INDIANA SCIENCE OLYMPIAD

Promotes science education and encourages student interest in STEM fields through academic competitions.

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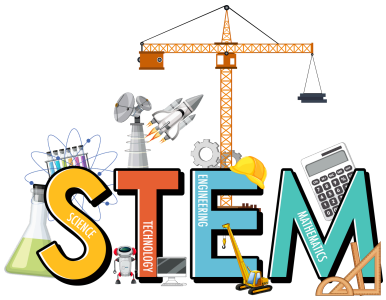
SCIENCE OLYMPIAD™

Exploring the World of Science

About Us



Science Olympiad is one of the nation's premier STEM competitions, designed to challenge and inspire the next generation of scientists, engineers, and innovators. The Indiana Science Olympiad State Competition brings together the top middle and high school teams from across the state who have excelled in regional competitions.

Through hands-on, inquiry-based events in areas such as biology, chemistry, engineering, physics, and earth science, students work collaboratively to apply their knowledge and creativity in real-world scenarios.

Science Olympiad offers flexible formats to meet the needs of different age groups. For students in grades K–6, the Elementary Science Olympiad (ESO) provides engaging options such as competitive tournaments, hands-on Science Fun Days, or exciting Science Olympiad Fun Nights with expert guests.

For students in grades 6–12, Science Olympiad operates like an academic sports team, requiring year-round dedication, coaching, and practice. Each school team can bring up to 15 students who train across various STEM events, though some clubs include over 75 members to support mentoring and apprentice-style learning.

Competitions resemble academic track meets, with 23 team-based events per division: Division B for middle school and Division C for high school. Events rotate annually to reflect evolving fields like genetics, chemistry, engineering, and technology. By blending disciplines, Science Olympiad appeals to a diverse range of students and promotes hands-on, team-based learning.

Teamwork is central to Science Olympiad, mirroring real-world science careers. Events like Elevated Bridge and Write It Do It highlight how collaboration between students with different strengths—like engineering and communication—can lead to success.

The season culminates in the Science Olympiad National Tournament, hosted by a different university each year. This gives students a chance to explore new parts of the country, tour potential colleges, and create unforgettable memories.

Vision

- To increase K-12 student and teacher participation in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM)

Mission

- To host exciting competitive tournaments and professional development workshops that showcase innovative STEM content to students and teachers throughout Indiana"

Meet Our Executive Board

Jamie Lies — Executive Director

I have been a teacher in middle school for 19 years. I have taught every core subject in middle school but currently teach math. I have been the Science Olympiad coach at Taft middle school for 8 years and have hosted an invitational for 2 years now. I joined the board 2 years ago and am excited to help Science Olympiad continue and progress in Indiana.

Lin Wozniewski — Treasurer

I have been a teacher for 27 years. I have taught at Indiana University Northwest, Morton High School, Scott Middle School, West Side High School, Boston Middle School/ LaPorte Middle School, LaPorte High School and currently I teach Environmental Science and Anatomy and Physiology at Northridge High School. I have been coaching Science Olympiad at various levels and schools for the last 20 years. I have been an event supervisor at the Ohio State tournament, the Michigan State Tournament and the National Tournament. I joined the board last year and I look forward to helping the program expand and service more teams, more schools, and more students.

Jack Hesser — Webmaster/Public Relations

I've been a math and science middle school teacher for 9 years and this is my first full year as a weird hybrid Assistant Principal/STEM teacher. I've helped redesign our website and am hoping someone can take it to the next level! I'm absolutely down to support and train someone on the wonderful world of Wordpress, HTML, and Canva.

Bryan Blaschke — Associate Director

I have been a teacher for 27 years. I have taught at Indiana University Northwest, Morton High School, Scott Middle School, West Side High School, Boston Middle School/ LaPorte Middle School, LaPorte High School and currently I teach Environmental Science and Anatomy and Physiology at Northridge High School. I have been coaching Science Olympiad at various levels and schools for the last 20 years. I have been an event supervisor at the Ohio State tournament, the Michigan State Tournament and the National Tournament. I joined the board last year and I look forward to helping the program expand and service more teams, more schools, and more students.

Erika Glombicki — Secretary

I have worked at Argonne National Laboratory for the past 6 years in the Environmental, Safety and Health Department. I have been the Science Olympiad coach at Wilbur Wright Middle School for the past 3 years. I joined the board 2 years ago and look forward to the exciting years ahead.

