

Dear Middle School Math Contest Sponsors/Families:

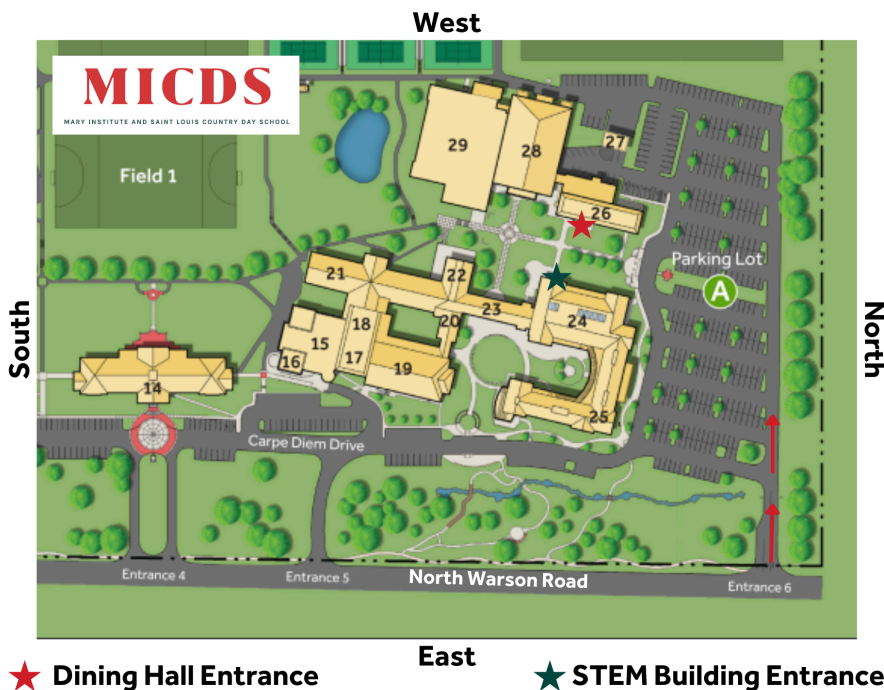
This letter does not infer that you have state qualifiers; this is simply informational so that you can plan ahead accordingly for hotels, busses, etc.

A Missouri student may compete in the State Middle School contest if he or she participates in a middle school qualifying round (either a local contest or the in-school qualifying round) during the school year and does any one of the following:

- Earns at least 50% of the available points on any of the individual tests.
- Scores strictly higher than 80% of the participants in his or her grade on any of the individual tests.
- Participates on a team that scores either at least 50% of the available points or strictly higher than 80% of the other teams on the team test.

A list of qualifiers can be found within the “Qualifiers to Next Level” tab in each site’s results found at <http://mathleague.org/results/middleschool/>

The MCTM/mathleague 2026 Middle School State Contest will be held on **Saturday, March 14, 2026**, at **MICDS (Mary Institute and St. Louis Country Day School)**, 101 N. Warson Rd., St. Louis, MO 63124. Families should park in Lot A at the far north end of the MICDS campus, using Entrance 6 off of N. Warson Rd. The Dining Hall and STEM building are adjacent to this lot and marked with stars on the map below.



Compared to everyday activities, a math contest carries a greater risk of exposure to people who are unvaccinated, unmasked, or unwell. Participants in our contests (both students and chaperones) are asked to consider these risks when deciding whether to participate in our contests and to take appropriate precautions to keep themselves and others safe. In particular, all participants at our events (students, chaperones, and staff) are encouraged to wear masks at our events, get vaccinated when possible, and stay home if they feel unwell. Masks are not required.

All participants are required to PRE-REGISTER at <http://mathleague.org/register0.php?event=13096> by **March 11, 2026**, and please consider paying the \$10 per student online by using the Paypal link at the very bottom of your confirmation email from mathleague. Payment of \$10 per student can be made online by credit card or in person with cash or check made out to MCTM.

2026 State Contest T-shirts will be sold for \$15 each (cash or check made payable to MCTM) at the contest.

The Missouri Council of Teachers of Mathematics and all other sponsoring groups assume no supervisory responsibility at the contest site. Parents and/or the sponsoring school must be responsible for supervision at all times other than when the student is taking a test.

Students and parents are required to read the [Mathleague Code of Conduct](#) before participating in this event.

