION
The vision of the U.S. Academic Decathlon® is to provide all students the opportunity to excel academically through team competition.

MISSION
The mission of the U.S. Academic Decathlon® is to promote learning and academic excellence among students of varying achievement levels by developing and providing multidisciplinary academic competitions using U.S. Academic Decathlon-based curricula.

CORE VALUES
As a premier national scholastic competition for high school students, the United States Academic Decathlon® believes in:

The academic growth of students;
Challenging multidisciplinary learning;
Teamwork as a means to achieve self-knowledge and life skills;
Providing equal opportunities for students of different achievement levels;
The importance of inclusivity and diversity to learning and the human experience;
High standards of honesty and integrity;
Transparency in our relations and interactions with all of our stakeholders;
Excellence in our programs, services and activities; and,
Respect for diverse points of view.

The National Association of Secondary School Principals has placed this program on the NASSP List of Approved Contests, Programs, and Activities for Students.
WHAT IS THE UNITED STATES ACADEMIC DECATHLON®?

OVERVIEW
The United States Academic Decathlon, the premiere national scholastic competition for high school students, was created to provide opportunities for students to experience the challenges of rigorous team and individual academic competition. Each student competes in ten events: art, economics, essay, interview, literature, mathematics, music, science, social science, and speech. Students compose an essay based on a prompt whose central theme incorporates information relating to the current curriculum. Students also perform a prepared speech and impromptu speech and participate in an interview before a panel of volunteer judges from the local community.

The culmination of the competition is the exciting Super Quiz™ relay in which students have the opportunity to demonstrate their mastery of the broad range of the U.S. Academic Decathlon’s interdisciplinary curriculum by answering questions from seven different subject areas: art, economics, literature, mathematics, music, science, and social science. The Super Quiz is the only part of the actual testing that is open to the public, and it is inevitably one of the most memorable and exciting parts of the Academic Decathlon competition.

Gold, silver, and bronze medals are awarded for individual events and total scores. Overall individual winners are recognized as are champion teams. The broad base of awards allows for major recognition of academic accomplishment. Teams advance through local, regional, and state levels of competition. The state champions compete at the national finals. The 2021 Academic Decathlon National Finals will take place on April 29–May 1, 2021 in Des Moines, Iowa.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION
The United States Academic Decathlon emphasizes the personal and academic growth of each student who, by meeting the challenges with honesty and integrity, can reap the rewards of greater self-knowledge and self-confidence for the future.

The ten-event academic program strives to foster a greater respect for knowledge, to promote wholesome interschool academic competition, and to further develop student communication skills. A unique aspect of the U.S. Academic Decathlon is that it is designed to include students from all academic abilities and achievement levels. Each nine-member team consists of three Honor students (3.80 – 4.00 GPA), three Scholastic students (3.20 – 3.799 GPA), and three Varsity students (0.00 – 3.199 GPA). Each team member competes in all ten events against other students in his/her GPA division. Overall team scores are calculated using the top two individual scores from each division.

HISTORY
The U.S. Academic Decathlon was first created by Dr. Robert Peterson, former Superintendent of Schools in Orange County, California. Firmly believing that everyone’s learning potential can be maximized through competitive challenge, Dr. Peterson set in motion the contest that has since come to be recognized as the most prestigious high school academic team competition in the United States. The program spread rapidly due to the success and excitement it engendered. The United States Academic Decathlon was founded in 1981.
THE UNITED STATES ACADEMIC DECATHLON® AND CURRICULUM STANDARDS

OVERVIEW
The United States Academic Decathlon’s curriculum is an interdisciplinary curriculum in which a selected theme is integrated across six different subject areas: art, economics, literature, music, science, and social science. Students also study mathematics and participate in essay-writing, speech, and interview events. The theme for the 2020–2021 U.S. Academic Decathlon (USAD) curriculum is the Cold War. While in most subjects the majority of the topics relate to the overall curricular theme, some topics that cover fundamentals may also be included to encourage a thorough understanding of the subject area as a whole. The USAD mathematics curriculum is unrelated to the theme and focuses on standard high school mathematics topics.

