

2026–2027 United States Academic Decathlon



Consider starting an Academic Decathlon® team in your school or district today! Promote academic growth and excellence for students in grades 9–12 by adding this premier competition to your school/district. Your students will benefit by participating in this national scholastic competition for high school students. Participation in Academic Decathlon:

- Promotes use of higher-level thinking skills
- Prepares students for college and life skills
- Fosters individual accountability/growth
- Provides students with dynamic group/team interaction
- Supports team spirit and the sense of belonging
- Enables personal pride and success

Participation in Academic Decathlon changes the lives of students and offers them the opportunity to experience the rigors of team and individual competition. The Academic Decathlon curriculum addresses a number of national content and curriculum standards and tests students of all skill levels in 10 events: economics, math, science, social science, literature, art, music, essay, speech and interview. Teams consist of nine students, three from each GPA category: honor (3.85+), scholastic (3.5-3.8499) and varsity (0.0-3.499), as well as alternates.

The theme for the 2026-2027 Academic Decathlon season is Journeys of Transformation: An Exploration of Travel and Transportation.

New teams receive free curriculum their first year and a \$380 grant the second year with a two year commitment.

Contact your State Director today to get started!

<https://usad.org/state-directors>

