

2015 ACADEMIC STATE MEET CONTESTANTS AND COACHES

UIL Calculator Applications Contest

Things You Should Know About State Meet

Congratulations on qualifying for the UIL State Meet!
David Bourell, UIL State Calculator Applications Contest Director

Coaches' Meeting: May 25, Monday, 7:00 PM, WEL 1.136

Coaches are encouraged to attend this meeting. Seating assignments will be available at this meeting and prior to the contest.

Contest: May 26, Tuesday, 9:00 AM, WEL 1.316

- Doors open at **8:00 AM**
- Coaches will need to check their contestant(s) in and have them in their assigned seat prior to **8:45 AM**.
- All contestants must wear their nametag. The nametags must be visible prior to beginning the test and during the test.
- Coaches are encouraged to participate in calculator verification at **8:50 AM**.
- The test will begin at **9:00 AM**.
- Verification and the awards ceremony will be at **2:30 PM in the SAC Auditorium**.

Test Proofing and Grading

The contest will be proofed and graded by coaches of winning teams (including wildcard teams) during and after the actual contest, and grading will **NOT** be open to all coaches present. The answer key will be fixed prior to grading tests, and will not be contestable at verification. Verification will take place immediately before the awards ceremony.

Coaches of the regional team champions and the coaches of the regional wild card teams will be needed to proof the state test (while the contestants are testing) and grade the tests.

Note:

You must be a full time employee of the school district.

You must be listed as the team's coach.

You must be willing to stay in the proofing/grading room until all grading is complete.

If you are one of the 24 regional team championship coaches or one of the 6 regional wild card team coaches, please email me the following information:

Calculator Applications Contest Regional Team Champion _____ Wild Card Team _____

Name _____ School _____

Classification _____ Region # _____

I will _____ will not _____ be able to help proof and grade the test.

I will send you a reply confirming that I received your email. If you do not receive an email back from me then I did not receive your email. Unconfirmed coaches will be replaced at the coaches' meeting. Email me at dbourell@mail.utexas.edu.

Seating Charts, iPods, Smart Phones

Seating charts with schedules will be provided on line.

iPods and similar listening devices will not be allowed.

Smart phone and similar multifunction technology may not be used during the contest, including the clock and stopwatch features.

Cleared Calculator Verification (8:50 AM)

Coach verifiers are to follow this procedure for checking calculators before the contest begins.

1. If the calculator is found to be completely clear of all program and (non-zero) numbers in storage, then the verifier simply returns the calculator and moves on.
2. If the calculator is found to be completely clear of all program but there are non-zero numbers in storage, then the verifier is instructed to show this to the contestant and to make them clear these numbers and to demonstrate such to the verifier. The verifier may assist the contestant if desired.
3. If the calculator is found to have clearable program information in memory, then:
 - a. The verifier will inform the contestant that clearable program information was found and where and in what form it sits on the calculator.
 - b. The verifier will retain the calculator, summon Dr. Bourell and in the presence of the contestant show him the violating information.
 - c. Dr. Bourell will judge whether the calculator in fact has clearable information and will declare the calculator eligible or ineligible to the verifier and the contestant. Of significance is whether the information identified (i) represents a capability that reduces keystrokes, provides an automated procedure or increases the calculator's utility and (ii) can be erased, removed or cleared by the user.
 - d. The calculator will be returned to the contestant. If the calculator is judged to be ineligible, the contestant may neither use the calculator nor replace it. Violation of this rule will result in contestant disqualification at the end of the contest. If both calculators are judged to be ineligible, then the contestant shall be disqualified.

Emphasized is that the utility of the clearable program information is not a factor in judging calculator eligibility. Non-exclusive examples that would result in a calculator becoming ineligible are: all functions and equations stored in the "eqn" part of HP calculators, even though they do not relate to the contest; games downloaded onto TI calculators; the "RP patch" for TI calculators; anything stored in TI archives that can be cleared; any downloaded patches for TI calculators. The rationale for this utility consideration is twofold. It is not appropriate in a contest setting to burden verifiers with the task of trying to judge whether clearable program information has value on the contest. Second, it is possible with the TI calculators to program useful information and to "disguise" it as something harmless and non-useful.

Calling for Alternates

Dr. Bourell will call for alternates according to the *UIL Constitution and Contest Rules*. If needed, this will take place at approximately 5 minutes before the contest begins. He will announce earlier if all contestants are present and alternates may be excused.

Test Proofing and Grading – **WAG 101 (9:30 AM – 12:30 PM)**; Closed Session

The general method used in Number Sense and Mathematics Contests will be followed. There will be 30 coaches who constitute the proofers/graders with a region and conference spread. The right of first refusal goes to coaches of teams, winning and wild card, that advance to state. Right of second refusal goes to the coaches of individual winners by place. If needed, Dr. Bourell will take a volunteer coach from the vacant region/conference.

This group will work the contest while the actual contest is taking place. Immediately after the contest, Dr. Bourell will meet the graders, and we will discuss any potential answer key errors. The answer key will then be considered to be final and indisputable.

All tests will be triple graded. All ties will be broken according to the Contest Rules.

Answer Legibility

Any grader may elect to apply the legibility rule to any number judged to be unclear. The procedure is to tear a small hole in a sheet of paper the size of the digit in question, to cover the contest page exposing only the digit in question and to ask three graders to call the digit. Graders must give a digit response. If two or all three agree on a digit, then that is the digit for grading purposes. If all three disagree on the digit, the number will be judged illegible, and the problem will be counted incorrect based on illegibility. Numbers subjected to the legibility criterion will be noted as such on the contest page. Dr. Bourell will be the sole and final arbiter on legibility of all other parts of the answer (decimal point, “x10”, sign) and will have oversight responsibility for the entire legibility process.

Ties

After exercising the tie-breaking procedure as described in the UIL Constitution and Contest Rules, if there is a two-way tie for 1st, there will be two medals awarded. In that case, there will be no second place awarded and the medal will be returned to the UIL.

Verification and Unofficial Announcing of Scores

Once all tests have been graded and all ties broken, doors will be opened and all interested parties will be invited in. Dr. Bourell will announce the unofficial individual scores by student number. Rankings will not be given at this time.

Congratulations on advancing to State.

PLEASE NOTE: Verification and Awards will take place in the auditorium of the Student Activities Center at 2:30 PM on May 26.