This document provides a summary of the Common Core Standards for high school Mathematics and Reading that are addressed in USAD’s 2020–2021 curriculum as well as the national content standards met by USAD’s 2020–2021 curriculum.

THE UNITED STATES ACADEMIC DECATHLON’S CURRICULUM AND THE COMMON CORE STANDARDS
The Common Core State Standards Initiative is a state-led effort to establish a common set of educational standards for English language arts and mathematics. The standards aim to ensure that students graduating from high school are prepared to attend college or enter the workforce. The Common Core Standards were developed by states and content experts under the guidance of governors and state education chiefs, and they have been adopted by forty-one states, the District of Columbia, four territories, and the Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA).

The United States Academic Decathlon® and the Common Core Standards for High School Mathematics

Mathematical Practice Standards Addressed
In addition to the content standards, the Common Core High School Mathematics standards emphasize eight practice standards. These standards are meant to address the way students approach and reason during their learning of mathematics. The U.S. Academic Decathlon’s 2020–2021 mathematics curriculum encourages students to apply seven of these eight practice standards:

- CCSS.Math.Practice.MP1: Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them
- CCSS.Math.Practice.MP2: Reason abstractly and quantitatively
- CCSS.Math.Practice.MP4: Model with mathematics
- CCSS.Math.Practice.MP5: Use appropriate tools strategically
- CCSS.Math.Practice.MP6: Attend to precision
- CCSS.Math.Practice.MP7: Look for and make use of structure
- CCSS.Math.Practice.MP8: Look for and express regularity in repeated reasoning

The United States Academic Decathlon and the Common Core Reading Standards for Literature
USAD’s 2020–21 literature curriculum in concert with other Academic Decathlon subject areas addresses aspects of all ten of the Common Core College and Career Readiness Anchor Standards for Reading for students in grades K–12, aspects of all ten Common Core Reading Standards for Literature for students in grades 9–10, and aspects of seven Common Core Reading Standards for Literature for students in grades 11–12.

THE UNITED STATES ACADEMIC DECATHLON CURRICULUM AND NATIONAL CONTENT STANDARDS
USAD’s 2020–2021 curriculum addresses aspects of the following:

- All twenty of the Voluntary National Content Standards in Economics
- Eleven of the twelve Curriculum and Content Area Standards for English Language Arts
- All five content areas of the high school mathematics curriculum delineated by the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM) and provides students with opportunities to utilize all four reasoning habits delineated by the NCTM
- Four National Core Arts Standards for Music
- Four National Core Arts Standards for Visual Arts
- Eight Earth and Space Science Disciplinary Core Ideas for Grades 9–12, seven Physical Science Disciplinary Core Ideas for Grades 9–12, and six Crosscutting Concepts as outlined by the Next Generation Science Standards
- Nine of ten overarching curricular themes outlined by the National Council for Social Studies (NCSS), three historical eras of focus delineated by the National Content Standards for U.S. History, and two historical eras of focus delineated by the National Content Standards for World History
CURRICULUM MATERIALS

U.S. ACADEMIC DECATHLON STUDY GUIDE:
Summarizes the curriculum for the entire year. Includes detailed outlines for Art, Economics, Literature, Mathematics, Music, Science, and Social Science. Also includes rules and guidelines for the Speech, Interview, and Essay events. Available printed, as PDF for download, or as an eBook. Available May 15

ART REPRODUCTIONS BOOKLET:
Contains full-color reproductions of the 18 selected artworks for this year’s art curriculum. Available printed, as PDF for download, or as an eBook. Available May 15

MUSIC CD:
This year’s music CD, Music during the Cold War, is a 14-track CD produced exclusively for the U.S. Academic Decathlon. The Music CD is an essential companion piece to this year’s music curriculum. Available May 15

