**2020 National Economics Challenge​SM ​Rules and Eligibility**

***These rules and eligibility apply to the National Economics Challenge Semi-Finals and Finals. For specifics about state at the state level, please contact your local challenge coordinator.***

**A.** **GENERAL STRUCTURE**

**1.** **Team Divisions**

**a.** There will be two divisions: David Ricardo and Adam Smith.

**b.** The David Ricardo Division includes teams of students currently or previously enrolled in one general economics course (or less), or courses which include introductory economic concepts (social studies, business, personal finance, etc.). The course must be taught by a secondary teacher. Students who have never taken an economics course are eligible to compete. Students may only participate in the David Ricardo Division one time.

**c.** The Adam Smith Division includes teams of students, currently or previously, enrolled in Advanced Placement (AP Microeconomics, AP Macroeconomics, or both), International Baccalaureate (pre-IB and IB), honors, two courses, or any other advanced courses in economics (including courses taught by a secondary teacher where students earn college credit). The course must be taught by a secondary teacher. Students may participate in the Adam Smith Division multiple times.

**d.** Any team consisting of one or more students enrolled in a course listed in A.1.c. must compete in the Adam Smith Division.

**e.** Teams shall only compete against other teams in their own division.

**2.** **Team Composition**

**a.** Teams shall be comprised of no more than four (4) members.

**b.** Competing with only three (3) members, if necessary, is possible and permissible.

**c.** All members of a team must be from the same public school, private school, community organization or club, or afterschool program. This means that students from different schools are eligible to be on the same team, if they are all part of one of the groups mentioned in this section (A.2.c). Home-based high school students may join teams of any of the groups mentioned in this section (A.2.c) or may start a team with other home-based high school students in their county.

**d.** A team that qualifies for the National Semi-Finals and/or National Finals may reconstitute the members of its team prior to the competition. However, if a team must reconstitute members of a team, the team must retain a minimum of one original team member. All team members of the reconstituted team must meet the team composition conditions in A.2., and students must meet the general student eligibility conditions in A.3., as well as, the eligibility conditions for the division in which the team qualified (see A.1.).

**e.** All teams must have a coach, who is an associate (e.g. employee or volunteer) of the team school, organization, or program, and who is fit to accompany students, should the team advance to the finals.

**3.** **Student Eligibility**

**a.** Students must be enrolled for credit in a qualifying public high school, private high school, or home-based high school course (see A.1.b and A.1.c.) at some time during the current academic year.

**b.** Students who have taken or are taking economics courses for college credit from a post-secondary instructor are not eligible to compete.

**c.** Students who have taken more than one semester of economics at any time must compete in the Adam Smith Division.

**d.** No student is permitted to compete in the David Ricardo Division more than one year. Any returning student who has already participated in the National Economics Challenge​SM ​(at the state-level or higher) must compete in the Adam

**e.** Smith Division in subsequent years, regardless of previous or current coursework.

**f.** Home-schooled students must compete in the Adam Smith Division.

**4.** **Rules Committee**

**a.** There shall be a rules committee comprised representatives from the Council for Economic Education (CEE), and affiliated council or center representative appointed by CEE.

**b.** The rules committee shall only be responsible for rules compliance at the

**c.** National Semi-Finals and National Finals and Exhibition Round.

**d.** Questions and grievances should be sent to the chair of the rules committee. All decisions of the rules committee are final.

**B. CONTEST FORMAT NATIONAL SEMI-FINALS**

**1.** Each state participating in the National Economics Challenge​SM ​will identify a state champion for each division, which will represent the state at the National Semi-Finals.

**2.** The National Semi-Finals will be a series of written tests held within the time frame of 2–6PM EST at the schools or organizations of all state champions on ​**April 15, 2020​**\*

**3.** *(\*Schools that are on spring break on 4/15/2020, or teams with a valid/pre-approved reason will be able to participate on 4/20/2020. Teams must notify their state coordinator* ***immediately​*** *following your state finals if your team will need to participate on the make up date).*

**4.** Principals or administrators at state champion schools and organizations should work with state coordinators to identify a test room and a proctor, and to affirm in writing that test conditions were conducive to ensuring fair results.

**5.** There will be four rounds of competition in the National Semi-Finals for each division:

**a.** Rounds I-III will be 20-minute rounds with 15 four-option, multiple-choice questions in each round.

**b.** In Rounds I-III each member competes individually; the team score in each of the first three rounds is the sum of the top three individual scores.

**c.** In Round IV, members compete as a team and submit one answer sheet. The format will be the same as the first three rounds: a 20-minute round with 15 four option, multiple-choice questions. The score on the Round IV test will be multiplied by three so that this round is weighted equally with each of the first three rounds.

**d.** Each division shall have its own set of tests for these rounds.

**6.** The content covered in Rounds I-IV is as follows:

**a.** Round I - Microeconomics;

**b.** Round II - Macroeconomics;

**c.** Round III – International Economics and Current Events.

**d.** Round IV will be drawn from all topics in economics.

**7.** Scoring in all rounds is based on the following system: +10 points for each correct response, 0 points for each incorrect response, and 0 points for no response.

**8.** In each division, the first tie-breaker for placement at the National Semi-Finals is the team score in Round IV. The second tie-breaker is the total team score in Rounds I–III, counting the scores of all four team members. In the event of a continued tie, the team with the member who has the highest total individual score will advance, with subsequent team member scores used if both teams have an equivalent highest individual score.

**9.** The top ten (10) scoring teams in each division at the National Semi-Finals will be invited to compete in the National Finals.

**C. CONTEST FORMAT FOR NATIONAL FINALS**

**1.** The top ten (10) scorers in each division of the National Semi-Finals will be invited to compete in the National Finals. All teams will begin the Finals with a score of zero, i.e. scores from the National Semi-Finals round will not accrue to the Finals.

**2.** There will be four preliminary rounds of competition (Rounds I-IV). Each division shall have its own set of tests for all rounds.

**3.** Rounds I-III will be 20-minute rounds with 15 four-option, multiple-choice questions in each round. In Rounds I-III, each member competes individually. The team score in each of the first three rounds is the sum of the top three individual scores. The content in Rounds I through III is as follows: Round I - Microeconomics; Round II - Macroeconomics; Round III – International Economics and Current Events, .

**4.** In Round IV, members compete as a team to develop an analysis to a case problem. Teams will present their solutions to a panel of judges, who will assign each team a score based on: completeness of response; economic analysis and insight; background knowledge; and presentation.

**5.** The scores from Rounds I-IV will be accrued to determine who will advance to Round V- Quiz Bowl and the top scoring teams will advance to Round VI - An Exhibition Round with International Students.

**6.** Teams that advance to finals will be provided with a copy of the rules prior to arrival.

**7.** National Economics Challenge Finals will be held **May 16 - 18, 2020** in Newark, New Jersey.