**2023 National Civics Bee FAQs for School Administrators**

**What is the National Civics Bee?**

Imagine a national competition that celebrates civic knowledge in communities across the country. That's the National Civics Bee, created by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation (USCCF).

The Bee is a fun civics competition that educates children and entertains adults. Every person who participates walks away with a better understanding of how our democracy works and the links between our political and economic systems.

**Why should my school get involved?**

Every American must understand how democracy works. Knowledge is the bedrock of a political and economic system powered by individual citizens, yet far too many Americans today are uneducated.

Whether you are a public, private, charter, or home-school network, participating in the Bee is a way for your students to learn civics and celebrate democracy while competing for recognition and awards. It’s also an opportunity to demonstrate your school’s commitment to promoting civics as an important national priority.

**How does the competition work?**

Students in grades six through eight submit essays to enter their local competition. Twenty essay finalists are chosen to compete in a live civics quiz hosted by their local chamber. The top three winners are awarded prizes and advance to the state competition, where they compete against the winners of other local competitions in their state for recognition, cash awards, and prizes.

**What is the competition timeline?**

In 2023, the USCCF is partnering with local and state chambers in ten states to bring the National Civics Bee to thousands of students in communities across the country.

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| **2023 National Civics Bee timeline** |
| November (2022) | Local promotion begins  |
| January (2023) | Student essay contest opens  |
| February - March (2023) | Finalists confirmed |
| April – May (2023) | Local competitions take place |
| May – August (2023) | State competitions take pace |

**How do I encourage our students to participate?**

Your local National Civics Bee organizer can provide materials and templates (including flyers, sample emails, and guides) with all the information students and parents need to know about participating in the competition.

Suggestions for how your school may promote the Bee include:

* Make in-school announcements and distribute flyers
* Send parent emails or letters
* Create blog or social media posts

Some teachers may choose to incorporate the Bee into a class project, and/or offer incentives to increase participation (e.g., host a pizza party for contestants).

For more information, contact your local National Civics Bee organizers:

Chester County Chamber of Business and Industry

1600 Paoli Pike

Malvern, PA 19355

info@chescochamber.org