



GREAT COMMUNICATOR

DEBATE SERIES

RULES & ELIGIBILITY

Regional Championship Rules

- 1) Competitors are allowed to compete in one in-person qualifying competition as well as the online competition.
- 2) Each student at the qualifying competition must be under the immediate supervision of an adult who may be his/her coach, parent, or other adult approved by the high school administration.
- 3) Entry fees and judging requirements shall be established by each qualifying competition host in conjunction with the Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation and Institute.
- 4) A contestant who does not appear at the scheduled time to speak shall forfeit. The chief judge may waive this penalty for a valid and compelling reason.
- 5) Preliminary debates shall be judged by at least one judge; elimination rounds by three judges; and finals by 3-5 judges, at the discretion of the regional host. The highest and lowest judges' scores for each contestant in the final rounds will be eliminated before tabulating results. Any judge with a conflict of interest must declare this conflict prior to commencement of the competition, and a replacement judge should be assigned.
- 6) Judges must be over the age of 18 and must be out of high school for at least two years in order to be eligible to judge.

**Rules are subject to change up until one week prior to the first regional competition.*

National Championship Eligibility

- 1) After competing in all rounds including the entirety of the final round of debate at the regional level, the top two winners of each regional competition will be qualified to attend the National Championship. Each winner will receive a flight and hotel room for themselves and one chaperone each. Further details to be given to the winners after each Qualifying Competition.
- 2) U.S. citizens who are located in other regions of the world are welcome to compete, but the Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation and Institute is only able to cover transportation expenses for National Qualifiers for travel originating within the 50 states.
- 3) If a contestant is unable to participate in the final round of debate at the regional level, it will be up to the discretion of the regional partner and the Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation and Institute to determine whether or not the participant will be allowed to participate in the National Championship.
- 4) Each student at the National Championship must be under the immediate supervision of an adult who may be his/her coach, parent, or other adult approved by the high school administration.