RESOURCE GUIDES:
Resource Guides will be provided in Art, Economics, Literature, Mathematics, Music, Science, and Social Science. These Resource Guides will provide teams with a thorough review and academic treatment of all the topics noted in the subject area outlines for these subjects. All Academic Decathlon competition test items will be derived from the information and concepts presented in the Resource Guides, as well as the selected literature, artworks, and musical works. The Resource Guides offer an essential resource that will assist students in their mastery of the topics and aid in their preparation for the competition tests. Available printed, as PDF for download, or as an eBook. Available May 15

PRACTICE TEST BOOKLET:
The PTB is the most important coaching tool for understanding Academic Decathlon tests. Written by the official USAD test writers in each subject area. Contains eight tests, sample essay prompts, and speech and interview rules and rubrics. The PTB may be reproduced at the school level only. Includes accompanying CD for art questions based on artwork images, music questions based on listening excerpts and a PowerPoint® Slideshow for the Super Quiz™ relay. The PTB is also available as a PDF and the CD as an mp3 file for electronic download. Available May 15
CURRICULUM PACKAGE

10 Academic Decathlon Study Guides
10 Art, Economics, Literature, Mathematics, Music, Science, and Social Science Resource Guides
10 Art Reproductions Booklets
10 Music CDs
1 Practice Test Booklet (with mp3)

STUDENT STUDY AIDS

STUDENT EXERCISE BOOKS:

Available in Art, Economics, Literature, Mathematics, Music, Science, and Social Science, the Student Exercise Books provide a student-friendly synthesis of the material presented in the Resource Guides and offer students a chance to test and reinforce their knowledge of the curriculum through a variety of exercises and activities. The Student Exercise Books will include section overviews as well as short quizzes, true/false questions, fill-in-the-blank items, etc., to assist students in their mastery of the curriculum. Available printed or as PDF for download. Available June 15
ADDITIONAL STUDY & PRACTICE TEST MATERIALS

THIS YEAR’S SELECTED LITERATURE:
This year’s selected literature is *Cat’s Cradle* by Kurt Vonnegut, Jr. The U.S. Academic Decathlon has arranged for a special discount from the publisher. Students will also study selected shorter works of literature that relate to the curricular theme. *Available May 15*

SUPER QUIZ™ RELAY POWERPOINT TESTS:
Includes twelve tests that are displayed in a PowerPoint® SlideShow. The Super Quiz relay will include questions (in multiple-choice format) from all subject areas. The PowerPoint® tests will help to reinforce student mastery of the United States Academic Decathlon Resource Guides. *Available August 1*

PRACTICE LEVEL TESTS:
Includes a series of three tests made up of 150 questions in each subject area. Tests can be used consecutively as a study tool since they are constructed at easy, medium, and hard difficulty levels, allowing for gradual mastery of the curriculum. *Available August 1*

PRACTICE SPECIALTY TESTS:
Includes two 100-item tests in art, literature, music, science, and social science, focused in depth on a specific portion of the subject outlines. Tests consist of a variety of question styles for students to gain knowledge on focused topics. Also available as a PDF for electronic download. *Available August 1*

4,000 SUBJECT AREA FLASH CARDS:
Companion to the Resource Guides and Online Practice Tests. 600 questions each in art, music, literature, social science, science, and economics; 400 in mathematics. Questions and answers are referenced directly to the Resource Guides to reinforce learning and strengthen fast answer skills. Also available as a PDF for electronic download. *Available August 1*

NOTEBOOK DIVIDERS (10 SETS):
Crammed with pertinent information, this set of 10 tabbed notebook dividers helps students stay organized. Includes artist and composer bios, lists of key terms and definitions, and other information. *Available May 15*

PRACTICE COMBO QUIZZES:
Contains four quizzes with a total of 200 items in each subject area. Quizzes focus on topics in sequential order of the subject outlines. Quizzes include a combination of fill-in-the-blank items, short-question and answer format, multiple-choice items, and matching to help students master the curriculum with a variety of question styles. Also available as a PDF for electronic download. *Available August 1*
ESSAY EXAM BOOKLET:
Contains 20 essay tests with a total of 60 essay prompts, which focus on the following six subject areas: art, economics, literature, music, science, and social science. The essay rubric used at the national competition is included in the booklet. Great for essay writing practice. Also available as a PDF for electronic download. Available June 15

