

For Alternates Only

Questions you may have about your role as alternate to the UIL Speech State Meet.

Fourth, fifth, and sixth place regional contestants in each of the speaking contests are 1st, 2nd, and 3rd alternates, respectively, including Lincoln Douglas Debate.

◆ **I'm an alternate. How will I know whether I should come to Austin?**

If a State Meet qualifier notifies us that he or she will not attend the State Meet, we'll contact an administrator at your school, and he or she will contact you. We will do this in the timeliest fashion possible. If you get the message through informal channels, your administrators, coordinators, or coaches should contact State Director Jana Riggins and the other school to check. It is rare for a State Meet contestant not to show up without notifying us first. Generally, if it happens, it's due to some form of family or health emergency. It is a violation of the UIL Academic Ethics Code to simply not show up.

◆ **Who will call me?**

If we're notified that a qualifier can't participate in the State Meet, an official from the UIL State Office will inform an administrator at your school by phone or email that you're now eligible to participate.

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

No. You may only compete if a qualifier from your conference and region is unable to attend State Meet.

◆ **Should I attend State Meet anyway?**

It's up to you, your parents, your coach and your principal. If your attendance is not an undue financial burden, State Meet is a valuable educational experience.

◆ **I'm an alternate and am coming to State anyway. What should I expect?**

If you're an alternate and plan to come to State, be prepared by reviewing your specific contest's information document on the Speech State Tournament webpage. Should an alternate substitution be necessary, there may be required forms for your contest. Please do NOT submit the forms prior to State, but have them ready at Roll Call Assembly. Be sure to attend roll call in tournament attire for your event, in case an absence does occur.

◆ **If I don't get to compete, may I sit in the contest room if I come?**

You are welcome to attend the performance events: prose and poetry interpretation, informative and persuasive speaking, and Lincoln Douglas debate. You should check the "scouting" rule in LD debate, especially if you have debaters from your school competing in the tournament, so as not to be in violation. State Meet is full of opportunities for enrichment through performance events, at the museums, exhibits and activities on campus.

◆ **Am I eligible for TILF scholarships?**

Alternates who do not fill a vacant slot are not considered competitors at State. To be eligible to apply for one of the TILF scholarships, you must have **competed** in the UIL Academic, Speech, or One-Act Play State Meet during your high school career. You may have earned eligibility to apply in previous years, if you have ever competed at State. Applications are accepted during the qualifying student's senior year. See <http://www.tilffoundation.org/> for more information.

Congratulations on doing so well at the Regional Meet. We hope that your experience was worthwhile and that you can reflect on your year with pride and pleasure.