

2021 QUALIFICATION METHODS

Please use this for determining which category to register your students for this year's tournament.

Option 1 – Automatic Qualifier — To automatically qualify for the NIETOC, students must meet one of the following criteria:

A – Semifinalist or Finalist at the 2020 MASQ (May 2020) or NSDA tournaments in the same event for which they are registering.

B – A competitor who was fully qualified for the 2020 competition (automatically or with BOTH bids)

C – Top three finish at current year's state tournament (if held prior to April 25).

D – Finalist at one of the MASQ Qualifying tournaments (Dec 2020 or Feb 2021)

Option 2 – Bid Qualifier — To qualify via the Bid System for the NIETOC, students must earn two bids in a given event at NIETOC-designated tournaments throughout the country.

A – Regular Season Bids earned during the 2020-21 season. To verify that your student is bid qualified, check this database -- <http://nietoc.com/am-i-qualified/>

B – Post-Season Bids — Contestants receive one bid for each of the following:

>One bid earned by being Quarterfinalist at previous year's MASQ.

>One bid earned by being a Finalist at 2020 state tournament.

>One bid earned by being a Finalist at 2021 state tournament. We will also extend a bid to semifinalists at the current year's state tournament if there are more than 50 contestants in that event.

Option 3 – At-Large Qualifier* — To be considered under the At-Large system, a student must earn three "legs" which can be earned at NIETOC Bid or non-Bid tournaments that accumulate to a total ranking of 10 or less.

To illustrate:

Joe Smith's DI ranks: 4th, 6th, 4th, 3rd, 8th

Sarah Jones' HI ranks: 4th, 3rd, 1st, 2nd, 12th

In this scenario, Joe's best 3 tournaments result in a total of 11, while Sarah's best 3 results in a total of 6. Thus, Sarah would qualify for consideration as an at-large entry to NIETOC but Joe would not.

*Students meeting the above qualification criteria must complete the NIETOC online registration via SpeechWire and upload documentation via a shared Google Folder. Competitors will be placed on a waiting list until all supporting information can be confirmed. At-large registration is due by April 10, with acceptance notifications provided by April 15.

Option 4 – Bonus Qualifier* — Because of circumstances regarding three of our events, we are also offering bonus entries this year.

A – If an attending school is from a state that does not offer POI at the state level OR from a state in which NO bid tournaments offer POI, that school may apply for a BONUS entry in POI at NIETOC. Each school, provided they have qualified students in at least one event, is eligible for one bonus POI entry.

B – Because so many tournaments did not offer Duo Interp during the regular season due to Covid, we are offering each attending school two bonus entry duos. Schools may register two students of their choice in this category. NIETOC will require that all Duos be filmed in the split-screen/separate rooms format.

C – We also realize that duet acting is not offered at a large number of tournaments across the country. Therefore, each school is eligible for two bonus duet entries using students of their choice. Duets will be filmed in the same room and contestants may or may not wear masks (as dictated by local health directives). Competitors in this division will be permitted to use on-stage focus, physical interaction and two standard classroom chairs.