



2011-2012 Army JROTC Academic Bowl

Participate in this **FREE Academic Competition** and your team may win a chance to compete in the **Academic Championship (JLAB)** in Washington, DC!

There are many benefits of participating in this free Academic Bowl including:

- Improve SAT/ACT scores
- Increase interest in college admissions
- Demonstrate academic strength of JROTC program
- Boost team and unit spirit

Dates of Competition

| | |
|-------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Oct. 3-17, 2011 | Practice Round |
| Oct. 24, 2011 | Registration begins |
| Nov. 1-15, 2011 | Level I – The Challenge |
| Feb. 1-15, 2012 | Level II – Zero Hour Threat |
| June 22-26, 2012 | ARMY JROTC Academic Championship and The JROTC Tri-Service Academic Bowl Championship |

NOTES:

- All units will participate in Level I of the Leadership and Academic Bowl – two different tests administered during the same window of dates. For more information on the Leadership Bowl, click on the Leadership Bowl tab.
- All units will form two teams – a leadership team and an academic bowl team.
- Cadets may only participate on **one** team - either the Leadership team or the Academic Bowl team – no crossover between teams.
- Teams with scores in the top 50% in Level I will participate in Level II.
- Twenty-four academic teams will advance to the Academic Championship.
- If your school is prone to winter storms and school closings, please do NOT wait until the last day to participate. Deadline extensions will be granted on a very limited basis.
- All teams advancing to Level III (The Championship - JLAB) will be asked to participate in a peer-to-peer tutoring project covering topics on the SAT/ACT (3-5 hours of prep work). Teams will also be asked to participate in a voluntary fundraiser.



Competition Website

COF Contests – To participate in the Practice Round, Level I and Level II, go to www.cofcontests.com.

How to Assemble an Academic Team

- Academic Team = 4 primary members and 2 alternates
- No more than 2 juniors may participate on the primary team and 1 junior may be an alternate.
- NO seniors may participate.

Each JROTC unit will be allowed one team consisting of **four cadets** – they may be freshmen, sophomores or juniors – however, no more than 2 juniors may be on the primary team. Seniors may not be included on the team. Academic team members may NOT participate in the Leadership team. Two alternates (no more than one junior alternate) may be named in case a team member must drop out before the end of the competition. The alternates may participate in the online testing; however, if selected to participate in the final round in Washington, DC, **only four team members may attend JLAB** (limited to two juniors total in final championship team traveling to Washington).

Selecting Team Members

Instructors may assess and select potential team members using the following criteria –

- Peer selection boards (e.g. interviews, essays)
- Teacher or school recommendations
- GPA
- Performance on the Practice Round (details below)
- Overall enthusiasm for the competition

The instructor has the final decision on the members of the team and may use the OPTIONAL Practice Round (Oct. 3 – 17, 2011) developed by the Foundation as a method of choosing team members. The Practice Round, which is taken individually not as a team, will consist of 25 questions similar to those questions in Level I and II. All cadets in the unit may take the Practice Round at an internet-accessible computer either in the classroom, at home, in the library or other location. The cadets should logon to www.cofcontests.com, select Army, then select Academic Bowl, answer the questions and print out their scores to turn into the instructor. It is up to each instructor to review the scores and determine members of the team.



How to Prepare the Team

One of the main goals of the JROTC Academic Bowl is to prepare students for state exit/graduation exams as well as college entrance exams, such as the SAT and ACT. However, many JROTC instructors are understandably interested in measuring how well their cadets are learning the JROTC curriculum. Therefore, we will have a mix of JROTC curriculum as well as English, Math and Science in each level of the competition. We will also include a few questions about current events – focusing on national and international news, particularly international relations, politics, business and science. All of the current events questions will be taken from major media available on television, the internet and in daily newspapers (see suggested resources below).

Level I – The Challenge will include 25% JROTC questions, 65% SAT/ACT-type questions and 10% current events questions.

Level II – Zero Hour Threat will include 15% JROTC questions, 75% SAT/ACT-type questions and 10% current events questions.

We encourage all cadets, whether they are on the academic team or not, to prepare for the ACT, SAT and ASVAB tests by reviewing English, Science and Math coursework. There are several resources available, free-of-charge, to all students.

Websites to review include:

| SAT/ACT TEST PREP | Web Address |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • practice questions developed by the Foundation • free SAT/ACT test prep developed by the Foundation | www.cofcontests.com |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • free test prep websites | www.number2.com www.march2success.com |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a free website with math, history and science lessons | www.khanacademy.org |
| CURRENT EVENTS (up to 1 month prior to competition) | Web Address |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FOX News | www.foxnews.com/index.html |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CNN Student News | www.cnn.com/studentnews/ |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Public Radio | www.npr.org/ |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reuters | www.reuters.com/ |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • USA Today Newspaper | www.usatoday.com/ |



How to Register the Team

Registration begins on **Monday, October 24, 2011** at www.cofcontests.com. Click on Army and then select Academic Bowl Registration. It will take approximately 15 minutes to answer a few required questions to register your team – each unit may register ONE academic team. The team must be registered prior to competing in Level I. We suggest that each instructor register his or her team before the team is ready to participate in Level I. Registration will be open until the last day of Level I competition (Nov. 15), so an instructor could still register a team up until the last day of Level I competition. However, we strongly encourage all teams to register and participate before the last day of competition.