Adam Rengstorf — Membership Director

I'm an associate professor of physics and astronomy and chair for the dept of chemistry and physics at Purdue University Northwest. I competed in SO in NY in the late 80s. Then I had a ~10 hiatus before I helped organize astronomy events at the IU Bloomington tournaments in the late 90s as a graduate student. Over the years, I've judged events at Indiana invitationals, regionals, and state tournaments and served on the PNW steering committee for all our tournaments for the past 20 years. I've been on the INSO executive board as membership director since 2019.

SCIENCE OLYMPIAD

🏆 ACADEMIC COMPETITION COMPARISON

	SCIENCE OLYMPIAD	ROBOTICS	ACADEMIC SUPER BOWL
SCOPE OF DISCIPLINES	Covers 23 diverse STEM events, including biology, chemistry, physics, engineering, and earth science.	Primarily focuses on engineering and programming aspects.	Centers on specific topic each year on literature, math, science, and history.
HANDS-ON EXPERIENCE	Emphasizes practical, inquiry-based learning through lab experiments and device construction.	Involves building and programming robots for specific challenges usually from a kit.	Relies on memorization and quick recall in quiz formats.
TEAM COLLABORATION	Teams of up to 15 students collaborate across multiple events, fostering teamwork and diverse skill development.	Teams of 6-9 work together on robot design and strategy.	Teams of 3 at a time compete collectively but focus is on individual subject expertise.
REAL-WORLD APPLICATION	Simulates real scientific and engineering problems, preparing students for STEM careers.	Provides experience in robotics and automation, relevant to specific tech fields.	Enhances knowledge in academic subjects, beneficial for college readiness.

Science Olympiad & NGSS: A Perfect Match for STEM Learning

Engineering Design Integration

Science Olympiad includes multiple engineering-based challenges such as Boomilever, Scrambler, and Detector Building, which involve iterative design and testing processes.

Real-World Applications

Both NGSS and Science Olympiad promote learning that connects to authentic, real-world problems—such as disease outbreaks (Disease Detectives), environmental change (Green Generation), or technological design (Codebusters).

Three-Dimensional Learning Alignment:

Disciplinary Core Ideas (DCIs):
Covered through diverse events in biology, chemistry, physics, and more.

Science & Engineering Practices (SEPs):
Emphasized in events like Experimental Design and Bridge Building.

Crosscutting Concepts (CCCs):
Integrated across events to highlight patterns, systems, and models.

Student-Centered, Inquiry-Based Learning

NGSS promotes students asking questions, developing models, and constructing explanations—skills developed in SO events like Write It Do It and Experimental Design.

Students engage in peer collaboration, reflection, and reasoning, which align with NGSS classroom expectations.

Performance Expectations

Science Olympiad assessments are performance-based, requiring demonstration of knowledge through building, solving, or analyzing—similar to NGSS's emphasis on what students can do, not just what they know.

Coaching

A Science Olympiad coach plays a vital role in guiding and supporting a team throughout the season.

Key Responsibilities of a Science Olympiad Coach

- **Recruit and organize the team:** Identify interested students (up to 15 per team), and manage registration and logistics.
- **Assign events and build a schedule:** Help students choose events based on interest and strengths; coordinate preparation and practice sessions.
- **Facilitate learning:** Provide or coordinate resources, practice materials, and lab/build time for events across science disciplines.
- **Mentor and motivate:** Encourage teamwork, time management, and consistent effort; support student growth through feedback and mentorship.
- **Coordinate volunteers or co-coaches:** Many successful teams involve additional subject-specific mentors (e.g., a physics teacher for engineering events).
- **Manage tournament logistics:** Oversee registration, travel, supervision, and chaperoning at invitationals, regionals, and the state tournament.
- **Communicate with parents and school:** Serve as the liaison between the school, parents, students, and Indiana Science Olympiad.

Time Commitment

Varies by school, but typically:

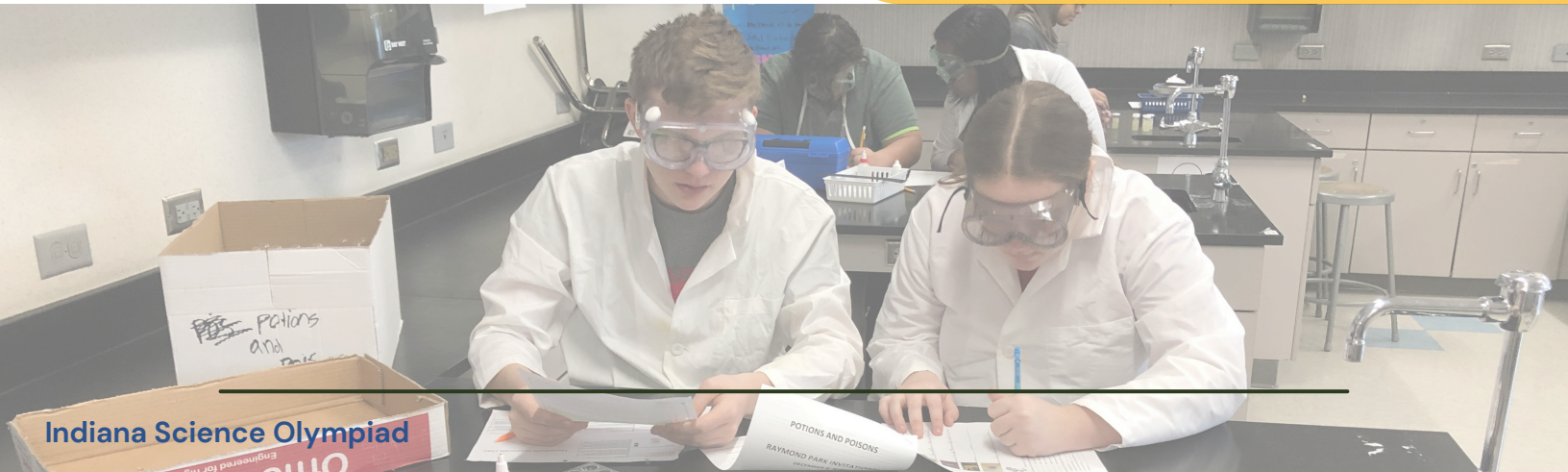
- 1–2 practices per week (fall–spring)
- More frequent meetings before competitions
- Participation in 1–3 tournaments per year

Support Available

- Training workshops
- Coach handbooks
- Mentoring networks
- Fundraiser ideas shared
- PGP points
- Access to experienced state board members

Costs:

- **Standard Team Fee:** $300 per team (up to 15 students). Registers you for a regional competition
- **New Team Discount:** $100 for the first team from a new school
- **Invitational Tournaments:** Fees vary by event, between $50-$100.
- **Event Materials:** Costs for supplies, lab equipment, and building materials can range from $100 to $500+, depending on the events.



Competitions

Invitationals

A practice competition that allows Science Olympiad teams to test their skills and prepare for official Regional, State, and National tournaments. These events are usually hosted by schools or universities and are not part of the official qualifying pathway—so they don't impact advancement to higher levels of competition.

Here's what makes Invitationals valuable:

- Practice Under Real Conditions
- Early Season Feedback
- Wider Participation
- Networking and Inspiration

State Competition

The Indiana Science Olympiad State Competition is a premier academic event that brings together the top-performing middle and high school teams from across the state to compete in rigorous, hands-on STEM challenges.

Teams qualify through regional competitions for the chance to represent Indiana at the National level.

Regionals

The first official qualifying round in the Science Olympiad tournament season. It's where school teams from a specific geographic area compete in a full set of events to try and advance to the State Tournament.
Here's what to know about Regionals:

- **Official and Competitive**: Regional competitions are part of the official pathway that determines whether they qualify for the next level—the State Tournament.
- **Full-Day Event:** Regionals takes place over a full day at a host school or college campus.
- **Team Structure:** Each team brings up to 15 students. Each event is usually handled by a pair or group of students who specialize in that subject area. Good team coordination and coverage across events is crucial.
- **Awards and Recognition:** Top-performing teams and individuals receive medals, trophies, and—most importantly—a chance to move on to the State level.
- **High Stakes, High Energy:** Regionals are often the first real test of a team's preparation. They're competitive, fast-paced, and exciting, with lots of school spirit and team pride on display.

Regional Competitions are where all the months of training, teamwork, and studying start to pay off—and where the journey toward Nationals really begins.

