

# SECTION I

## Convention Guidelines and Registration

These Guidelines are the official guidelines for Accelerated Christian Education (A.C.E.) Regional and International Student Conventions and are implemented to ensure the uniformity of Conventions and equality in competition for all participants.

ABSENTEE entries will not be accepted. Contestants must attend the entire Convention. Rally attendance is required.

**A.C.E. requests that ALL VOCAL AND WRITTEN ENTRIES be presented in the ENGLISH LANGUAGE. We apologize that we are not able to grant any exceptions. All Bible quotes must be from the King James Version (not New King James Version).**

Note: Throughout this manual where the words “Regional Convention” appear, they refer to Provincial or Regional Conventions that precede the International Student Convention.

### QUALIFICATIONS

Contestants may be enrolled in any of the following types of schools in which Accelerated Christian Education material and procedures are implemented by students and staff:

Formal day schools with a campus Learning Center such as:

- Church School
- Church Homeschool (homeschool students under the direct control of a day school as outlined in item 9 on the following page)
- Institutional School
- Mission School
- Private School

(Any or all of the above will be referred to herein as a “day school.”)

Parent- or guardian-administered:

- Homeschool

All of the above must adhere to the following conditions:

1. Compliance with all appearance and dress code standards.
2. Compliance with the conduct code.
3. Compliance with age limitations.
4. Compliance with all event limitations.
5. Curriculum is diagnosed and prescribed according to the A.C.E. *Procedures Manual*.
6. The student is not enrolled in any other educational program in pursuit of a high school diploma, except for part-time or distance-learning college courses.

7. Each contestant must be currently enrolled and actively studying in a complete course of at least two of the five Accelerated Christian Education core subjects (math, English, social studies, science, or Word Building).
8. Homeschool students from different homeschools may combine for group events, provided they register as a single school, and must adhere to the same event limitations as a day school.
9. Church homeschool students may compete with the church school students, provided:
  - a) Church school staff diagnose and prescribe curriculum.
  - b) PACE Tests are completed under supervision of church school staff.
  - c) Church school maintains academic and permanent records.

A day school or homeschool using the Accelerated Christian Education program qualifies to send a contestant or contestants to an **authorized Regional Student Convention** for entries listed on the EVENTS LIST (CF13).

## NUMBER OF ENTRIES PER SCHOOL

- In events involving more than four students, or in a group elimination event such as PACE Bowl, Basketball, and Volleyball, the limit is one entry per event per school.
- In other elimination events (Checkers, Chess, Table Tennis, and Tennis) a school is allowed three entries per event.
- In One-Act Play and Bible Bowl, a school is allowed three entries.
- In all other events, a school is allowed six entries per event.
- Each contestant may have only one entry in an event. (For example, your school may have two vocal mixed trios, but no student may be entered in both.)

**The Regional Convention may not establish policies contrary to the *Student Convention Guidelines*.**

## PARTICIPANT ELIGIBILITY

1. Students who attain their thirteenth birthday by December 31, prior to ISC, and who have not attained their twentieth birthday by the same date are eligible to attend Student Convention the following spring.
2. Students who graduate or complete their graduation requirements at any time during the current school year may still compete.
3. Students who have graduated from high school prior to the present school year are not eligible to compete at the Convention regardless of their age.
4. Married students, parents, or expectant parents are not eligible to compete.
5. Students may not be recruited from any type school for participation at the Convention.
6. Students not on a Regional Student Convention athletic roster or Events List **WILL NOT BE ELIGIBLE** for any ISC athletic events.

**NOTE:** Students must be enrolled in only one school at the time of Convention to be qualified to compete, except for part-time or distance-learning college courses. If a student qualifies at the Regional Convention but then moves and enrolls in another school, he/she may not compete with his/her former school. The student may compete with the present school at Internationals with special permission from the Manager of A.C.E. Student Conventions.

**First through third** places in elimination events (**Exception: TOP FOUR TEAMS IN BASKETBALL AND VOLLEYBALL IN EACH REGIONAL CONVENTION** will be permitted to compete at ISC) and **first through sixth** places in nonelimination events from an **authorized Regional Convention** are eligible to compete at the International Convention. (Elimination events are any event where a participant plays against an opponent.)

**Exceptions and Clarifications:** Several official events do not require a particular placement at the Regional level to qualify for International Student Convention. In these Open Competition Events, no matter what place was earned at the regional level or if a student did not compete in this event at the regional level, he/she may enter at the International Student Convention. For specific Open Competition Events, see the current Events List. **Note:** Even though these are open events, they do count toward the total number of entries submitted/entered for the participant and the school.

## NUMBER OF INDIVIDUAL EVENTS

1. A contestant may enter any six **performance** events with exceptions noted below. (Performance events are events that require the participant to compete during the actual Convention; that is, all athletic events, speech and drama, Bible Memory, and so on.)
2. A student may enter numerous nonperformance events, as approved by his/her parents. (Nonperformance events are events that only require the participant to submit his/her entry.)
3. The total combined number of performance and nonperformance events must not exceed twelve.

