

For Alternates Only

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

Fourth, fifth and sixth place regional contestants are 1st, 2nd, and 3rd alternates respectively. In LD Debate, 4th place serves as the 1st alternate (if additional advancement is needed in LD, the highest seeds eliminated in the quarterfinal round shall be designated as second and third alternates).

◆ **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 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, administrators or coordinators should call the state office 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's a violation of the UIL Spring Meet 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, fax 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 region and conference is unable to attend State Meet.

◆ **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 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 and sit in on roll call for your event, in case an absence from your region and conference does occur. *If you are attending as a substitute for a team member, remember that only one team substitution is allowed. If you know the qualifying contestant from your region is absent at roll call, ensure that the contest director knows that you are the alternate for that region and that you are present.*

◆ **May I sit in the contest room or take the test if I come?**

Alternates are not allowed to sit in the contest room after roll call or to take the tests. You are welcome to attend the performance events: prose and poetry interpretation, informative and persuasive speaking, Lincoln-Douglas debate, and one-act play. You should check the "scouting" rule in L-D debate, especially if you have debaters from your school competing in the tournament. 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 State Meet during your high school career. You may have earned eligibility to apply in a year other than the current year, if you have ever competed at State. Applications are accepted during the qualifying student's senior year. See <http://www.tilfoundation.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.