2026-2027

Division B

Life, Personal & Social Science	Earth & Space Science	Physical Science & Chemistry
Anatomy & Physiology (Digestive, Immune, Respiratory)	Dynamic Planet (Earth's Fresh Waters)	Hovercraft
Disease Detectives	Meteorology (Severe Storms)	Circuit Lab
Heredity	Remote Sensing	Thermodynamics
Botany	Rocks and Minerals	Crime Busters
Water Quality (Marine, Estuaries)	Solar System	Food Science

Technology & Engineering Design	Inquiry & Nature of Science	Featured Trial Events
Boomilever	Codebusters	Code Craze
Elastic Launch Glider	Experimental Design	Protein Modeling
Roller Coaster	Ping Pong Parachute	
Scrambler	Write It, Do It	

Invitationals

11/9-11/18 Mustand Virtual
11/21 Northridge High School
12/12 Raymond Park M.S
1/16 Koszut (Wilbur Wright)
1/23 Notre Dame University
1/30 Purdue University
3/17-3/26 INSO Virtual

Regionals

Purdue Northwest
Manchester Unviersity
Ivy Tech Lafayette
Butler University
Valparaiso University

Division C

Life, Personal & Social Science	Earth & Space Science	Physical Science & Chemistry
Anatomy & Physiology (Digestive, Immune, Respiratory)	Astronomy	Circuit Lab
Designer Genes	Dynamic Planet (Earth's Fresh Waters)	Hovercraft
Disease Detectives	Remote Sensing	Thermodynamics
Botany	Rocks and Minerals	Chemistry Lab (Kinetics and Gases)
Water Quality (Marine, Estuaries)		Forensics
		Protein Modeling

Technology & Engineering Design	Inquiry & Nature of Science	Featured Trial Events
Boomilever	Codebusters	Code Craze
Electric Vehicle	Experimental Design	
Mission Possible	Ping Pong Parachute	
Wright Stuff	Engineering CAD	

State Competition 4/17/2026 IU Bloomington

Indiana Science Olympiad

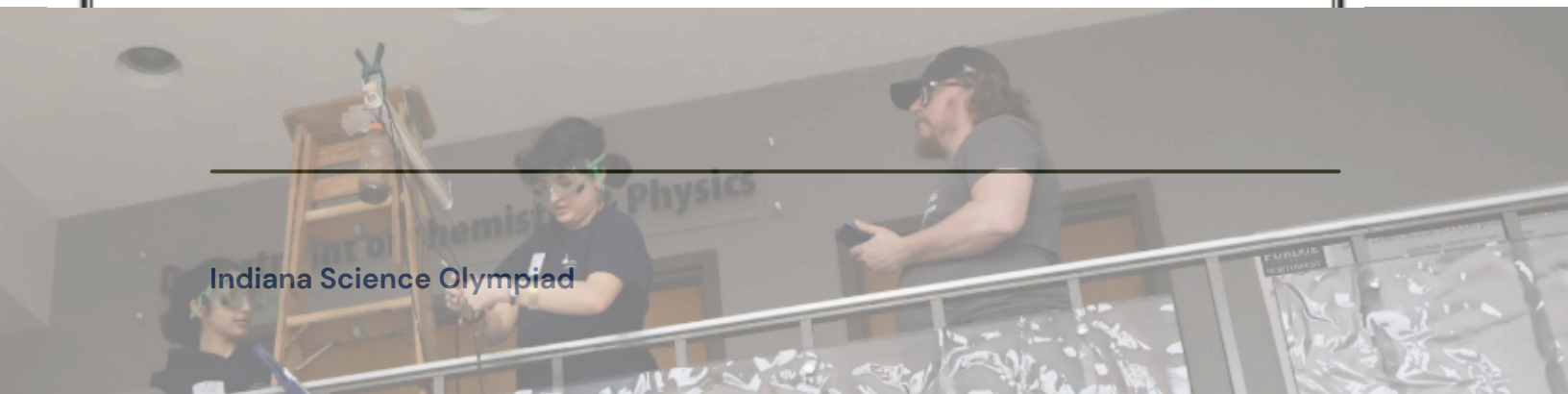
National Event Schedule

NATIONAL TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

See General Rules, Eye Protection & other Policies on www.soinc.org as they apply to every event.

2026 National Tournament Division C Schedule
University of Southern California
Los Angeles, California Saturday, May 23, 2026