### **Exceptions and Clarifications:**

1. Each student may enter only two elimination events. (Elimination events are Basketball, Volleyball, Table Tennis, Tennis, Chess, Checkers, and PACE Bowl.) Those who participate in any two of these events may enter only two other performance events that involve four or more contestants.
2. Each contestant may enter no more than three athletic events.
3. A student may not participate in two identical events (that is, two male duets, and so on).
4. Each contestant must be present the entire Convention and must attend all scheduled rallies.

Note: Color Guard and Flag Corps are performance events and count toward the total number of allowed performance events (six).

## NO ABSENTEE ENTRIES ACCEPTED

### **Regional Student Convention Exceptions:**

- A student may now compete in 8 performance events instead of 6.
- A student may now enter 3 elimination events instead of 2.
- A student may now enter 4 athletic events instead of 3.
- Students who participate in any athletic events must enter at least two nonathletic events.

If a contestant qualifies for the International Student Convention in a performance event involving two or more students (that is, Male Trio, Female Quartet, 400 meter-relay, and so on) and one member of the group does not attend Internationals, a school may substitute a student who **had competed at the Regional Convention** and is qualified to come to the International Student Convention competition, providing he/she does not exceed the total number of events allowed (twelve).

**Exceptions and Clarifications:** In nonperformance events involving two or more participants (Radio Program, Scripture Video, Science Exhibits, and so on), entries will be accepted at the International Student Convention as long as one member of the group is in attendance. Only those group members in attendance will receive recognition for the entry—no absentee awards.

## **ENTRIES**

All contestants **are required** to submit or to perform at the International Convention the same entry with which they won at the Regional Convention. All written entries, outlines, and scripts must be typed (as requirements specify). Please refer to the appropriate section of the Guidelines for specific details. For Regional Conventions, three (3) copies are required. All copies must be in one single clear plastic page protector with the student's name, school name, school customer number, address, and telephone number clearly visible on the front. For International Convention, submit all events as directed in each category.

All art, sculpture, needle/thread, and photography entries must have a 3" x 5" card with the **entry name, student's name, school name, school customer number, address, and telephone number** securely attached to the entry.

**A COLOR PHOTO IS REQUIRED FOR ALL PLATFORM EVENTS, MUSIC EVENTS, AND NEEDLE/THREAD (GARMENTS ONLY) ENTRIES.**

A color photo (snapshot or Polaroid) of the contestant(s) simulating his/her performance **MUST BE** provided at the time of competition (that is, student holding puppets, singing, and so on). This is not to be a school picture or portrait. For platform events and music events, this must be a snapshot or Polaroid of the contestant or contestants wearing the outfit or costume in which the event will be performed.

Girls submitting a Needle/Thread entry (garment only) must each include a color photo of the garment being modeled. Please print student's name, school name, school customer number, and complete address on the back of the photo.

## **INTERNATIONAL STUDENT CONVENTION:**

Written Entries, Website Design, PowerPoint Presentations, Music Composition, Music Arranging, Radio Program, Scripture Video, and A.C.E. Character Trait Video will be submitted electronically prior to Convention. When you register your school for ISC, you will receive an email with instructions on how to submit your early entries.

All art, science, social studies, photography, and needle/thread entries are to be turned in at Convention. For platform and music performance events, scripts, outlines, music, judging forms, and photos are to be presented to the judges at the time of performance by the contestant. **BE SURE TO READ EACH DIVISION'S REQUIREMENTS BEFORE SUBMITTING FORMS. POINTS WILL BE SUBTRACTED FOR NOT PROVIDING PROPER CURRENT JUDGE'S FORMS WHERE REQUIRED.**

### **IMPORTANT:**

**DO NOT BRING JUDGE'S FORMS TO INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR ART, PHOTOGRAPHY, NEEDLE/THREAD, SOCIAL STUDIES, AND SCIENCE ENTRIES. JUDGE'S FORMS ARE REQUIRED FOR MUSIC AND PLATFORM EVENTS AND CREATIVE COMPOSITIONS.**

<p>The Chief Judge will return two copies of outlines, scripts, speeches, and original music after your performance. Written Entries, Musical Compositions, Musical Arrangements, Radio Programs, Scripture Videos, A.C.E. Character Trait Videos, PowerPoint Presentations, and Website Designs <b>WILL NOT BE RETURNED.</b></p>
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## EVENTS OF THE HEART

The Events of the Heart category is designed to allow students who are not able to be competitive on their own in any events (due to mental limitations) to compete at Student Convention and be recognized at the Awards Ceremony.