ESSAY RESOURCE GUIDE:
The Essay Resource Guide provides Academic Decathletes with all the information they need to know about USAD’s essay event. The Essay Resource Guide includes a thorough explication of the essay scoring rubric and offers students techniques, strategies, tips, and guided activities—including detailed analyses of sample essays—to help them write an effective, high-scoring essay. Available May 15

LITERATURE NOVEL QUIZZES:
Test your knowledge of Kurt Vonnegut, Jr’s Cat’s Cradle. Quizzes will include a combination of fill-in-the-blank items, short question and answer format, multiple-choice items, and matching to help students master the chapters in this year’s selected novel. Also available as a PDF for electronic download. Available June 15

MUSIC LISTENING QUIZZES:
Includes 10 quizzes with multiple-choice items that focus on a 30-second musical excerpt from the United States Academic Decathlon Music CD: Music during the Cold War. Quizzes will be similar to what students will encounter on the listening portion of the music competition tests to reinforce mastery of the Music CD. Includes accompanying mp3 file which is available for electronic download. Available June 15

IMPROPTU TOPIC BOOKLET:
Contains 150 impromptu speech topics, including a variety of sample approaches that may be encountered in the United States Academic Decathlon competition. Great for speech practice and impromptu preparation. Also available as a PDF for electronic download. Available June 15
ART

ART DURING THE COLD WAR

I. ART FUNDAMENTALS ........................................... 20%
   A. Introduction to Art History
   B. Elements of Art

II. AN INTRODUCTION TO COLD WAR ART AND CULTURE .......... 15%
   A. The State of the World after World War II
   B. A Clash of Ideologies
   C. First World, Second World, Third World
   D. The Cold War as a Way of Seeing

III. ABSTRACTION AND FIGURATION ................................ 20%
   A. Postwar Abstraction
   B. Socialist Realism
   C. International Styles

IV. CONSUMERISM AND IDEOLOGY ................................... 15%
   A. Pop Art
   B. Unofficial, Underground, or Nonconformist Art in the U.S.S.R.
   C. Conceptual Art

V. ART AND TECHNOLOGY ............................................. 15%
   A. The Horrors of War
   B. Techno-utopias

VI. THE BODY IN ACTION .............................................. 15%
   A. Activating the Body
   B. The Body under Repressive Regimes
ECONOMICS
AN INTRODUCTION TO ECONOMICS AND THE ECONOMICS OF THE COLD WAR

I. FUNDAMENTAL ECONOMIC CONCEPTS ................................................................. 10%
   A. Basic Assumptions of Economics
   B. Models and Economic Theory
   C. Positive and Normative Economics
   D. Efficiency as a Goal
   E. Microeconomics and Macroeconomics

II. MICROECONOMICS ............................................................................................ 40%
   A. Perfectly Competitive Markets
   B. Applications of the Competitive Market Model
   C. Evaluating Government Policy: The Impact of Price Controls and Taxes
   D. International Trade
   E. The Profit Motive and the Behavior of Firms
   F. Imperfect Competition
   G. Creative Destruction: The Profit Motive and the Sources of Economic Change
   H. Market Failures
   I. Institutions, Organizations, and Government

III. MACROECONOMICS ......................................................................................... 30%
   A. Macroeconomic Issues
   B. Macroeconomic Measurement
   C. Economic Growth, Productivity, and Living Standards
   D. Savings, Investment, and the Financial System
   E. Money and Prices in the Long Run
   F. Short-Run Economic Fluctuations

IV. THE ECONOMICS OF THE COLD WAR ............................................................. 20%
   A. The Aftermath of World War Two and the Origins of the Cold War
   C. New Divisions Emerge
   D. The Economics of the Soviet-American Arms Race
   E. Arms Limitation Agreements
   F. A Comparative Economic Analysis: U.S. versus U.S.S.R.
   G. Proxy Wars, 1950 to 1990
   H. Reagan’s Defense Buildup and the End of the Cold War
LITERATURE