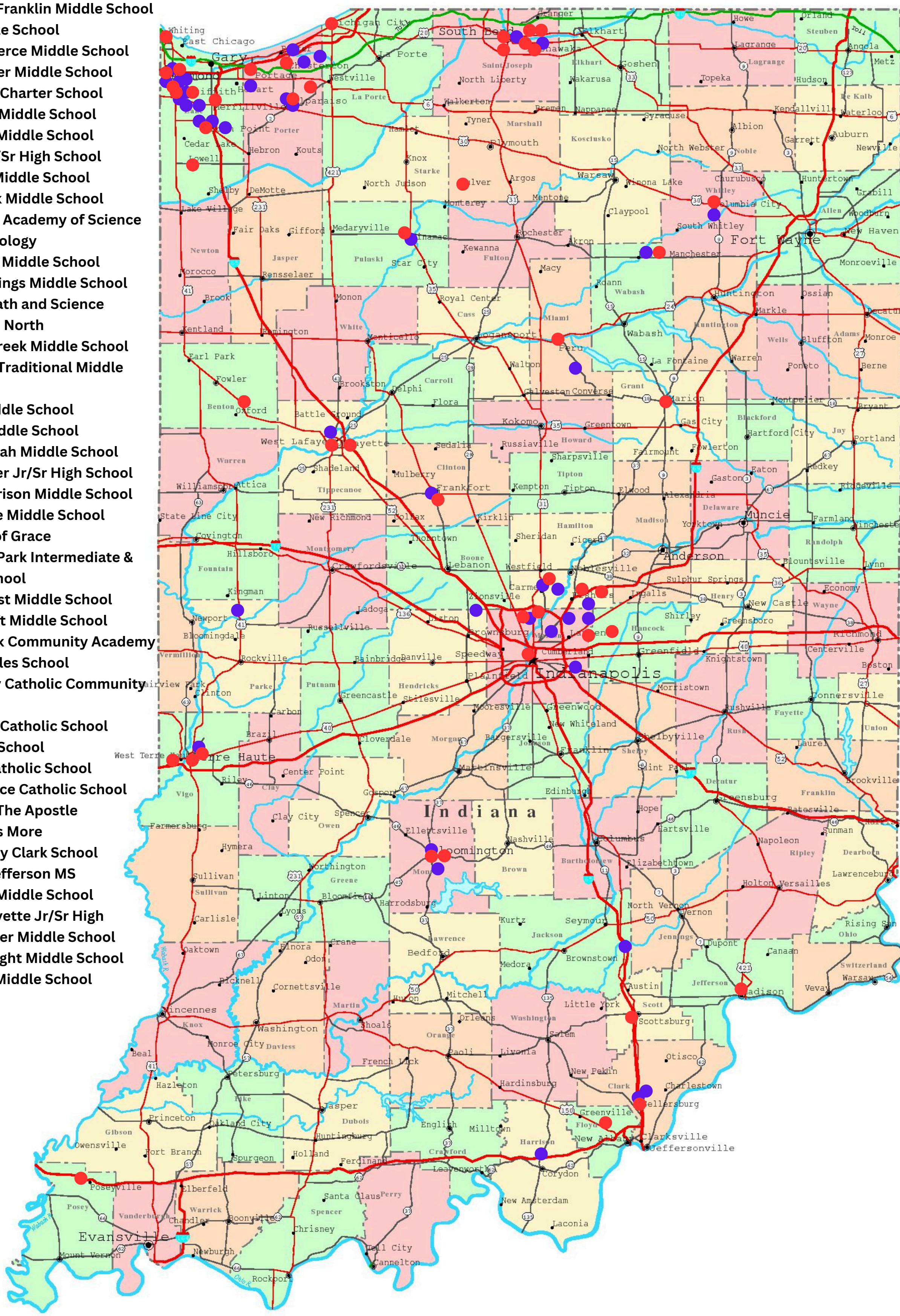
Event	7:00 – 8:00 AM	8:00 - 9:00 AM	9:10 – 10:10 AM	10:20 – 11:20 AM	12:00 – 1:00 PM	1:10 – 2:10 PM	2:20 – 3:20 PM	7:30– 9:30 PM
Anatomy & Physiology C		1-10	11-20	21-30	31-40	41-50	51-60	
Astronomy C		21-30	31-40	41-50	51-60	1-10	11-20	
Boomilever C		Self-Schedule						
Bungee Drop C	Impound	Self-Schedule						
Chemistry Lab C		31-40	41-50	51-60	1-10	11-20	21-30	
Circuit Lab C		41-50	51-60	1-10	11-20	21-30	31-40	
Codebusters C		11-20	21-30	31-40	41-50	51-60	1-10	
Designer Genes C		51-60	1-10	11-20	21-30	31-40	41-50	
Disease Detectives C		11-20	21-30	31-40	41-50	51-60	1-10	
Dynamic Planet C		41-50	51-60	1-10	11-20	21-30	31-40	
Electric Vehicle C	Impound							
Engineering CAD C		1-10	11-20	21-30	31-40	41-50	51-60	Closing Ceremony
Entomology C		21-30	31-40	41-50	51-60	1-10	11-20	
Experimental Design C		21-30	31-40	41-50	51-60	1-10	11-20	
Forensics C		1-10	11-20	21-30	31-40	41-50	51-60	
Helicopter C		Self-Schedule						
Hovercraft C	Impound	Self-Schedule						
Machines C		31-40	41-50	51-60	1-10	11-20	21-30	
Materials Science C		51-60	1-10	11-20	21-30	31-40	41-50	
Remote Sensing C		11-20	21-30	31-40	41-50	51-60	1-10	
Robot Tour C	Impound	Self-Schedule						
Rocks and Minerals C		51-60	1-10	11-20	21-30	31-40	41-50	
Water Quality C		41-50	51-60	1-10	11-20	21-30	31-40	