Qualifications:

1. Contestant must meet all International Student Convention qualifications and register at Regional and International Conventions according to convention guidelines.
2. The Qualification Affidavit must accompany judge's forms and be properly signed.
3. The contestant may participate in all individual events:
  - a. Alone
  - b. With the help of another student (not necessarily a student registered as Events of the Heart)
  - c. With the help of an adult
4. Events of the Heart students may not compete in any events requiring more than two contestants.
5. During the registration process, the sponsor must complete the **Events of the Heart Registration Form**, listing all events in which the contestant will compete.

Awards:

1. Events of the Heart contestants will be judged separately in each category.
2. In a category where there is only one Events of the Heart contestant, the student will be awarded a first-place ribbon.
3. In categories where there are multiple Events of the Heart contestants, the entries will be judged, and first- through sixth-place ribbons will be awarded.
4. Ribbons for Events of the Heart will be awarded during an evening rally.

## ELIMINATION EVENTS

Elimination events are any event where a participant or team plays an opponent and the winning team plays another winning team until a first-place winner is decided. The ISC elimination events are Basketball, Volleyball, PACE Bowl, Checkers, Chess, Tennis, and Table Tennis. At ISC, these winners will be decided with single-elimination tournaments. The third- and fourth-place winners are decided by taking the losers from the finals (final four teams) and playing a game where the winner is third place and the loser is fourth place. The fifth- and sixth-place winners are decided by taking the losers from the semi-finals (final eight teams) and playing a short, four-team tournament, where the winner is fifth place and the loser is sixth place. Teams and individuals will be seeded based on the previous year's convention, if information is available. Seeding will not be based on a team's current year record.

This same format will be used at Regional Student Conventions, unless there is time to play a double-elimination tournament. Seeding should also occur, if information is available from the previous Regional Student Convention.

## OPEN COMPETITION

Please note that no Regional Convention qualification is required for the following “official” events. (Students are encouraged to participate in these events at Regional Student Convention; however, it is not a requirement to qualify for International Student Convention.)

NOTE: These events count toward the total number of school and individual entries submitted/entered. (Total combined number of performance and nonperformance events must not exceed twelve.) Only six entries from each school, except for Soulwinning, Golden Apple, Golden Lamb, Golden Harp, Christian Soldier, Christian Worker, and Consecutive Word Count.

- Bible Memory (#201)
- Website Design (#223)
- PowerPoint® Presentation—Linear #224)
- PowerPoint®—Nonlinear (#225)
- Soulwinning (#230)
- Golden Apple (#231)
- Golden Lamb (#232)
- Golden Harp (#233)
- Christian Soldier (#234)
- Christian Worker (#235)
- Consecutive Word Count (#236)
- Metalworking (#313)
- Scrapbooking (#314)
- Pennant Design (#315)
- Formals (#352)
- Coats/Suits (#353)
- Knitting (#360)
- Afghans (#362)
- Color Guard (#461)
- Flag Corps (#462)
- Music Composition (#550)
- Music Arranging (#551)
- Dramatic Monologue (#603)
- Preaching—ages 13-15 (#609)
- Preaching—ages 16 and up (#610)
- Ventriloquism (#624)
- Interpretation for the Deaf (#626)
- Radio Program (#627)
- Scripture Video (#628)
- Group Bible Speaking (#629)
- A.C.E. Character Trait Video (#630)

## GAME ZONE EVENTS

This year's International Student Convention will once again feature a host of "Game Zone" events. These events are open to ALL participants attending International Student Convention and do not require Regional Convention qualification or preregistration. Competitors sign up at the International Student Convention (on site) and compete during "free time." Competition will be divided by age and gender (when applicable). Game Zone events that have occurred in the past are three-on-three basketball, hotshot basketball, sandpit volleyball, soccer, brain teasers, treasure hunt, Scripture detectives, and bowling. The variety of Game Zone events may vary from year to year based upon the facility availability.

## APPEARANCE

The manner of appearance and dress of A.C.E. Student Convention participants reflects an image of Christian modesty, refinement, and self-discipline. Students and sponsors are expected to support the A.C.E. Student Convention image, program, and requirements in appearance and dress. Appropriateness and modesty are the basic principles governing all appearance and dress for the A.C.E. Student Conventions. The principle of showing deference should be the lifestyle of Christian leaders. Students and sponsors are to be dressed completely and according to the guidelines upon arrival and while attending Student Convention.