AN INTRODUCTION TO THE LITERATURE OF THE COLD WAR

I. CRITICAL READING ........................................... 15%
   A. Purpose and Main Idea
   B. Structure
   C. Restatement of Information
   D. Genres and their Characteristics
   E. Language and Tone
   F. Grammar and Syntax
   G. Vocabulary in Context
   H. Diction

II. HISTORICAL OVERVIEW ..................................... 10%
   A. The Origins of the Cold War
   B. The Atomic Bomb
   C. Kennan’s “Long Telegram” and the Truman Doctrine
   D. Confrontations in Germany and Korea
   E. The Turbulent Fifties
   F. Khrushchev and Kennedy
   G. Treaties and Troubles
   H. Détente
   I. The Second Cold War
   J. The End of the Cold War
   K. The Cold War’s Legacy

III. CAT’S CRADLE (1963) BY KURT VONNEGUT, JR. .......... 30%
    A. Themes
    B. Characters
    C. Plot Summary
    D. Context: Vonnegut’s Early Novels
    E. Context: Apocalyptic Fiction
    F. Context: “Black Humor” as a Response to Atomic Anxiety

IV. SHORTER SELECTIONS .............................................. 45%
    A. Short Stories
    B. Poems and Songs
    C. Speeches
DES MOINES. THE SS ARE SILENT.
THE 2021 USAD NATIONAL FINALS ARE CALLING.

Catch Des Moines welcomes the 2021 USAD National Finals to Iowa’s vibrant capital city April 28th through May 1st, 2021.

Whether it’s our sizzling food scene, bold art, or attractions worth shouting about, there’s something for everyone in Greater Des Moines. Be sure to check out some of these inspiring, historic, and educational attractions when you visit next year!

IOWA STATE CAPITOL
100 rooms of awe-inspiring history and camera-ready beauty.

LIVING HISTORY FARMS
We’re not all farms you know, but the ones we do have are pretty epic. This 500-acre outdoor museum includes everything from milking cows to old-timey baseball.

STATE HISTORICAL MUSEUM
With three floors showcasing Iowa’s accomplishments, contributions and heritage across our 99 counties, experience our state’s rich history through exhibits and artifacts.

SCIENCE CENTER OF IOWA
Engaging and inspiring visitors of all ages by bringing learning to life.

DID YOU KNOW?
The Henry Wallace House, a historic building in Des Moines, was home to Henry Wallace, an advocate for agricultural improvement and reform. His grandson, Henry A. Wallace, was former VP to FDR and was a proponent of cooperation with Soviets in post-WW II international relations. #IowaCulture

THIS FUN FACT PROVIDED BY: IOWA DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS
TERRACE HILL
Experience the Victorian lifestyle of the late 1880s. This National Historic Landmark and Iowa Governor's Residence, is among the finest examples of Victorian Second Empire architecture in the United States.

BLANK PARK ZOO
Lions and tigers and red panda bears, oh my!

BOTANICAL GARDEN
Rain or shine, things are always in bloom at this beautiful, seven-acre public garden in the heart of downtown.

SALISBURY HOUSE
Go back in time in this beautiful 42-room mansion built in the 1920s. It's filled with original art, rare books and antique furnishings from around the world.

DES MOINES ART CENTER
Making art accessible with free admission to world-class art exhibits.

IOWA HALL OF PRIDE
Enjoy dozens of hands-on interactive exhibits that tell the stories of Iowa's communities and their heroes.

