



THE AMERICAN ROCKETRY CHALLENGE

THE WORLD'S LARGEST STUDENT ROCKET CONTEST



The American Rocketry Challenge—now in its 18th year—is the world's largest rocket contest, with nearly 5,000 students nationwide competing annually. The contest provides students in 6th – 12th grades the opportunity to design, build, and launch model rockets and gain hands-on experience solving engineering problems.

Sponsored by the Aerospace Industries Association, the National Association of Rocketry, and more than twenty aerospace industry partners, including NASA, the Federal Aviation Administration, and the Department of Defense, the challenge is the aerospace industry's flagship program designed to encourage students to study science, technology, engineering and math.

WHAT WILL MY STUDENTS GAIN FROM PARTICIPATING IN THE CHALLENGE?

- Teamwork
- Leadership Skills
- Hands-on Engineering Experience
- Problem-Solving Skills

WHAT ARE THE RULES?

Teams are made up of three to 10 students between 6th and 12th grade, a supervisor, and an official Rocketry Challenge mentor.

The rules vary slightly each year to provide a new challenge to competitors. The 2020 rules require teams to design, build, and launch a model rocket that carries one raw egg to an altitude of 800 feet, stays airborne for 40 - 43 seconds, and return the rocket to the ground safely with the egg intact.

WHAT IF I DON'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT ROCKETRY?

The American Rocketry Challenge features a nationwide network of aerospace professionals and rocketry experts from the National Association of Rocketry and the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics who are willing and available to mentor your team. These mentors can help with the organizing, rocket building, and career pathway exploration.

WHAT ARE THE KEY DEADLINES?

- **Sept 1** – 2020 Registration Opens
- **Dec 1** – 2020 Registration Closes
- **Apr 6** – Qualification Flight Scores Due
- **Apr 10** – 2020 Finalists Announced
- **May 16** – 2020 National Finals

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN WE WIN?

After official qualification flights are submitted, the top 100 teams are invited to attend the National Finals in Washington, D.C.

Teams competing at the Final Fly-Off look to capture their share of over \$100,000 in cash prizes. There are also special awards for activities throughout the day.

The team that places first at the National Finals wins an all-expenses-paid trip to represent the United States in the International Rocketry Challenge, hosted at the Farnborough Air Show in London, England in July 2020. The United States Rocketry Team competes against the winning teams from Japan, the United Kingdom, and France.

Contact Program Manager Jeremy Davis at RocketContest@aia-aerospace.org or 703-358-1000.

Visit RocketContest.org to learn more.

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