



AMERICAN ROCKETRY CHALLENGE

THE WORLD'S LARGEST STUDENT ROCKET CONTEST



The American Rocketry Challenge—now in its 23rd 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.

ARC is organized by the Aerospace Industries Association and the National Association of Rocketry with the support of over a dozen aerospace company sponsors and partnerships with organizations including NASA and the Federal Aviation Administration. The annual challenge is the aerospace industry’s flagship program designed to encourage students to pursue academic and career opportunities in 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 3 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 [2025 Rules](#) require teams to design, build, and launch a model rocket that carries one raw egg to an altitude of 790 feet, stays airborne for 41 - 44 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?

- June 1, 2024 Registration Opens
- Dec. 1, 2024 Registration Closes
- April 6, 2025 Presentation Competition Entries Due
- April 7, 2025 Qualification Flight Scores Due
- April 13, 2025 Marketing Competition Entries Due
- April 16, 2025 Finalists Announced
- May 17, 2025 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 Finals aim to capture their share of more than \$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 Paris Air Show in Paris, France in June 2025. The United States Rocketry Team competes against the winning teams from Japan, the United Kingdom, and France.

Contact us at RocketContest@aia-aerospace.org

Visit RocketContest.org to learn more.



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