Dear MATHCOUNTS Parent,

Congratulations on your child’s success at his/her 2020 MATHCOUNTS Chapter Competition! Your child will represent your area’s chapter at the state competition **Fri.-Sat. March 13-14 at the Crowne Plaza in Plymouth** (3131 Campus Drive, Plymouth, MN 55441).

Approximately 125 middle school math students from all over Minnesota will compete for the state title. The top four students from the state meet go on to compete in the national competition in Orlando, Florida, May 9-12, 2020. National MATHCOUNTS pays all travel accommodations for that trip.

State competition information is online at [www.mathcountsmn.org](http://www.mathcountsmn.org). Chapter competition advancing teams and individuals are posted online after competitions are complete and we receive results from coordinators.

All hotel room and meal arrangements for your child, including costs, will be provided by Minnesota MATHCOUNTS. **Travel arrangements will be made by your child’s 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 1 p.m. on Saturday. Winners of the competition will be announced, and awards presented immediately after the Countdown Round.

**NEW THIS YEAR:** We invite you to join us on **Saturday morning, March 14**, while students are taking written rounds for a brand-new **STEM workforce workshop and conversation for parents and coaches** led by our parent organization, Engineering Alliance Foundation Minnesota (formerly the Minnesota Professional Engineers Foundation). We hope you will join us for this collaborative conversation. It will be 9:50 – 10:30 AM in conference room E, at the Crowne Plaza. More information about this event will come directly from our Foundation prior to the state competition.

**Guest Reservations:** The Crowne Plaza is extending a special MATHCOUNTS rate of $99 a night plus tax to parents. Make reservations directly with the Crowne Plaza (763-559-6600) and ask for the MATHCOUNTS parent rate, or visit [https://www.mathcountsmn.org/parents/](https://www.mathcountsmn.org/parents/) for an online reservation link. **Rooms will be held until February 28.**

**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 right away. **Registration deadlines for coaches registering students for the state meet is Friday, February 14,** 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 is not allowed. 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 when possible. If your student is an individual, they will be placed on a team with their roommate during the Friday activity, so they can get to know someone at the competition.

**Student Meals:** Meals provided for your child include a Friday evening dinner and breakfast and lunch on Saturday. Because of space and costs, 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. All meals are vegetarian friendly. If your child has food allergies, please have the coach indicate that when they register for the state competition.

**Media Waivers:** These should have been submitted online or via paper prior to the chapter competition. If we are not able to locate record of this form, we will contact you. It is required that we have media waiver forms on file for all students coming to state MATHCOUNTS.

**MATHCOUNTS Souvenirs:** Plan ahead to send money with your student if they would like to purchase:
- A MATHCOUNTS pin like the national team will trade at the competition. They are $3 each
- MN MATHCOUNTS pencil. $1 each

**Calculators:** Students are responsible for providing their own, approved calculators and batteries.

**MATHCOUNTS Funding**

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 students to attend the state competition, the cost for each student is near $400.

**The Minnesota State MATHCOUNTS Committee suggests that each team raise/donate $100 ($25/individual) to help ensure future Mathletes can continue to have the same two-day state competition experience.** We have also included this information in the coach letter.

In this rapidly changing information economy, Minnesota middle school students need the opportunities that MATHCOUNTS offers them. With your support, we can continue to offer Minnesota MATHCOUNTS. Your gift – of ANY size – will allow Minnesota MATHCOUNTS to serve current mathletes and begin reaching out to underserved students statewide.

Funds can be submitted online here: [https://www.givemn.org/story/Mathcounts2020](https://www.givemn.org/story/Mathcounts2020) or brought to the state competition via cash or check made out to Minnesota MATHCOUNTS. Donations to MATHCOUNTS are charitable for tax purposes.

If your place of work offers matching donations or might able to sponsor the MATHCOUNTS program, please contact Katie at katie@mathcountsmn.org or 651-457-2347.
Minnesota MATHCOUNTS would like to keep in touch with you.

Please connect with us:

- Facebook at [www.facebook.com/mathcountsmn](http://www.facebook.com/mathcountsmn)
- Twitter, @MathcountsMN
- Instagram: @MathcountsMN
- LinkedIn: [https://www.linkedin.com/company/64544826](https://www.linkedin.com/company/64544826)

We will post updates leading up to and following the state competition on social media.

If you have any questions on the arrangements for the state competition, please contact your child’s coach or me at katie@mathcountsmn.org.

Congratulations on your mathlete’s success, and we look forward to seeing you at the state competition!

**Katie Jamieson, CAE | MATHCOUNTS Director**
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