The dress code, as stated in the guidelines, must be observed by everyone officially associated with Student Convention. Participants, contestants, sponsors, guests (staying on campus) and coaches are to dress in conservative, appropriate, modest attire. Fad extremes are inappropriate and will not be allowed. Participants are asked to show deference to the intent of the appearance guidelines. Violators will be asked to change their clothing or to leave the Convention. Dress requirements will be followed throughout the entire Convention, including **ARRIVAL** and **DEPARTURE**. Only those meeting the dress and appearance requirements will be allowed to register and remain on the premises. **It is the responsibility of the sponsor to ensure that all students and parents are informed of the dress and appearance guidelines prior to departing for Convention. THE SPONSOR IS ALSO ACCOUNTABLE FOR ENSURING THAT STUDENTS MEET THE DRESS AND APPEARANCE REQUIREMENTS WHILE AT CONVENTION.**

## MALE

Male students, sponsors, and coaches must have a neat, trim, conservative haircut. The hair is to be tapered or blocked and is to be off the collar. It is to be above the ears, with sideburns no longer than the middle of the ears. Dying or coloring the tips of the hair is not allowed. No braided or spiked hairstyles. For boys with curly hair or afros, the cut needs to be short, not to exceed one inch in length. No facial hair is permitted on contestants. Male sponsors may wear neatly trimmed mustaches and/or beards.

Those who require a haircut ***will not be permitted to register*** until they have located a barber and complied with the Student Convention standards.



Button shirts **with collars** and long conservative trousers are the appropriate attire for Convention. Belts must be worn with trousers that have belt loops. Denim jeans, cargo pants (pockets sewn to the outside), bicycle shorts, swimsuits, or fad extremes are inappropriate and will not be permitted. **Button shirts with collars, ties, and dress shoes (no tennis shoes) are to be worn to all rallies and the evening meal.** Only the top button may be left unbuttoned, when the shirt is worn without a tie at appropriate events. Clean athletic shoes may be worn during the day. **Sandals are not allowed. Closed-toe and closed-heel shoes only.**

For participating in music events and platform events where costumes are not worn, each male contestant is to wear a button shirt with collar (shirt tucked in), sports coat, dress pants or suit, dress shoes, and tie, or school uniforms that meet the Convention standards. Clothing should be clean and neatly pressed; shoes should be shined. Exceptions: Mennonites, Amish, Dunkard Brethren, and other groups that wear their traditional distinctive clothing.

Male students and sponsors must be fully clothed in street attire (with shoes) anytime they are in the residence hall lobby or outside the residence hall room visiting on another floor. Modest sleep attire may be worn in the residence halls while en route to or from restrooms or showers.

PLEASE NOTE—MALE SPONSORS, STUDENTS, AND COACHES: NO JEWELRY OTHER THAN WEDDING BANDS, WRISTWATCHES, AND CLASS RINGS. NO BODY PIERCINGS ARE ALLOWED.
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### **Male (Athletic Wear)**

Male competitors in athletic events must wear loose-fitting, full-length sweatpants, warm-up pants, trousers, or **KNEE-LENGTH** hemmed shorts. (No spandex pants or shorts will be allowed for Male athletic wear.) For Physical Fitness: Track pants must be worn during this event; no shorts allowed. (Exception: A numbered tank top over a T-shirt is acceptable for athletics. T-shirt must match the color of the tank top or be white.) Sleeves must stay draped over the shoulders at all times. Uniformity in dress is mandatory for athletic team events. **Knee-length** hemmed shorts are allowed for **official** athletic competition only. Shoes must be worn to participate in events.

**Full-length sweatpants, warm-up pants, or trousers must be worn over athletic shorts while en route to or from competition.** Athletic participants may wear athletic attire to meals (as described above) if they are scheduled to compete that day. When competition is over for the day, students must change into appropriate Convention attire. Athletic shorts are **NOT** allowed at any time in open competition areas or in any other area on campus.

Only students competing in athletics may wear athletic attire. No jewelry is allowed in athletics.

**BASKETBALL AND VOLLEYBALL TEAMS:** *Nonmarking soles are required for all athletic shoes worn on gym floors.*

## FEMALE

An image of Christian discretion and modesty is to be portrayed. All female sponsors, coaches, and students must wear dresses, skirts (which are no shorter than the bottom of the knee, standing or sitting), or culottes (see requirements for culottes under Female Athletic Wear).

**Slits must be no higher than the bottom of the knee.** Dresses and blouses must come to the neckline in front (to the clavicle bone) and back (to the bottom of the neck), without see-through material. TIGHT, FORM-FITTING ATTIRE and fad extremes are inappropriate and will not be allowed. Midriffs must be covered at all times in all positions. Denim, cargo, stone-washed clothing, T-shirts, slacks, shorts, swimsuits, bicycle shorts, V-neck, or sleeveless dresses or blouses will not be allowed. Conservative, natural-colored hosiery and dress shoes must be worn to all rallies and while competing in nonathletic events. **Sandals are NOT allowed**—shoes must have a closed toe and closed heel. (No socks may be worn to rallies.) Hosiery or socks must be worn during the day. Makeup and jewelry should be conservative and minimal—only one earring (smaller than a dime in size) per ear, in the earlobe. No other body piercings are allowed.

