



2018-2019 Army JROTC Academic Bowl

Participate in the Academic Bowl and your team may win the opportunity to compete in the Academic Championship (JLAB) in Washington, DC! Thirty-two (32) academic teams will qualify to attend the National Championship (JLAB)!

There are many benefits of participating in the Academic Bowl:

- Improve SAT/ACT scores
- Increase interest in college admissions
- Demonstrate academic strength of JROTC program
- Boost esprit de corps
- Earn the opportunity to travel to our nation's capital

Dates of Competition

OCT 1-25, 2018	Practice Test (open to all cadets!)
OCT 26 – NOV 20, 2018	Team Registration
NOV 1-20, 2018	Level I
FEB 1-15, 2019	Level II
JUN 21-25, 2019	Level III – The Championship in Washington, DC

IMPORTANT NOTES:

- **Cadets who attended JLAB 2018 on an Academic Team may not participate on the Academic Team in subsequent years but may participate on the Leadership Team. Cadets who attended JLAB 2018 on a Leadership Team may not participate on the Leadership Team in subsequent years but may participate on the Academic Team.**
- All units may register a team for 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 link for the Leadership Bowl at www.cofcontests.com.
- All units are encouraged to form two teams – a Leadership Team and an Academic Team.
- Cadets may only participate on **one** team during the same school year (2018-19) - either the Leadership team or the Academic team – no crossover between teams.
- Teams with scores in the top 50% in Level I will advance to Level II.
- If your school is prone to winter storms and school closings, please do NOT wait until the last day to participate. Extensions will be granted on a limited basis.



Competition Website

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

How to Assemble an Academic Team

- Academic Team = 4 primary members and 2 alternates (alternates participate in the online competition only)
- Cadets on the 2018-19 Academic Team may NOT participate on the 2018-19 Leadership Team
- Cadets may be juniors (11th grade), sophomores (10th grade) or freshmen (9th grade); NO seniors may participate
- Cadets who have attended JLAB in Washington, DC on an Academic Team may NOT participate on the Academic Team

Each JROTC unit will be allowed one Academic Team consisting of **four cadets** – they may be freshmen, sophomores, or juniors. **Seniors may not participate on the team.** Academic Team members may NOT participate on the Leadership Team. Two alternates may be named and may participate in the online testing however alternates are not required. If your unit is eligible to participate in the final competition in Washington, DC, **only four team members may attend JLAB. Alternates are not allowed to attend; however, we will be live streaming many of the main events during JLAB including the Championship.**

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 Test (details below)
- Overall enthusiasm for the competition

PRACTICE TEST (October 1-25)

The Practice Test is taken individually, not as a team. It consists of 25 questions (from a bank of 50 questions so cadets may take the test multiple times) similar to those questions in Levels I and II. The test is open to all cadets and is a great way to evaluate your entire unit's understanding of JROTC curriculum and general subjects. We encourage all cadets to take the Practice Test at an internet-accessible computer in the classroom or other convenient location. Instruct cadets to logon to www.cofcontests.com and select **Army Academic and Practice Test**; register, take the test, and print out their scores to turn in to the instructor. **COF does not retain Practice Test scores. It is up to each instructor to review the scores and determine members of the team.**



How to Prepare the Academic 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 questions in each level of the competition. The JROTC curriculum questions will focus primarily on leadership preparation, wellness and fitness, group/team dynamics, and communication skills. A few questions about current events are also included – 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 includes 25% JROTC questions, 65% SAT/ACT-type questions, and 10% current events questions.

