



# **ACADEMIC COORDINATORS AND COACHES UPDATE**

**DR. DAVID STEVENS,  
DIRECTOR OF ACADEMICS**

# ACADEMIC COORDINATOR INFORMATION PACKET



UIL Home > Academics

Academics Home

Meets +

Conferences +

Contests +

STEM +

Theatre +

Journalism +

Speech & Debate +

A+ (Grades 2-8) +

Resources -

TILF

Lone Star Cup

General Academic Information

Handbooks & Manuals for Academic Contests

Study Materials

Academic Coordinator Resources

Forms

Alignments

Videos

Acad. Coord Resources

The University Interscholastic League offers the most comprehensive program of academic competition in

## RESOURCES & FORMS

Overview

General Academic Information

Handbooks & Manuals for Academic Contests

Study Materials

### Academic Coordinator Resources

- Academic Coordinators Checklist
- Motivating Students for Academic Coordinators
- Preparing a Budget for

# Academic Coordinator Resources

[Academic Coordinator Information Packet- August 23-24](#) 

## Academic Coordinator's Manual

One of the most valuable resources is the Academic Coordinator's Manual, designed to expedite the coordination process by putting the most often-needed information, forms and materials at the coordinator's fingertips. One of the coordinator's biggest jobs is to act as a resource person for UIL materials, rules and procedures.

Coordinators can (and should) photocopy any of the materials in this manual and distribute them to anyone that might be interested.

▶ [Download the Academic Coordinator's Manual](#)

# REGISTER AS A COORDINATOR



While on the academic homepage, please register as an Academic Coordinator.

A+ Coordinators (elem/middle school) register using the link on the A+ page.

The screenshot shows the UIL website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for Home, About, Calendar, Contact, Shop, and UIL Portal. Below this is the UIL logo and a search bar. A main navigation bar contains categories: ACADEMICS -, ATHLETICS +, MUSIC +, SPIRIT +, MEDIA +, and POLICY +. The Academics section is expanded, showing a list of sub-categories: Academics Home, Meets, Conferences, Contests, Stem, Theatre, Journalism, Speech & Debate, A+ (Grades 2-8), Resources, TILF, and Lone Star Cup. A large red arrow points from the 'A+ (Grades 2-8)' link to a registration box on the right. This box contains the text 'REGISTER AS HIGH SCHOOL ACADEMIC COORDINATOR' and '(Coordinators for elementary and middle schools register under A+ Academics.)' with a red button labeled 'HS REGISTER HERE'. Below this, there is a link for 'UIL ESSAY COMPETITIONS'. The main content area features a large image of students' hands reaching up, with the text 'Academic' partially visible. A 'Quick Links' sidebar on the right lists: CAPITAL CONFERENCE REGISTRATION, UIL ESSAY COMPETITIONS, INVITATIONAL MEET LISTINGS, ACADEMIC STUDY MATERIALS, and ACADEMICS CALENDAR. At the bottom, there is a 'Contact Academics' button and a 'UIL ESSAY COMPETITIONS' link.

# HIGH SCHOOL ACADEMIC COORDINATOR'S MANUAL



<http://www.uiltexas.org/academics/resources/coordinators>



## High School Academic Coordinator's Manual

For campus-level academic  
coordinators, coaches and contest directors



# **CHANGES FOR 2024-25**

**Free Study Materials**

**Computer Applications eliminated**

**REC Foundation Robotics sanctioned**

**Increase to five entries in Congress**

**Middle School Theatrical Design pilot**

**Continuing—**

- **Scoring point change in Current Issues & Events**
- **Six Entries Update**

# **ITEMS CURRENTLY MONITORING**



**Developing a Drone competition**

**Allowing students to compete in both CX and LD Debate**

**Spelling and Vocabulary Computer Use**

**Requirement for students to print a paper from a personal computer in writing events**

**Allowing internet use in extemporaneous speaking**

**Expanding Divisions (Conferences) for Essay Contests, and Robotics**



# STUDY MATERIALS



## Contest Study Packets

- 2023 and 2024 are now being provided at **NO COST**.
- They are available in digital, downloadable format from the website
- More contest materials will be added for previous years

The image shows a screenshot of the UIL website's navigation menu. The menu is a dark blue sidebar with white text. The items listed are: Academics Home, Meets, Conferences, Contests, STEM, Theatre, Journalism, Speech & Debate, A+ (Grades 2-8), Resources, TILF, and Lone Star Cup. A red arrow points to the 'Study Materials' option, which is highlighted in a lighter blue. Below the main menu, there is a sub-menu for 'Study Materials' with the following items: General Academic Information, Handbooks & Manuals for Academic Contents, Study Materials, Academic Coordinator Resources, Invitational Forms, District Alignments, Region Alignments, and State Videos. The background of the website is partially visible, showing various contest categories like 'High School Accounting' and 'Computer Applications'.