Girls and ladies must be fully clothed in street attire (with shoes) anytime they are in the residence hall lobby, visiting on another floor, or outside the residence hall room. Modest robes may be worn in residence halls while en route to or from restrooms or showers.

### Female (Athletic Wear)

Loose-fitting culottes and tops are to be worn for competition in volleyball, archery, tennis, table tennis, and track. Culottes must be full, loose-fitting, and have the appearance of a skirt. When in an upright standing position, culottes must be **below the knee**. For modesty reasons it is recommended that white athletic clothing, especially culottes, NOT be worn. **(A T-shirt must be worn under V-neck athletic shirts.)** Sleeves must stay draped over the shoulders at all times. Female athletic wear (shirts and undershirts) must stay tucked in during athletic play and running events.

Following are companies that provide culottes that meet the A.C.E. Student Convention standard at reasonable prices. When ordering, ask for box pleat culottes and be sure the length is acceptable (no shorter than the bottom of the knee).

Far Above Rubies  
11357 Lamos Road  
Montague, MI 49437  
888-200-8770 | 231-894-9331  
[far-above-rubies.net](http://far-above-rubies.net)  
[ginny.faraboverubies@gmail.com](mailto:ginny.faraboverubies@gmail.com)

Dressing for His Glory  
516 Riggs Avenue  
Berlin, NJ 08009  
Phone: 856-336-8945  
[dressingforhisglory.com](http://dressingforhisglory.com)

For sources and visuals of approved culottes, please reference additional information on the ISC webpage under [Miscellaneous Links](#).

## **Guidelines for Appropriate Dress During Platform Events:**

**Gentlemen:** Dress shirts, ties, and jackets should be worn for all platform events with the following exceptions:

1. School uniforms or a tuxedo with either a vest or cummerbund without a jacket may be worn to perform.
2. Jackets are not required for PACE Bowl or Puppets.
3. Jackets and ties are not required in the following categories:  
One-Act Play, Dramatic Dialogue, Illustrated Storytelling, Clown Act, Famous Speech.

**Ladies:** Nice church outfits should be worn for all platform events with the following exceptions:

1. School uniforms may be worn to perform.
2. Formal attire that meets the modesty requirements for Student Convention may be worn.
3. Formal attire or church outfits are not required in the following categories:  
One-Act Play, Dramatic Dialogue, Dramatic Monologue, Illustrated Storytelling, Clown Act.

## **Guidelines for Appropriate Dress During Music Events:**

**Gentlemen:** Dress shirts, ties, and jackets should be worn for all music events with the following exceptions:

1. School uniforms may be worn to perform.
2. A tuxedo with either a vest or cummerbund without a jacket may be worn.
3. Choir robes may be worn over shirt, tie, and pants.

**Ladies:** Nice church outfits should be worn for all music events with the following exceptions:

1. School uniforms may be worn to perform.
2. Formal attire that meets the modesty requirements for Student Convention may be worn.
3. Choir robes may be worn to perform over dresses, skirts, and blouses.

## **APPEARANCE CHECK**

All athletic competition clothing (male and female) will be checked at the beginning of scheduled competition by the athletic staff. No coach or team member in violation of the dress code will be allowed to participate.

Appearance will be checked at registration, prior to all rallies, and before the evening meals. **To avoid embarrassment, please abide by the dress code.**

Here are some checklists for the staff to use with the dress code:

## Is your school ready for Registration Dress-Check?

Use this checklist to make sure **ALL** of your students, sponsors, and guests (staying on campus) are ready for dress-check. **Convention Appearance Guidelines will be enforced. Consult your *Student Convention Guidelines* for ISC appearance standards. The following checklist covers areas most frequently addressed.**

### FEMALES

**Appearance is to be conservative, modest, and neat.**

- Hair:**
  - Hair must be a natural color—no fads.
- Jewelry:**
  - Jewelry must be conservative and minimal.
  - Only one earring per earlobe (smaller than a dime in size) is permitted.
- Blouses/Tops:**
  - No form-fitting tops are permitted.
  - Necklines must come to the clavicle in the front and to the bottom of the neck in the back.
  - Midriffs must be covered at all times and in all positions.
  - No see-through tops, denim, or stone-washed clothing is permitted.
- Dress, Skirt, or Culottes:**
  - No form-fitting dresses, skirts, or culottes are permitted.
  - Slits may not extend higher than the bottom of the knee.
  - Hemlines of dresses, skirts, or culottes must be no shorter than the bottom of the knee (when standing or sitting).
  - Skirts with see-through fabrics must be lined or worn with slips.
  - No cargo (pockets sewn to the outside of skirt), denim, or stone-washed clothing are permitted.
- Shoes:**
  - Only closed-toe and closed-heel shoes are to be worn. No sandals or flip-flops are permitted.
  - Shoelaces are to be neatly tied.