Level II includes 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:

- www.cofcontests.com – online SAT/ACT guides (contest information tab)
- www.number2.com – a free test prep website
- www.march2success.com – a free test prep website
- www.khanacademy.org – a free website with math, history, and science lessons
- www.foxnews.com/index.html - FOX News
- www.cnn.com/cnn10 - CNN Student News
- www.npr.org/ - National Public Radio
- www.reuters.com/ - Reuters
- www.usatoday.com/ - USA Today Newspaper



How to Register the Team

Team registration is open Friday, October 26 – Tuesday, November 20 at www.cofcontests.com. **All teams, regardless of previous participation, must register by creating a new User ID and Password.** Prior to registering your team, confirm your school's participation in the free and reduced lunch program (percentage of students in the school who receive free or reduced lunch). You may need to contact your front office staff to obtain this information.

- The instructor should click on **ARMY ACADEMIC** and select ***For Instructors*** and then select ***Register Your Team***. It will take approximately 15 minutes to answer a few required questions – 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.
- 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 (office and cell)

Cadet Names, Grade, Gender, GPA, Email Address

High School Demographics – Number of students, Number in Free Lunch Program, type of school (suburban, rural, private, public, etc.)

*** Be prepared to create a unique User ID and Password. If your team advances to Level II, you will use the same login information for the entire year.**

How to Participate in Levels I and II (online)

1. Each cadet must review this document in its entirety prior to participating in Level I
2. The instructor or team captain should logon to www.cofcontests.com
3. Select **ARMY ACADEMIC**
4. If the team has not registered, click on Team Registration (see instructions above)
5. Select **Level I** (November 1-20)
6. Enter your team User ID and Password; your high school name should appear
7. Follow directions on that page and begin the competition



8. Level I consists of approximately 75 questions and takes approximately 1 hour to complete. **Level I is a TEAM event** – all cadets on the team (including alternates) should sit at one computer and answer questions as a team.
9. **Once a team has logged in, there is no ability to stop and start over. The competition must be completed in one sitting.**

If your team advances to **Level II** (February 1-15), you will follow the same procedure, **using the same User ID and Password.**

Keep your User ID and Password to use for both Level I and Level II. If you misplace your login information, you may go to www.cofcontests.com and select **Army Academic**, then select **For Instructors**, then select **Retrieve Your Team User ID and Password.**

Level III - The Championship (JLAB)

The top thirty-two (32) teams advancing to the Academic Championship in Washington, DC will be notified by email as soon as results of Level II are verified. If there is a tie in Level II for one of the 32 spots, the tiebreaker will be the Level I – Section 2 score (SAT/ACT portion).

Teams will be allowed to bring four cadets and one instructor to the Championship. Additional male and female chaperones will be on staff at JLAB; however, a female chaperone from the high school may also attend if required by the school administration. Alternates are NOT allowed to attend JLAB 2019.

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 we will endeavor to minimize travel costs where possible and we hope the instructors will assist us in that area.

Team travel expenses will be individually calculated based on your location and mode of transportation. Travel expenses that are covered include:

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



Official Rules of the Online Competition

1. The designated point of 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. The team may include juniors, sophomores and/or freshmen. Two alternates may be named and may participate in the online portion of the competition but are not allowed to attend JLAB with the team. No seniors may participate on the team. Cadets who attended JLAB 2018 as a member of an Academic Team may NOT compete on an Academic team in subsequent years. Cadets may compete on a Leadership Team even if they attended JLAB on a Academic Team. Academic Team members may not participate on the Leadership team during the same school year.
3. Level I and Level II are internet-based competitions. The team must have high speed (DSL, cable, etc.) internet access.
4. Level I and Level II 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 four members of the team, the two alternates (optional), 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 or other electronic devices (cell phone, additional computer, dictionary, thesaurus, text book, newspaper, etc.) are allowed. Calculators, pens/pencils and scratch paper are permitted. Do not take screenshots of the questions during the test. Duplication of the questions during the test is NOT 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 completion of the test. A written explanation of the problem will be required and should be sent via email (edonahue@collegeoptions.net).
9. If your team qualifies to advance to Level II, and 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.



10. 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.
11. 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.
12. Finally, we believe the **Number 1 rule in this competition is... Have Fun!** We hope you enjoy this challenge.