Looking for more travel inspiration and ideas of things to do while you’re here? Visit catchdesmoines.com/videos and check out our video series for The S’s Are Silent and Des Best, chock full of authentic Des Moines experiences you won’t want to miss! See you next April!
MATHEMATICS

GENERAL MATHEMATICS, GEOMETRY, AND AN INTRODUCTION TO DIFFERENTIAL CALCULUS

I. GENERAL MATHEMATICS ............................................... 25%
   A. Simple and Compound Interest
   B. Basic Counting
   C. Probability of Equally Likely Events and Binomial Distribution

II. GEOMETRY ................................................................. 65%
    A. Right Triangles
    B. Coordinate Geometry
    C. Plane and Solid Figures

III. INTRODUCTION TO DIFFERENTIAL CALCULUS ................. 10%
     A. Average Rate of Change of Basic Polynomial Functions
     B. Basic Limits and Continuity
     C. First Derivative of Basic Polynomial Functions and Graphical Interpretation
     D. Equations of Tangent Lines
MUSIC

MUSIC DURING THE COLD WAR

I. BASIC ELEMENTS OF MUSIC THEORY .......................... 20%
   A. Sound and Music
   B. Pitch, Rhythm, and Harmony
   C. Other Aspects of Musical Sound
   D. Form in Music
   E. Which Is the Real Music? Scores, Recordings, and Performance

II. WAR AND POSTWAR: REACTION AND REMEMBRANCE ......... 28%
   A. Music in the Time of War
   B. Coping with the Aftermath

III. THE PROPAGANDA WAR (MUSIC ON THE MOVE) ................. 24%
   A. The Soviet Strategy
   B. Cultural Diplomacy, American-Flavored

IV. BOTH SIDES OF THE IRON CURTAIN .................................. 28%
   A. Musical Bullying, Soviet-Style
   B. Musical Bullying, American-Style
   C. Building New Bridges
   D. A Shared Repertory
   E. The First Wave from America
   F. More Americans Abroad
   G. It's Your Move
   H. Did It Work?
SCIENCE

AN INTRODUCTION TO ASTRONOMY

I. FOUNDATIONS OF ASTRONOMY ........................................... 25%
   A. The History of Modern Astronomy
   B. Light
   C. THE SPACE RACE: SPUTNIK 1
   D. Telescopes
   E. THE SPACE RACE: EXPLORER 1

II. THE STARS ........................................................................... 25%
   A. Distances to Stars
   B. Stellar Spectra
   C. THE SPACE RACE: YURI GAGARIN BECOMES THE FIRST PERSON IN SPACE
   D. THE SPACE RACE: PRESIDENT KENNEDY ANNOUNCES THE MOON SHOT
   E. The Sun
   F. THE SPACE RACE: JOHN GLENN ORBITS THE EARTH
   G. Stellar Evolution
   H. THE SPACE RACE: THE GEMINI PROGRAM
   I. Supernovae, Superdense Stars, and Black Holes

III. THE PLANETS ................................................................. 25%
   A. The Solar System
   B. THE SPACE RACE: THE EARLY APOLLO MISSIONS
   C. The Earth and the Moon
   D. THE SPACE RACE: THE APOLLO 11 MOON LANDING
   E. The Terrestrial Planets
   F. The Jovian Planets and Beyond

IV. GALAXIES AND THE UNIVERSE ...................................... 25%
   A. The Milky Way Galaxy
   B. THE SPACE RACE: SKYLAB
   C. Other Galaxies
   D. THE SPACE RACE: THE APOLLO-SOYUZ TEST PROJECT
   E. Cosmology
SOCIAL SCIENCE
AN INTRODUCTION TO THE HISTORY OF THE COLD WAR

I. FROM ALLIES TO RIVALS: WORLD WAR II ENDS AND THE COLD WAR BEGINS ............................................. 30%
   A. Origins of the Cold War
   B. The Cold War Begins
   C. New Leadership

II. THE COLD WAR’S EFFECTS ON DOMESTIC POLITICS AND CULTURE IN AMERICA ................................................... 20%
   A. The Enemy Within: “Disloyalty” and the Fear of Communist Subversion
   B. Espionage
   C. McCarthyism
   D. Cold War Civil Rights
   E. Cold War Society

III. CONFLICT AND CONCILIATION, 1953–79 ................................................................. 30%
   A. The Central Intelligence Agency and American Intervention
   B. Non-Alignment, Crisis in the Middle East, and the New Order
   C. The Khrushchev Era
   D. New Flash Points
   E. Détente
   F. The Carter Administration and the End of Détente
   G. The Rise of Human Rights Foreign Policy