## Hotels Near the Contest Location:

[Hilton St. Louis Frontenac](#)

[Drury Inn & Suites St. Louis Brentwood](#)

[Springhill Suites by Marriott St. Louis Brentwood](#)

[Courtyard by Marriott St. Louis Brentwood](#)

**Testing Schedule:** Students should check in at the registration desk in the STEM Building **at least one-half hour** before testing begins. Parents will wait in the STEM Hearth Room during testing.

8:00 - 8:45 Registration in STEM Hearth Room  
8:45 – 8:55 Orientation of Students and Proctors in Upper School Dining Hall  
9:00 – 9:40 Sprint Event (Calculators may NOT be used.)  
9:40 – 10:00 Restroom Break  
10:00 – 10:40 Target Event (Calculators may be used.)  
11:00 – 11:20 Team Event (Calculators may be used.)  
Lunch Break  
1:00-2:00 Countdown & Awards Assembly in Brauer Auditorium (within the STEM building)

For **all of the rounds**, students should report to the Upper School Dining Hall. Rounds may start earlier than noted. We will be having the Countdown Round either directly after the Team event (if running ahead of schedule) or before the awards ceremony at 1:00 p.m. There may also be some Pi Day related activities so continue checking back to this document for more details.

- Students must bring their own sharpened pencils. No pencils will be sharpened during a test.
- Students must bring their own calculator. Any calculator that can be used on the SAT is allowed. **STUDENTS MAY NOT USE CELL PHONES AS CALCULATORS OR TRANSLATORS.**
- Only answers written in the proper spaces will be graded. Any blank space on the test may be used for any work to help you solve the problem. Scratch paper will be provided for the Sprint and Team events.
- Answers involving fractional numbers must be expressed in simplest form (lowest terms). Answers must be fully simplified and, where appropriate, given in the format asked for in the question.
- Teams may only be formed by students who attend the SAME SCHOOL. It is not unusual to have many teams of 1 due to only one student qualifying for state from his/her school.
- All events for all grades will follow the same testing schedule. No student or adult will be admitted to a testing room after an event has begun.
- Results for today's events will be available later this evening at <http://mathleague.org/results/middleschool/>
- For the Regional and State Math Competitions, there are two different ways that ties are broken for awards. If two students tied with the same score in an event (e.g. Target with a score of 3), their Borda scores were compared to see which student answered the more difficult questions. The student with the lower Borda score would place higher than the other. To break absolute ties in Sprint or Target at either the Middle level, we looked at the students' opposing event scores. Say that Students A, B and C are all tied with a score of 3 on Target, all with the same Borda scores indicating they answered the same 3

questions correct. We then look at their Sprint scores. Say Student A has a Sprint score of 6, Student B has a sprint score of 5, and Student C has a sprint score of 4. Then to break the tie on Target, Student A would be first, Student B would be second, and Student C would be third.

As a result of our MCTM State Competition, some of our students will qualify for Nationals. In order to qualify for the national middle school championship, a student must attend the state championship and do any one of the following:

- Place among the top 3 overall individuals in the student's grade level at the State Championship if there are fewer than 100 students at the State Championship.
- Place among the top 6 overall individuals in the student's grade level at the State Championship if there are 100 or more students at the State Championship.
- Be a team member of one of the top 3 overall schools at the State Championship, based on the "sweepstakes" score, and contribute to the school's sweepstakes score by either having one of the 4 highest individual point totals from the school or being a member of the school's top-scoring team on the team round.
- Students who do not qualify under one of the above rules may qualify as a "wild card" by placing among the top 10 overall individuals in the student's grade level across all states or by being a sweepstakes contributor of one of the top 6 schools across all states as described above. These students are not eligible to collect a prize for their performance at the State Championship and will not show up in our results as a National Championship qualifier but will nevertheless be allowed to compete at the National Championship the same as all other qualifiers.

The Mathleague Middle School National Championship will be held on April 11, 2026, in Houston, Texas. There will be an online contest happening at the same time as the in-person competition. Last year's link is posted below for more information until closer to the actual event.

[Middle School National Championship \(Houston, TX\)](#)

[2025-04-12 - event number 12745](#)

[Contact: Tim Sanders \[customer care@mathleague.org\]\(mailto:customer care@mathleague.org\)](#)

[Click here for more information or to register!](#)

Best wishes as you prepare for the State Contest. The sponsors of this contest hope that this experience will encourage you to continue pursuing your interest in mathematics. Be sure to thank your teacher(s), parents, principal, and others who have helped you achieve this honor. And give yourself a pat on the back! The competition will be tough in St. Louis, so no matter how you do there you are already a winner!

Sincerely,

Sonya Land

MCTM Contest Chair