



For Alternates Only

Third place teams are alternates. Here are answers to questions you may have about your role as alternate to the UIL Cross-Examination Debate State Meet.

How soon will I know if I can compete?

This is a difficult question to answer. Most qualifiers who cannot attend will call the District Director as soon as they know they will not compete at State. In case of emergencies, however, your school may be notified closer to the date of competition. There are penalties for failure to notify the state contest director that a team will not compete. Our advice is to be prepared and keep hoping!

Who will call me?

Your District Director or Jana Riggins, State Director, will contact your principal. If you get the message through informal channels, have your principal call your District Director and the other school to confirm. The District Director will contact Jana Riggins at the League office with the change.

Am I eligible to fill any vacant slot in the contest?

No. You may only compete if a qualifier from your district and conference is unable to attend the CX State Meet. In the event a qualifier from your district and conference is unable to attend State, you must be able to provide the League with the completed certification form found online and in your coach's packet, if applicable to your district.

Should I attend State Meet anyway?

It's up to you, your parents, your academic coach, and your principal. If your school is sending contestants and your attendance is not an undue financial burden, State Meet is full of opportunities for enrichment through the competition and at the museums, exhibits, and activities on campus and in the city of Austin.

May I watch debates if I come?

Yes, and you are welcome to serve as a timekeeper if you are capable and willing. Debate is open to the public and audiences are welcome. However, you should read carefully the rules for CX debate that prohibit spectators from taking notes except in the final rounds. The League discourages students from listening to rounds in their own conference if other debaters from their school are competing in the State Meet.

Are alternates eligible to apply for TILF scholarships?

No, not unless they are substituted for an absent competitor and actually compete in the State Meet. Only those debaters who advance to the elimination rounds are eligible to apply for a TILF scholarship. Brochures from the TILF office will be available at the meet.

We hope that your competitive debate experience has been worthwhile and that you can reflect on your year with pride and pleasure.