IV. ENDING THE COLD WAR, 1980–91 ................................................................. 20%
   A. Reagan Revives the Cold War
   B. Latin America and the Caribbean
   C. The Decline of the Soviet Empire
   D. Gorbachev
   E. A Pivotal Year: 1989
   F. The Dissolution of the Soviet Union, 1990–91
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The 2020 U.S. Academic Decathlon National Finals, originally scheduled for April–May 2020, were canceled due to the coronavirus pandemic. Nonetheless, USAD congratulates those teams whose hard work, dedication, and exceptional achievements at Academic Decathlon competitions in their home states won them an invitation to the 2020 National Finals!

### 2020 State Champion Teams

- **Alaska** – Lathrop High School  
- **Arizona** – Hamilton High School  
- **California** – El Camino Real Charter High School  
- **Colorado** – Frontier Academy  
- **Connecticut** – Weston High School  
- **Florida** – University Christian High School  
- **Georgia** – Parkview High School  
- **Idaho** – Sandpoint High School  
- **Illinois** – Whitney M. Young High School  
- **Indiana** – Martinsville High School  
- **Iowa** – Cedar Rapids Jefferson High School  
- **Kansas** – Shawnee Mission West High School  
- **Louisiana** – Caddo Parish Magnet High School  
- **Maine** – Scarborough High School  
- **Massachusetts** – Acton-Boxborough Regional High School  
- **Minnesota** – Avalon School  
- **Missouri** – University Academy  
- **Nebraska** – Pius X High School  
- **New Jersey** – West Windsor-Plainsboro High School North  
- **New Mexico** – St. Pius X High School  
- **New York** – Cazenovia High School  
- **Ohio** – Oakwood High School  
- **Oregon** – Central High School  
- **Pennsylvania** – Seneca Valley High School  
- **Rhode Island** – Bishop Hendricken High School  
- **Tennessee** – Madison Academic Magnet High School  
- **Texas** – Highland Park High School  
- **Utah** – Bingham High School  
- **Wisconsin** – Wilmot Union High School

### 2020 International Champion Teams

- **Beijing National Day School**  
- **Shanghai High School International Division**  
- **IB Curriculum Center of the High School Affiliated to Shanghai Jiao Tong University International Curriculum Center, The High School Affiliated to Renmin University of China**  
- **Nanjing Foreign Language School**  
- **Wuhan Britain-China School**  
- **Shanghai Foreign Language School Affiliated to SISU**  
- **Shanghai World Foreign Language Academy**  
- **Guangzhou Foreign Language School**  
- **BASIS International School Park Lane Harbour**  
- **BASIS International School Guangzhou**  
- **The High School Affiliated to Nanjing Normal University**  
- **The High School Affiliated to Fudan University**  
- **The High School Affiliated to Renmin University of China**  
- **Keystone Academy**  
- **Guangdong Experimental High School**  
- **Suzhou Foreign Language School**  
- **Guangzhou No.2 High School**  
- **The Experimental High School Attached to Beijing Normal University**  
- **Hangzhou Foreign Languages School**  
- **Southbank International School, London, England**

### 2020 Division IV Teams

- **California** – Lemoore Middle College High School  
- **Georgia** – Lakeview Fort Oglethorpe High School  
- **Idaho** – Sugar-Salem High School  
- **Iowa** – South Central Calhoun High School  
- **Maine** – Monmouth Academy  
- **Massachusetts** – Natick High School  
- **Minnesota** – Lake Crystal Wellcome Memorial  
- **New Jersey** – Rutherford High School  
- **Ohio** – Falling Buffalos  
- **Tennessee** – Fayette - Ware High School  
- **Texas** – Bandera High School  
- **Wisconsin** – Melrose-Mindoro High School
2020 ACADEMIC DECATHLON
NATIONAL FINALS INVITEES

