

## **WYSE, Worldwide Youth in Science and Engineering**

**Description:** The Academic Challenge is a competitive series of tests created and administered by Worldwide Youth in Science and Engineering and offered to high school students in Illinois and Missouri. The tests are now offered by more than 50 community colleges and universities and are designed to present a challenge to the brightest students.

Test material is drawn from senior high school and freshman level college curricula. Written by teams of college and university faculty, subjects include biology, chemistry, computer science, engineering graphics, English, mathematics, and physics. Each test production team produces three tests of increasing levels of difficulty, regional, sectional and state finals. Students compete as individuals and as part of a team (when their school fields a team); they have 40 minutes to complete multiple-choice tests that range in length from 30 questions (computer science) to 100 questions (English).

**Meetings (time, place, and duration):** Our first competition is the Regional competition at Carl Sandburg College in early February. We usually advance to the Sectional competition at Knox College in March. Teams that are successful at Sectionals advance to the State competition held at the University of Illinois in mid-April.

**Requirements for membership:** Students are recommended by their teachers to participate in any two of the following tests: Math, Chemistry, English, Physics, Engineering Graphics, Biology, and Computer Science. Students are chosen based on academic performance, year in school, and areas of academic strengths in order to form a well-rounded team of fourteen students able to compete in all of the tests.

**Sponsor / Contact Name(s):** David Baxter, sponsor [dbaxter@galesburg205.org](mailto:dbaxter@galesburg205.org)

**Highlight activities:** The awards ceremonies at each competition are very exciting because the students who make up our team find out how they compare to some of the best and brightest students from around the state. Trophies and medals presented to the top finishers in each category.