

UIL Congress State Meet 2023

Safety Protocols

On-Site:

- Day 1 – University of Texas in Austin headquarters is the University Teaching Center which provides contest rooms with capacities as large as 104. Chambers range from 14 to a maximum of 20 contestants, providing for social distancing.
- Day 2 – Texas State Capitol
- Although currently, chamber sessions remain open, limitations on audience members and social distancing will be enforced.

Safety Protocol:

- Pre-tournament registration is being provided as a virtual check-in so no in-person registration is required.
- Tournament training sessions required for scorers, parliamentarians, clerks are completed virtually pre-tournament through pre-recorded video sessions conveniently made available on the UIL website a month prior to the meet.
- General Assembly for students will be located in a spacious auditorium. Scorers, Clerks and Parliamentarians will be assigned to a separate auditorium to reduce numbers.
- Hand sanitizer will be located inside each competition room.
- Multiple sanitizing stations are available in the building.
- Extra PPE (non-medical grade disposable face masks) will be accessible on-site.
- Hospitality rooms for coaches and judges will include only pre-packaged items/bottled water.
- A tournament official will be assigned in each chamber who has the responsibility to ensure safety protocols are followed in the room. They will inform students and officials of the safety protocols, and disinfect gavels, stopwatches and other necessary equipment each time a different individual uses them.
- A plan for entering, exiting and transition procedures will include the Clerk in each chamber releasing chamber competitors a row at a time when dismissing for lunch and at the conclusion of the afternoon assembly, in order to stagger exiting. They will be in charge of ensuring students who exit the chamber during debate use hand sanitizer when re-entering the chamber.
- Use of online ballots through a web-based tournament management system will be utilized so no paper ballots are exchanged.
- Awards Assembly will be conducted to recognize the superior accomplishments of the competitors with safety protocols in place. Archive photos taken will be limited to single awardees, including state champions and outstanding presiding officers.