# ENTERING SIX STUDENTS

1/3



## Four or Six

- Each school may enter as many as **SIX** individuals in the district meet, or a maximum of **FOUR** individuals with District Executive Committee approval

## Contests Impacted

- This change applies only to high school Accounting, Calculator Applications, Computer Science, Current Issues and Events, Literary Criticism, Mathematics, Number Sense, Social Studies, and Spelling and Vocabulary

## Advancement Structure

- The sum of the top three overall scores from each school constitutes the team score for the school, with the fourth highest scoring member serving as the tiebreaker.
- All four members of first place or wild card teams advance to the next level of competition.
- All team members who qualify to regional or state will also compete for individual honors.

# ENTERING SIX STUDENTS

2/3



## Advancement Structure

- The sum of the top three overall scores from each school constitutes the team score for the school, with the fourth highest scoring member serving as the tiebreaker.
- All four members of first place or wild card teams advance to the next level of competition. All team members who qualify to regional or state will also compete for individual honors.
  - For Current Issues & Events and Social Studies, the objective scores (not including the essay scores) will be used to determine the four advancing team members.
  - For Computer Science, written exam scores will be used to determine the four advancing team members. Regardless of the number of entries, exactly three team members participate in the hands-on programming session. The coach determines which three contestants from among the qualifying team members participate in programming.

# ENTERING SIX STUDENTS

3/3



## Tiebreaking Procedures for Determining Team Members

- In districts using the six-entry option, ties shall be broken in contests with existing tiebreaker procedures to determine the four team members for first- and second-place teams.
- If a tie still exists after all tiebreaking procedures have been followed, then the tie cannot be broken and those involved in the tie advance. Tiebreaking procedures are included in the handbook for each contest.
- If tiebreaking procedures were not followed, the coach will be contacted to break the tie before the next competition.



# INTERNET IN DEBATE

## Events

- Allows the use of the Internet during Cross-Examination Debate and Lincoln Douglas Debate competition rounds within the parameters set forth in the guidelines

## Details

- For evidence retrieval and sharing with opponents and judges participating in the round
- Prohibits any communication outside the round or with audience members.
- Internet connectivity would be the responsibility of the competitor and not the host site.

# VITAL CONTEST RESOURCES

These are the “must-haves” for UIL competition:

- Website
- Contest Handbooks
- Study Materials



# UIL WEBSITE AND ACADEMICS HOMEPAGE



<http://www.uiltexas.org/academics>

The screenshot shows the UIL website's Academics homepage. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for Home, About, Calendar, Contact, Shop, and UIL Portal. Below this is the UIL logo and the text 'University Interscholastic League'. A search bar is located on the right side of the header. The main navigation menu includes links for ACADEMICS, ATHLETICS, MUSIC, SPIRIT, MEDIA, and POLICY. The Academics dropdown menu is open, showing a list of categories: Academics Home, Meets, Conferences, Contests, Stem, Theatre, Journalism, Speech & Debate, A+ (Grades 2-8), Resources, TILF, and Lone Star Cup. A red arrow labeled 'TABS' points to the navigation menu. Another red arrow labeled 'Contests grouped by area' points to a red bracket that groups the 'Contests', 'Stem', 'Theatre', and 'Journalism' items in the dropdown menu. On the right side of the page, there is a 'Quick Links' section with a list of links: CAPITAL CONFERENCE REGISTRATION, UIL ESSAY COMPETITIONS, INVITATIONAL MEET LISTINGS, ACADEMIC STUDY MATERIALS, and ACADEMICS CALENDAR. A 'Contact Academics' button is located at the bottom of the Quick Links section. The background of the page features a photograph of students in a huddle.



# **IMPORTANT INFO ON EACH EVENT WEBPAGE**

## **SOCIAL STUDIES, LITERARY CRITICISM**

- Required reading lists

## **CURRENT ISSUES AND EVENTS**

- Date ranges for tests

## **SPELLING**

- Word Power

## **SCIENCE**

- Physics Novel
- Memos from the Contest Directors





# INVITATIONAL MEETS

Practice Meets for academic activities

Host schools charge entry fees

Invitational meets are posted a

<http://www.uiltexas.org/academics/invitational-meets>

The screenshot shows the navigation menu for the UIL Academics website. The menu is organized into three main categories: ACADEMICS, ATHLETICS, and MUSIC. Under the ACADEMICS category, the following items are listed: Meets and Tournaments, Meet Officials, Invitational Meets, District Meets, Regional Meets, State Meet, Academic Meet Entry System, and Academic Meet Information. A red arrow points from the text 'Invitational Meets' to the 'Invitational Meets' link in the menu. Below the menu, there are buttons for months: SEPTEMBER, DECEMBER, JANUARY, FEBRUARY, and MA. At the bottom right, there is a red vertical bar with the number '16'.