Please evaluate each of these areas before you enter registration. Schools may not finish registration until all students, sponsors, and guests (staying on campus) have successfully completed dress-check. I have checked **each** of my students, sponsors, and guests (staying on campus). They **each** meet the convention dress guidelines and **are ready for dress-check**.

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Female Head Sponsor's Signature

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School Name

## Is your school ready for Registration Dress-Check?

Use this checklist to make sure ALL of your students, sponsors, and guests (staying on campus) are ready for dress-check. **Convention Appearance Guidelines will be enforced. Consult your Student Convention Guidelines for ISC appearance standards. The following checklist covers areas most frequently addressed.**

### MALES

**Appearance is to be conservative, modest, and neat.**

- **Hair:**
  - Men must have neat, trimmed, conservative haircuts—no fads.
  - The hair is to be tapered or blocked, not touching the ear or collar.
  - Sideburns may be no lower than the middle of the ear.
  - Neither dying nor coloring the tips of the hair is allowed.
  - No braided or spiked (if in doubt, comb it down) hairstyles are permitted.
  - Extra curly or afro hair is not to exceed one inch in length.
- **Facial Hair:**
  - No facial hair is permitted on students.
  - Male sponsors may wear neatly trimmed mustaches and/or beards.
- **Acceptable Jewelry:**
  - One watch and one ring is permitted.
  - All other jewelry must be removed.
- **Shirts:**
  - Button-up shirt (polos are acceptable) with a collar and sleeves is appropriate.
  - Only top button may be left unbuttoned.
  - Shirts with tails are to be tucked into pants.
- **Pants:**
  - Slacks, dress pants, or long, conservative trousers are appropriate.
  - Denim jeans, cargo pants (pockets sewn to the outside), bicycle shorts, swimsuits, or fad extremes are inappropriate and are not permitted.
  - Pants are to be worn properly (at the waistline).
  - Belts must be worn with pants, slacks, or trousers that have belt loops.
- **Shoes:**
  - Dress shoes or sneakers with matching socks are appropriate.
  - Only closed-toe and closed-heel shoes are to be worn. No sandals or flip-flops.
  - Shoelaces are to be neatly tied.

Please evaluate each of these areas before you enter registration. Schools may not finish registration until all students, sponsors, and guests (staying on campus) have successfully completed dress-check. I have checked each of my students, sponsors, and guests (staying on campus). They each meet the convention dress guidelines and are ready for dress-check.

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Male Head Sponsor's Signature

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School Name

# GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR CONDUCT

## RALLY ATTENDANCE

Sponsors and students must attend all rallies. All students must sit with their own sponsors during the rally. Sponsors are also expected to PROHIBIT students from booing or using flash attachments at inappropriate times. Students who are too ill to attend scheduled activities are to remain in the care of their sponsors.

## CONDUCT

“Abstain from all appearance of evil” must be the guiding principle of all interaction between the young men and the young ladies attending the Convention. Maintaining the highest possible standard of behavior is a God-given responsibility. Sponsors and staff should be constantly alert and should not hesitate to correct any behavior that is “unseemly.”

The “six-inch” rule must be followed at all times. Couples should not isolate themselves from the group and should be properly chaperoned at all times. At no time are students allowed in cars, buses, vans, or in dimly lit areas without a sponsor. It is the sponsor’s responsibility to ensure that all students comply with Convention curfews. These guidelines are applicable to all Convention attendees. Remember: Contestants need rest to do their best in competition.

## SPONSORS

**Sponsors are the key to good attitudes among the students and a cooperative spirit at the Convention.**

Each student must be directly responsible at all times to a specific sponsor. There must be one male sponsor for every one to eight boys and one female sponsor for every one to eight girls. Sponsors must be at least **twenty-one** years of age at the time of Convention. Parents may serve as the sponsor for their children (father/daughter, mother/son) if staying off campus.

In exceptional cases, a school may assume responsibility for students from another school, provided this does not exceed the one-to-eight ratio. In such cases, both schools must pay the school registration fee. Sponsors must reside with their students. Sponsors must meet the appearance dress code. Only those conforming to these requirements will be allowed to register and to remain on the premises. Sponsors are responsible for enforcing the dress and conduct guidelines with all students in their care.

Sponsors will be accountable for damaged or missing items belonging to the host campus or other contestants.

**Each church, school, or organization must complete a Student Convention Screening Form (CF16) prior to Convention.** All sponsors must also complete a Sponsor Registration Form (CF5) at both the Regional and the International Student Conventions.

## SPECTATORS AND GUESTS

Guests are welcome to attend Convention and are encouraged to meet the age and appearance standards. Spectators are welcome to attend events and rallies. Children under the age of six are not allowed in competition rooms. Guests must register upon arrival and may purchase individual meal tickets at the Information Center. No students under the age of thirteen will be allowed to stay on campus (when campus housing is available).

