Celebrating 19 Years of Competition

DOE's National Science Bowl® Fact Sheet

About DOE's National Science Bowl®

The U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) created the National Science Bowl in 1991 to encourage students to excel in science and math and to pursue careers in these fields. DOE supports mathematics and science education to help provide a technically trained and diverse workforce for the nation.

DOE's National Science Bowl, which is the only science competition sponsored by a federal agency, attracts more than 20,000 students nationwide, with over 15,000 high school students and 6,000 middle school students competing nationally. This is the first year that the DOE's National Science Bowl will hold the middle school and high school competitions simultaneously. For more information about the National Science Bowl, visit: http://nationalsciencebowl.energy.gov.

How the National Science Bowl Works

The National Science Bowl is a nationwide academic competition that tests students' knowledge in all areas of science and math. Each competing team is comprised of four students, one alternate, and a teacher who serves as an advisor and coach.

Students are quizzed in a fast-paced question-and-answer format similar to *Jeopardy*. High school students are quizzed on biology, chemistry, physics, astronomy, earth science, general science, and math. Middle school students are quizzed on a variety of scientific disciplines including earth, physical, life and general science and math.

Winners of regional competitions receive an all expense paid trip to the National Science Bowl Finals. More than 5,000 volunteers from the private sector, academia, non-profit groups and DOE help manage and implement these events. National corporate sponsors include AREVA, Inc, Bechtel, General Motors, IBM, SAIC, Shell, Southwest Airlines and Texas Instruments..

The Hydrogen Fuel Cell Model Car Challenge

The middle school portion of the National Science Bowl features a special competition where teams will race hydrogen-powered model cars that they have designed and built. The cars will compete in speed races and be judged on their design. The teams with the three fastest cars and a team with the best designed car will take cash prizes home to their schools' science departments.

Quick Facts on the National Science Bowl

• The National Science Bowl is in its 19th year.

- More than 20,000 students from 1,800 schools in 42 states, Puerto Rico, U.S. Virgin Islands, and the
 District of Columbia will compete this year, making the National Science Bowl the nation's largest
 science competition.
- Sixty-seven regional high school competitions and 36 regional middle school competitions are held around the country from January through March.
- Since 1991, more than 150,000 students and their teachers have participated.
- The National Science Bowl Finals will be held in Washington, DC, from April 30 May 5, 2009.
- The national championship team will win a science-related trip to attend the International Science School at the University of Sydney, Australia.
- Regional sponsors range from small businesses to Fortune 500 companies.

About DOE's Office of Science

DOE's Office of Science manages the National Science Bowl®, is the single largest supporter of basic research in the physical sciences in the nation, and helps ensure U.S. world leadership across a broad range of scientific disciplines. The Office of Science supports a diverse portfolio of research at more than 300 colleges and universities nationwide, manages 10 world-class national laboratories with unmatched capabilities for solving complex interdisciplinary scientific problems, and builds and operates the world's finest suite of scientific facilities and instruments used annually by more than 19,000 researchers to extend the frontiers of all areas of science. For more information on DOE's Office of Science, visit: www.science.doe.gov.