

BPA NEWS

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BONNEVILLE POWER ADMINISTRATION
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BPA and 700 students to celebrate 25th anniversary of largest regional science bowl in nation

*Students from Northwest compete for more than \$300,000 in scholarships
from 17 regional colleges as well as a berth in the National Science Bowl*

Portland, Ore. – The brainpower and competitive energy of more than 700 students will light up the 25th anniversary of the nation’s largest regional science bowl over the next two weekends at the University of Portland. This year’s silver anniversary event will draw 130 teams from across western Washington and Oregon.

“The Bonneville Power Administration is extremely proud to sponsor such a vibrant regional science bowl, and we’ve been committed to its success every year for a quarter of a century,” BPA Administrator Elliot Mainzer said. “This exciting event not only celebrates academic skill and endeavor, but it also helps seed the development of the next generation of scientists, engineers, mathematicians and technologists for the Northwest and the nation.”

This year’s middle school competition is set for Saturday, Jan. 30, with the high school students taking to the buzzer on Saturday, Feb. 6, at the University of Portland. The top team in each division will take an all-expenses paid trip to Washington, D.C., to compete in the Department of Energy’s National Science Bowl from April 28 to May 2.

Beyond the prestige of winning and the prospect of the national competition, BPA and science bowl volunteers have worked to establish partnerships with universities and colleges in the region to offer scholarships for the top three teams in the high school division. In all, 17 colleges and universities in the Northwest are offering members of the top teams a chance at more than \$300,000 in scholarships.

In addition to the competition, demonstrations and hands-on activities will take place throughout the day. In the afternoon, a separate engineering competition allows teams that have not advanced to the double-elimination round to test their engineering and design skills. This year’s challenge



will be constructing a transmission tower with the structural integrity to defy the forces of an earthquake.

The more than 700 students in the competition come from public and private schools in Washington and Oregon – from as far north as the Seattle metro area and as far south as Ashland, Ore. Many practice for months, in groups and individually, for the competition, which is as intense as any sporting event, particularly at the high school level.

BPA sponsors the science bowl to showcase students' talents in science, technology, engineering and math, as well as to encourage them to consider careers in these fields. This helps to build the future labor pool of scientists and innovators so critical to the energy industry. The BPA Regional Science Bowl is sponsored by the University of Portland, Schweitzer Engineering Laboratories and Vernier Software & Technology.

BPA REGIONAL SCIENCE BOWL 2016 – Middle School

Where: Franz Hall, University of Portland, Portland, Ore.

When: Jan. 30, 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Notes: The event is free and open to the public. Championship rounds begin at approximately 4 p.m. in Buckley Auditorium.

BPA REGIONAL SCIENCE BOWL 2016 – High School

Where: Franz Hall, University of Portland, Portland, Ore.

When: Feb. 6, 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Notes: The event is free and open to the public. Championship rounds begin at approximately 4 p.m. in Buckley Auditorium.

More info: www.bpa.gov/goto/ScienceBowl

Complete list of teams for middle school and high school events:

www.bpa.gov/goto/ScienceBowlTeams

About BPA

The Bonneville Power Administration, headquartered in Portland, Ore., is a nonprofit federal power marketer that sells wholesale electricity from 31 federal dams and one nuclear plant to 142 Northwest electric utilities, serving millions of consumers and businesses in Washington, Oregon, Idaho, western Montana and parts of California, Nevada, Utah and Wyoming. BPA delivers power via more than 15,000 circuit miles of lines and 259 substations to 490 transmission customers. In all, BPA markets about a third of the electricity consumed in the Northwest and operates three-quarters of the region's high-voltage transmission grid. BPA also funds one of the largest fish and wildlife programs in the world, and, with its partners, pursues cost-effective energy savings and operational solutions that help maintain affordable, reliable and carbon-free electric power for the Northwest. www.bpa.gov

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