



Suite 206 • 20 E. Thompson Avenue • West St. Paul, MN 55118

Phone: 651-457-2347 • Website: www.mathcountsmn.org

Dear MATHCOUNTS Parent,

Congratulations on your child's success at his/her 2012 MATHCOUNTS Chapter Competition. Your child will represent your area's chapter at the state competition March 23 and 24 at the Crowne Plaza in Plymouth (previously the Radisson) 3131 Campus Drive, Plymouth, MN 55441.

Approximately 125 sixth, seventh and eighth grade math students from all over Minnesota will compete for the state title. The top four winners from the state meet go on to compete in the national competition in Orlando, FL, May 10 to 13. National MATHCOUNTS pays all travel accommodations for that trip.

You can find information about the competition on our website (www.mathcountsmn.org), including the schedule of events. Winners of the chapter and state meets are posted on the website after their chapter competitions are complete.

All necessary hotel room and meal arrangements for your child, including costs, will be provided by the Minnesota MATHCOUNTS program. Travel arrangements will be made by your child's teacher-coach. MATHCOUNTS invites your family to join us at the competition. Due to the nature of the competition, the only part that is open to the public is the Countdown Round in the Regency Room on the hotel's main level at about 1 p.m. on Saturday. Winners of the competition will be announced and awards presented immediately after the Countdown Round.

Guest Reservations

The Crowne Plaza is extending a special MATHCOUNTS rate of \$84 a night plus tax to parents. You will need to make your reservations directly with the Crowne Plaza (763-559-6600). Ask for the MATHCOUNTS rate at this time.

Student Rooms

We strongly encourage your child to room with other students as meeting participants from other schools is part of the competition experience. If your child decides to stay with you in your hotel room, let his or her teacher know this as soon as possible. **Registration deadlines for coaches registering students for the state meet is Wed., February 29, and changes to room assignments cannot be made after that date.**

If your student decides to room with you, MATHCOUNTS does not reimburse you for the room.

Once we assign students to rooms, students cannot change their minds. Doing so could mean another student is in a room alone, which MATHCOUNTS does not allow. Students are assigned to rooms with others of their team who are of the same sex. Students are usually assigned three or four to a room if all three or four are on the same team and the same sex. Two team members may be assigned to room with two team members from another school. One individual from a school will be assigned to a room with only one other student. Coaches are placed near their students' rooms.

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Student Meals

Meals provided for your child include a Friday evening dinner and ice cream social, and breakfast and lunch on Saturday. Because of space and costs considerations, these meals are only open to the student participants and their coaches. There is a restaurant at the hotel for guests as well as other restaurants near the hotel.

Media Waiver Forms

Your child's coach should have received copies of a media waiver form with their coach's letter. Parents are asked to fill out and sign the form and email it to katie@mathcountsmn.org by Tues. March 20 or send it with your student or their coach to turn in when they arrive at the state competition.

MATHCOUNTS Sweatshirts

We will be selling Minnesota MATHCOUNTS hooded sweatshirts at the competition for \$20 each or two for \$30. They can also be ordered online on the [MATHCOUNTS website](http://www.mathcountsmn.org).

How is MATHCOUNTS Funded?

Minnesota MATHCOUNTS is a nonprofit organization that is privately funded by area companies, foundations and individuals. While there is no additional registration fee for your child to attend the state competition, the cost for each student averages about \$300. If you are in a position to do so, we ask you to consider a small donation to MATHCOUNTS. Your donation could allow other students to have the same positive experience as your child at the state meet.

Donations to MATHCOUNTS are charitable for tax purposes. We do have a secure online Google checkout donation capability on our website (www.mathcountsmn.org) and would welcome a donation. MATHCOUNTS is also listed on www.givernn.org, under the MN Professional Engineers Foundation. Donation forms will also be available at the state meet.

In addition, if your place of work offers matching donations or might be interested in sponsoring the MATHCOUNTS program, please contact Katie at katie@mathcountsmn.org or 651-457-2347.

If you have any questions on the arrangements for the state competition, please call your chapter coordinator, your child's coach/teacher, or me at the Minnesota Society of Professional Engineers, 651-457-2347. Email: katie@mathcountsmn.org.

Once again, congratulations on your Mathlete's success, and we hope to see you at the state competition.

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