2025 Indiana Science Olympiad Teams 2026

B

Benjamin Franklin Middle School
Clay Middle School
Clifford Pierce Middle School
Col Wheeler Middle School
Discovery Charter School
Eastwood Middle School
Frankfort Middle School
Griffith Jr/Sr High School
Grimmer Middle School
Hal E Clark Middle School
Hammond Academy of Science and Technology
Harshman Middle School
Indian Springs Middle School
Indiana Math and Science Academy - North
Jackson Creek Middle School
Jefferson Traditional Middle School
Kahler Middle School
Liberty Middle School
Maconaquah Middle School
Manchester Jr/Sr High School
North Harrison Middle School
Northridge Middle School
Our Lady of Grace
Raymond Park Intermediate & Middle School
River Forest Middle School
Robert Taft Middle School
Rock Creek Community Academy
Saint Charles School
Saint Mary Catholic Community School
Saint Paul Catholic School
St Patrick School
St Roch Catholic School
St. Lawrence Catholic School
St. Simon The Apostle
St. Thomas More
The Stanley Clark School
Thomas Jefferson MS
Tri-North Middle School
West Lafayette Jr/Sr High
Westchester Middle School
Wilbur Wright Middle School
Winamac Middle School



C

Benton Central High School
Bloomington High School North
Bloomington High School South
Brownstown Central High School
Carmel High School
Chesterton Gold
Chesterton High School
Columbia City High School
Crothersville Jr/Sr High School
Crown Point High School
Culver Academies
Elkhart High School
Frankfort High School
Griffith High School
Hamilton Southeastern High School
Highland High School
Indiana Math and Science Academy North
John Adams High School
Lake Central High School
Lowell High School
Madison Consolidated High School
Manchester Jr/Sr High School
Marian High School
Marquette Catholic High
McCutcheon High School
Merrillville High School
Mishawaka High School
Munster High School
North Central High School
North Harrison High School
North Posey High School
Northridge High School
Penn High School
Peru High School
Portage High School
Riley High School
Rock Creek Community Academy
Terre Haute North high school
Terre Haute South
Valparaiso High School
Warren Central High School
West Lafayette High School
West Vigo High School
Whiting High School
Winamac Community High School

Students from our program go on to careers in:

- Electric Engineering
- Civil Engineering
- Astro Engineering
- Biomedical Engineering
- Mechanical Engineering
- Veterinary medicine
- Doctors
- Surgeons
- Neurologist
- Ecologist
- Environmental Science
- Cybersecurity
- NOAA
- Department of Natural Resources

What Student's Learn

Students engage in collaborative, inquiry-based learning that helps them develop a wide range of academic and life skills. Through preparation and competition, students learn:

Academic and STEM skills

- Core scientific concepts in biology, chemistry, physics, earth science, and engineering
- Applied math and data analysis through real-world problem solving
- Engineering design principles via build events like Boomilever, Bridge, and Flight
- Experimental design and lab skills using the scientific method
- Environmental awareness and technology literacy

21st-Century Skills

- Teamwork and collaboration in events that require coordinated effort
- Critical thinking and problem-solving under timed and pressure-filled conditions
- Communication skills, especially in explaining processes, defending conclusions, and presenting results
- Time management and independent learning through event preparation
- Resilience and adaptability by learning from mistakes and improving over time

Career & College Readiness

- Exposure to STEM careers and mentors
- Participation that enhances college applications and scholarship opportunities
- Development of leadership and mentorship experiences for returning students

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Science Olympiad is more than a competition—it's a launching pad for future scientists, engineers, and innovators. Through teamwork, challenge, and discovery, students gain skills that last a lifetime.

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