2020 Invited Teams

California – Valley Academy of Arts and Sciences
Georgia – Columbus High School
Idaho – Shoshone High School
Iowa – Denison High School
Minnesota – Saint Peter High School
New Jersey – Parsippany Hills High School
Texas – Health Careers High School

2020 Online Nationals Teams

Large School Division

Arizona – Canyon del Oro High School
California – Granada Hills Charter High School
Georgia – Villa Rica High School
Iowa – Urbandale High School
Iowa – Dowling Catholic High School
New Jersey – Clifton High School
Ohio – Riverside High School
Pennsylvania – Souderton Area High School
Texas – Dulles High School
Wisconsin – Watertown High School

Medium School Division

Arizona – Seton Catholic Preparatory High School
California – Middle College High School
Georgia – William Henry Shaw High School
Idaho – Shelley High School
Iowa – Union High School
Nebraska – Gross Catholic HS
New Jersey – Indian Hills High School
Ohio – West Geauga High School
Texas – Taylor High School
Utah – Alta High School
Wisconsin – New Berlin Eisenhower

Small School Division

Arizona – BASIS Scottsdale
California – University High School
Georgia – Davidson Fine Arts Magnet School
Iowa – Grundy Center/ Dike-New Hartford High School
Massachusetts – SABIS International
Nebraska – Mount Michael Benedictine School
Ohio – Valley Christian High School
Pennsylvania – Clarion-Limestone Jr./Sr. High School
2020 U.S. ACADEMIC DECATHLON NATIONAL FINALS INVITEES

2020 STATE CHAMPION TEAMS

California – El Camino Real High School

Georgia – Parkview High School

Idaho – Sandpoint High School

Iowa – Cedar Rapids Jefferson High School
2020 DIVISION IV TEAMS

California – Lemoore Middle College High School

Georgia – Lakeview Fort Oglethorpe High School

Idaho – Sugar-Salem High School

Minnesota – Lake Crystal Wellcome High School

Iowa – South Central Calhoun High School
2020 DIVISION IV TEAMS

New Jersey – Rutherford High School

Tennessee – Fayette - Ware High School

Wisconsin – Melrose-Mindoro High School
2020 INVITED TEAMS

California – Valley Academy of Arts and Sciences High School

Georgia – Columbus High School

Idaho – Shoshone High School

Iowa – Denison High School

New Jersey – Parsippany Hills High School
2020 U.S. ACADEMIC DECATHLON ONLINE NATIONAL FINALS INVITEES

LARGE SCHOOL DIVISION

California – Granada Hills Charter High School

Georgia – Villa Rica High School

Iowa – Urbandale High School
LARGE SCHOOL DIVISION

New Jersey – Clifton High School

Texas – Dulles High School

Wisconsin – Watertown High School
MEDIUM SCHOOL DIVISION

California – Middle College High School

Georgia – William Henry Shaw High School

Iowa – Union High School

Nebraska – Gross Catholic High School

Wisconsin – New Berlin Eisenhower High School
SMALL SCHOOL DIVISION

California – University High School

Georgia – Davidson Fine Arts High School

Iowa – Grundy Center / Dike-New Hartford High School
SMALL SCHOOL DIVISION

Nebraska – Mount Michael Benedictine School

Wisconsin – Marathon High School
VISION
The vision of the U.S. Academic Decathlon® is to provide students the opportunity to excel academically through team competition.

MISSION
The mission of the U.S. Academic Decathlon® is to promote learning and academic excellence among students of varying achievement levels by developing and providing multidisciplinary academic competitions using U.S. Academic Decathlon-based curricula.

CORE VALUES
As a premier national scholastic competition for high school students, the United States Academic Decathlon® believes in:

The academic growth of students;
Challenging multidisciplinary learning;
Teamwork as a means to achieve self-knowledge and life-skills development;
Providing equal opportunities for students of varying achievement levels;
The importance of inclusivity and diversity to learning and the human experience;
High standards of honesty and integrity;
Transparency in our relations and interactions with all of our stakeholders;
Excellence in our programs, services, and activities; and,
Respect for diverse points of view.