## OTHER GUIDELINES

### CHECKLIST OF PERSONAL THINGS TO BRING:

Bible	Appropriate clothing
Notebook	Toiletries
Camera	Robe, slippers
Athletic equipment	Prescription medicines (to be kept by sponsor)
Musical instrument	Money for activities/snacks/souvenirs
Competition entries/paperwork	

Please check the A.C.E. website at [www.cestudentprograms.com](http://www.cestudentprograms.com) or the *Accelerator* for specifics on bedding. At most Convention facilities, bedding is NOT provided.

**NOTE:** Each sponsor should bring a lockable suitcase for valuables such as watches, rings, awards, and prescription medicines. It is imperative that **ALL** items be labeled. A.C.E. is not responsible for lost or stolen items.

### Things NOT Permitted on Campus:

Tobacco	Video games
Firearms/weapons	Fireworks
Toy guns of any kind (except those used for competition props)	Television sets
Alcohol	Clock radios
Narcotics	Secular magazines and books
MP3 Players	Skateboards/roller blades
CD players/CDs (except those used for competition)	Sneaker skates
	Scooters

**NOTE: ONLY SPONSORS** are allowed to have radio/walkie-talkies.

## **MEDICAL**

A.C.E. does not provide an infirmary or medical staff for the Convention. Sponsors should be prepared to deal with minor problems, such as headaches and small scratches. All schools must be responsible for their own first-aid supplies for athletic competition.

Each student registered must submit a Consent to Emergency Health Care and Indemnification Form (CF8). Each person must provide his/her own medical and accident insurance. The Consent to Emergency Health Care and Indemnification Form includes a statement releasing A.C.E. from responsibility and liability for any medical expenses incurred during the Convention or travel to/from the Convention area.

Students with a history of a particular medical problem requiring special treatment must note such problems on the CF8. They should also wear an identifying bracelet or other I.D. that would alert medical personnel to the existence of a particular problem.

## **JUDGING**

Decisions of the judges are final. Judge's forms will be returned (when possible) to the contestants or sponsors following the Regional Student Convention. Time permitting, Convention judges will make suggestions and comments for contestants' improvement. If you are qualified with post-graduate training or life experience and are interested in serving as a paid judge, please contact the Convention Office ([Studentconventions@aceministries.com](mailto:Studentconventions@aceministries.com)) for a Judge's Application. You will be notified if selected. Judges will receive instructions and a packet of forms at the Convention site.

## **DEFERENCE**

In order to show deference to those who practice denominational distinctives at their local churches, sponsors and/or contestants are asked to refrain from discussing denominational distinctives with anyone outside their own group during Convention.



# REGISTRATION AND PROCEDURES

## REGIONAL REGISTRATION

Visit the A.C.E. website at [www.cestudentprograms.com](http://www.cestudentprograms.com) or see your *Accelerator* for contact information, dates, and locations of **authorized** Regional Student Conventions. The School Registration program is available through the A.C.E. website.

School registration is nonrefundable, but individual fees are refundable. All contestants and sponsors must be registered on the School Registration program. Each contestant is required to have three (3) judge's forms for each event in which he/she is to compete. Judge's forms automatically print from the School Registration program and are also available with these *Student Convention Guidelines* (See Section X – Convention Forms Index).

In addition to the information required on the School Registration program, each sponsor must submit a Sponsor Registration Form (CF5). Each school, church, or organization must complete a Student Convention Screening Form (CF16) prior to Convention. All Convention Forms are included on the School Registration Program, and a sampling of Convention Forms is included in these guidelines.

All participants, sponsors, guests, and contestants attending an A.C.E. Convention must provide their own medical and accident insurance.

### **Summary—Submit these items for Regional Registration.**

1. Complete online convention registration program at [studentprograms.aceministries.com](http://studentprograms.aceministries.com)
2. CF5—Sponsor Registration Form (one per sponsor)
3. CF6—Permission for Participation (one per student)
4. CF8—Parent/Guardian Consent to Emergency Health Care for Minor/Indemnification (one per student)
5. CF16—Student Convention Screening Form (each school, church, or organization)

**NOTE:** For International Registration, you may use the same School Registration program. Simply indicate “International Student Convention.”

All remaining forms and paperwork should be submitted upon arrival at Convention. Entries in Essay Writing, Poetry Writing, Short Story Writing, Website Design, Linear PowerPoint®, Nonlinear PowerPoint®, Music Composition, Music Arranging, Scripture Video, and A.C.E. Character Trait Video require a Creative Composition Affidavit (CF28) and a judge's form for each of the three (3) copies of entry.

## INTERNATIONAL REGISTRATION

For International Convention Registration, you may use the same Convention Registration website that was used to register for the Regional Student Convention; simply indicate “International Student Convention.”

School registration is nonrefundable, but individual fees are refundable.