ACADEMICS -	ATHLETICS +	MUSIC +
Academics Home	Meets and Tournaments	
Meets -	Meet Officials	
Conferences +	Invitational Meets	
Contests +	District Meets	
Stem +	Regional Meets	
Theatre +	State Meet	
Journalism +	Academic Meet Entry System	
Speech & Debate +		
A+ (Grades 2-8) +		
Resources +		



# **DISTRICT DATES**

- **Events with confidential material must be held during the one week designated.**
- **Speech events MAY be held the 2<sup>nd</sup> week. Informative and Persuasive included.**
- **One-Act Play has a certification deadline and may be held anytime before that date.**

# **2024-25**

## **SPRING MEET DATES**

<b>March 24-29</b>	<b>Academic District Week and Speech Week 1</b>
<b>Mar 31-April 5</b>	<b>Speech Week 2 and Area OAP</b>
<b>April 3</b>	<b>Bi-District OAP Certification</b>
<b>April 23-26</b>	<b>OAP Regional</b>
<b>April 25-26</b>	<b>Academic/Speech Regional</b>
<b>May 12-14</b>	<b>1A-3A* OAP State</b>
<b>May 15-16</b>	<b>Theatrical Design State</b>
<b>May 19-21</b>	<b>Academic/Speech and 4A-6A* OAP State</b>

\* Tentative



# TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

## Student Activities Conferences

### Capital Conference 2025

- Sept 7 Tyler Junior College, Tyler
- Sept 14 Lone Star College-North Harris, Houston
- Oct 5 Texas Tech University, Lubbock
- Nov 2 University of Texas at Austin

### Capital Conference 2025

- TBD

# COMMUNICATION OPTIONS



**Academic Newsletter**

**UIL Academic Coordinator's Facebook page**

**UIL Facebook, Instagram, X**

**Website**

# TILF SCHOLARSHIPS



## Who can apply?

- Must have competed at the UIL Academic State Meet **any year of their high school career** (CX debaters must have advanced to the second day of competition)
- OR must be a state finalist in the Barbara Jordan Historical Essay Competition, the Latino History Essay Competition, Film or the Theatrical Design Contest
- OR must be a team member of Robotics team placing in the top ten at the state contest

Contact: Trudy Richards, Executive Director  
[trichards@tilfoundation.org](mailto:trichards@tilfoundation.org) or [www.tilfoundation.org](http://www.tilfoundation.org)



# THE ESSENTIALS

**Recruit coaches and students**

**Order study materials**

**Integrate contests into curriculum**

**Attend training opportunities**

- SACs, Invitational Meets, Capital Conference

**Work with athletic coaches, music directors and prom organizers to avoid conflicts.**

**Celebrate successes**





# KNOW THE RULES

Review UIL Website and check it regularly

[www.uiltexas.org/academics](http://www.uiltexas.org/academics)

Review the *Academic Coordinator's Manual*

Become familiar with the *UIL Constitution & Contest Rules*

Get a copy of each of the event handbooks

Network locally and statewide

Ask the UIL staff



# **STAYING SUCCESSFUL**

**Keep recruiting and talking up the good stuff**

**As interest grows, fill every slot on the entry form**

**Set goals**

**Communicate, cheer, advocate**

**Continually promote and sell the program**



# CONTACT UIL STAFF

**David Stevens** (All Events)

[dstevens@uiltexas.org](mailto:dstevens@uiltexas.org)

**Jana Riggins** (Speech, Debate, Congress)

[jriggins@uiltexas.org](mailto:jriggins@uiltexas.org)

**David Trussell** (Computer Science, Math, Science, Calculator, Number Sense, Robotics)

[dtrussell@uiltexas.org](mailto:dtrussell@uiltexas.org)

**Lisa Parker** (Essay Contests, A+ Academics)

[lparker@uiltexas.org](mailto:lparker@uiltexas.org)

**Alyssa Boehringer** (Journalism-Copy Editing, Headline, Feature, News, Editorial, ILPC)

[aboehringer@uiltexas.org](mailto:aboehringer@uiltexas.org)

**Paula Rodriguez** (One-Act Play, Theatrical Design, Film)

[prodriguez@uiltexas.org](mailto:prodriguez@uiltexas.org)