All teams will be competing against similar teams within each Brigade. Each team will be automatically placed into a Division based on demographics including socio-economic and geographic factors.

Please be prepared to answer the following questions when registering:

High School Name, Address, Phone Number
Instructor Name, Email Address, Phone Number
Cadet Names, Grade, Gender, GPA
High School Demographics – Number of students, Number in Free Lunch Program,
Athletic Category (ex. 3A, 8A), type of school (suburban, rural, private, public, etc.)

How to Participate in Level I – The Challenge and Level II – Zero Hour Threat

1. The instructor or team captain should logon to www.cofcontests.com
2. Select the Service Branch (Army)
3. Select Academic Bowl
4. If the team has not registered, click on Team Registration (see instructions above)
5. Select **Level I – The Challenge** (Nov. 1-15)
6. Enter your team password – your high school name should appear
7. Follow directions on that page and begin the competition
8. Level I will consist of approximately 75 questions and take approximately 1 hour to complete.

If your team advances to **Level II – Zero Hour Threat** (Feb. 1-15), you will follow the same procedure (using the same password). If you misplace your password, email Emily Donahue (edonahue@collegeoptions.net).



Level III – The Academic Championship (JLAB) and The JROTC Tri-Service Academic Bowl Championship

The twenty-four teams advancing to Level III in Washington, DC will be notified by email as soon as results of Level II are verified. Teams will compete in a minimum of 8 rounds of competition using buzzers in a “college bowl” game. The first place team will participate in a The JROTC Tri-Service Academic Bowl Championship. Teams will have one day to sightsee in Washington, DC.

Teams will be allowed to bring four cadets and one instructor to the Championship round. Additional male and female chaperones will be on staff at JLAB; however, a chaperone from the high school may also attend if required by the school district. If teams make more than one substitution to the roster recorded at the beginning of the online competition series, the instructor must provide a written explanation for the changes.

Travel costs, gas prices, additional airline fees and, most importantly, cuts in educational funding, require that we are all as frugal as possible in our travel arrangements. All travel costs directly related to the event will be covered, but COF will endeavor to minimize costs where possible and we hope the instructors will assist us in that area.

Each team will receive a travel allowance to cover transportation expenses such as:

1. ground transportation to/from Washington, DC airport to George Mason University
2. airfare or mileage (if driving)
3. incidentals – baggage, tips, etc.

The amount of the travel allowance will be determined by the location of the team and the average cost of travel from that area. Travel allowances will not exceed \$3,500. If travel costs are determined to exceed the authorized limit, the team can either:

1. fundraise to collect the balance of the travel costs OR
2. receive a trophy and certificates of achievement donated by the Foundation in lieu of traveling to JLAB.



Official Rules of the Online Competition

1. The designated contact should be a JROTC instructor with access to email. Most correspondence with teams is through email; therefore, it is essential that instructors check their email and respond as soon as possible. Foundation staff is also available by phone for questions or concerns. (1-888-576-8287 or edonahue@collegeoptions.net)
2. Each JROTC unit will be allowed one academic team consisting of four cadets. There shall be no more than two juniors on the primary team – others may be freshmen or sophomores. Two alternates (no more than one junior alternate) may be named and may participate in the online portion of the competition. No seniors may participate in the Academic Bowl. Academic team members may not participate on the Leadership team.
3. Level I and Level II are internet-based competitions. The team must have high speed (DSL, cable, etc.) internet access (not a dial-up connection).
4. The Challenge and Zero Hour Threat each require approximately one hour to complete. Once a team has logged in, there is no ability to stop and start over. The competition must be completed in one sitting.
5. No one is allowed in the room during the competition except for the 4 members of the team, 2 alternates and one instructor who will act as proctor for the test. Instructors may not assist the team with questions during the test.
6. No outside sources (dictionary, thesaurus, text book, newspaper, etc.) are allowed. Calculators, pens/pencils and scratch paper are permitted.
7. No communication about the competition with other JROTC teams or schools is allowed. Teams are not permitted to discuss the questions or design of the competition with anyone outside of the team members and instructors.
8. All scores will be sent to the Foundation's server automatically. If a team believes there has been an error in scoring, the team must contact the Foundation via phone or email within 12 hours of the completion of their participation (upon finishing the game). A written explanation of the problem will be required and should be sent via email (edonahue@collegeoptions.net).
9. If there is an electrical outage or other technical difficulty during the competition, the team must contact the Foundation via phone or email within 12 hours of the difficulty. A written explanation of the problem will be required and should be sent via email (edonahue@collegeoptions.net).
10. The JROTC Academic Challenge relies on the adherence by all teams to the JROTC Code of Honor/Core Values. The Foundation expects that all team members and instructors will abide by all rules.
11. Finally, we believe the **No. 1 rule in this competition is.... Have Fun!** We hope you enjoy this challenge.