Preregistration is required for participation in the International Convention. Schools whose contestants qualify for the International Convention must register the school, sponsor, and contestants with the International Convention Registrar as soon as possible. Watch the A.C.E. website at [acestudentprograms.com](http://acestudentprograms.com) and the *Accelerator* for the registration deadline. The school registration fee and all appropriate material must be included with registration.

All information should be sent to:

### MAILING ADDRESS:

Attn: ISC  
A.C.E.  
P.O. Box 2707  
Hendersonville, TN 37077-2707

### SHIPPING ADDRESS

Attn: ISC  
A.C.E.  
130 Maple Drive North  
Hendersonville, TN 37075

### **Summary—Submit these items for International Registration.**

1. Complete online convention registration program on the A.C.E. website.
2. CF5—Sponsor Registration Form (one per sponsor)
3. CF6—Permission for Participation (one per student)
4. CF8—Parent/Guardian Consent to Emergency Health Care for Minor/Indemnification (one per student)
5. CF16—Student Convention Screening Form (each school, church, or organization)

All participants, sponsors, guests, and contestants attending an A.C.E. Convention must provide their own medical and accident insurance.

## **EARLY ENTRY SUBMISSION**

### **REGIONAL STUDENT CONVENTION:**

To help facilitate judging, the following event entries must be submitted before Convention. These entries will be judged prior to Convention, and winners must be present to receive medals. For example, if the third-place winner in Essay Writing is not present, his/her name will be removed from the winners' list and the subsequent winners will move up.

- Essay Writing
- Poetry Writing
- Short Story Writing
- Website Design
- PowerPoint Presentations
- Music Composition
- Music Arranging
- Radio Program
- Scripture Video
- A.C.E. Character Trait Video

Please watch the A.C.E. website at [acestudentprograms.com](http://acestudentprograms.com) and the *Accelerator* for early entry deadlines. **NOTE:** Early entries must include all paperwork. None of these entries will be accepted on site at Convention.

### **INTERNATIONAL STUDENT CONVENTION:**

Written Entries, Website Design, PowerPoint Presentations, Music Composition, Music Arranging, Radio Program, Scripture Video, and A.C.E. Character Trait Video, will be submitted electronically prior to Convention. When you register your school for ISC, you will receive an email with instructions on how to submit your early entries.

### **STUDENT CONVENTION SCREENING FORM (CF16)**

A.C.E. realizes the awesome responsibility and trust your educational ministry and the parents you serve are placing in our ministry by allowing the most precious earthly treasures—children—to attend an A.C.E. Student Convention. The times in which we live today require us to take greater precautionary measures in protecting lives and ministries. In an effort to ensure the safety of all who attend and to retain the integrity of the Student Convention program, A.C.E. respectfully requests (requires) each school, church, or organization to complete a Student Convention Screening Form (CF16) prior to Convention. Please be assured that the information provided will remain confidential. The Student Convention Screening Form (CF16) is included on the School Registration program and is also included in Section X.

### **SPONSOR REGISTRATION FORM (CF5)**

Each sponsor must complete a Sponsor Registration Form (CF5). Be sure to include all information. Remember: A sponsor cannot be responsible for more than eight students. A female sponsor must sponsor only female students, and a male sponsor must sponsor only male students. (Exception: A father may sponsor his daughter(s) and a mother may sponsor her son(s), providing they stay off campus.) If you are sponsoring students from another school, be sure to indicate their names and the name of the school. If another school is sponsoring your students, please make a note giving the name of the sponsoring school and the name of the sponsor. All

students must be properly sponsored. The Sponsor Registration Form (CF5) is included on the School Registration program.

## **PERMISSION FOR PARTICIPATION (CF6)**

Each participant and contestant must submit a Permission for Participation Form (CF6) signed by his/her parent or guardian to attend the Convention. Contestants will not be permitted to compete if their CF6 has not been received. The Permission for Participation Form (CF6) is included on the School Registration program.

## **PARENT/GUARDIAN CONSENT TO EMERGENCY HEALTH CARE FOR MINOR/INDEMNIFICATION FORM (CF8)**

Every student registering must have his or her parent or legal guardian complete a Parent/Guardian Consent to Emergency Health Care for Minor/Indemnification Form (CF8). This form includes a statement releasing A.C.E. from responsibility for any expense incurred by anyone during his/her stay at the Convention or travels to/from the Convention area. All participants, sponsors, guests, and contestants attending an A.C.E. Convention must provide their own medical and accident insurance. The Parent/Guardian Consent to Emergency Health Care for Minor/Indemnification Form (CF8) is included on the School Registration program.

## **FEES**

Each school (including homeschools) must pay a school registration fee. In addition, all contestants, participants, and sponsors must pay a participation fee. The school registration fee is nonrefundable.

**Watch the A.C.E. website at [www.cestudentprograms.com](http://www.cestudentprograms.com) and the *Accelerator* for registration deadlines, times, and fees.**