

JW Patterson Debates Invitation

September 28-30, 2024

Dear Colleagues,

You are cordially invited to the 54th annual JW Patterson Debates on September 28-30, 2024, which we will host on campus at the University of Kentucky. This year, we will offer Open, Wildcat, and Novice divisions of Policy Debate. We hope to see you in Lexington this fall!

Sincerely,
Kelsey Johnson
Tournament Director

Contact Information

Official Tournament Website: jwpdebates.tabroom.com

Any administrative and/or procedural questions should be directed to jwp.debate@uky.edu.

*Please refrain from contacting tournament staff via personal email addresses
or other informal means of communication!*

Key Dates & Deadlines

Tabroom Registration Deadline	Friday, September 20, 2024
Fees & Obligations Frozen	Friday, September 20, 2024
Tabroom Check-In & Fees Due	Friday, September 27, 2024
2024 JW Patterson Debates	Saturday–Monday, Sept. 28-30, 2024

All tournament fees are non-refundable.

Please ensure your participation before remitting payment!

Updates & Reminders

Please see below for important updates and reminders for this year's event.

- All tournament fees are non-refundable
- Registered programs must complete online check-in via Tabroom, confirming the presence of all competitors and judges, by 9:00PM EDT on Friday, September 27, 2024
- Competition will occur on campus at the University of Kentucky, with a limited option for online participation in Policy Debate
 - There will be 6 preliminary rounds in all divisions of Policy Debate
- Participants, observers, and other guests attend at the invitation of the University of Kentucky and must abide by all applicable laws, rules, and policies
- As of 2023, we've adjusted our judge placement language. Please see [here](#) for more information.

Hotel Information

To ensure adequate hotel space for elimination rounds on Monday, all participating teams are required to book rooms at the Embassy Suites - Lexington for the duration of the event. The \$200 hotel fee added to each school's invoice will be removed if you are lodging at the Embassy Suites or once the quota for our hotel block is fulfilled. We regret any inconvenience, and we appreciate your understanding and support of the University of Kentucky debate program.

Tournament Hotel

Embassy Suites: \$154/Night + Tax

- For reservations, call (859) 455-5000 or visit the [direct booking link](#)
- Rate includes free hot breakfast and parking
- All Monday elimination rounds will be held at this location
- Reservations may be canceled at no cost until the room block closes on Friday, September 8, after which cancellations are subject to the penalty specified in your booking confirmation

Entry Fees & Payment Options

All entry fees are non-refundable and must be paid in full by Friday, September 27. We suggest that your participation in the 2024 JW Patterson Debates be absolutely certain before remitting payment. Any food allergies and/or dietary restrictions should also be entered on Tabroom.

Event	Amount
Policy Debate (In-Person)	\$100 per participant
Policy Debate (Online)**	\$150.00 per entry

****Online teams should email jwp.debate@uky.edu to have your fees adjusted**

Payment Options

For any payment-related questions, please contact our staff at jwp.debate@uky.edu.

1. CREDIT CARD: Please visit ci.uky.edu/ukdebate/pay-fees-online-0 to make a secure payment via our online portal, selecting JW Patterson Debates from the tournament drop-down menu. Completed transactions may not appear on your school's Tabroom invoice immediately; please plan ahead and wait at least 24 hours before emailing to inquire about the status of a recent credit card payment.

2. CHECK: If you cannot pay by credit card, please mail a check payable to UK Debate Tournaments to the address below, with a printed copy of your Tabroom invoice. We suggest using Express or Priority Mail to ensure it reaches the UK Debate office no later than Friday, September 27. Delayed payments will be given consideration only with proof of intended delivery by September 27. *We cannot accept cash.*

Mailing Address

UK College Debate Tournament
C/O Kathy Pickett
225 Funkhouser Building
Lexington, KY 40506-0054

Policy Debate

2024-2025 [CEDA Debate Topic](#) | 9-3-6 Speech Times | 10-Minute Prep Time

We will offer 3 divisions of Policy Debate, each with 6 preliminary rounds of competition. The Open division will break to Double Octofinals, while the first elimination round in the Novice and Wildcat divisions will be determined by their respective entry levels. Teams will flip for sides in all elimination rounds, unless they have met previously; no breaking brackets.

- **Novice:** Novice competitors are in their first year of college debate and may only present evidence included in the ADA Novice Curriculum Committee's 2024-2025 evidence packet; no outside evidence is permitted in CX-N
- **Wildcat:** Wildcat competitors are in their first or second year of college debate
- **Open:** Open competitors are in any year of their college-debate career; CX-O is open to all eligible debaters, regardless of experience or skill level

This year, we will allow online entries and judges. Online teams must adhere to all applicable rules and policies, including judge obligations, and are eligible for speaker awards and elimination rounds. Judges can be in-person or online to cover their school's entries.

Rules & Procedures

All participating teams are expected to contribute to Open Caselist [here](#) and provide up-to-date information on their affirmative/negative positions by Tuesday, September 24.

For the purposes of ADA tournaments, a debate team is defined as the two-person team that begins the first round of the tournament and who debate together throughout the course of the tournament. If one of the debaters of a team cannot debate in any given round, that round will be forfeited. To debate in a round is defined as to give one constructive speech and one rebuttal. Teams that forfeit rounds will be given average speaker points. Teams that forfeit rounds are ineligible to clear to elimination rounds if they miss more than 1/3rd of their rounds rounded down to the nearest whole round. The debate may still occur for educational purposes. However, that team will still be eligible for speaker awards and elimination rounds. Hybrid teams are allowed at the discretion of the tournament director and are allowed to clear to elimination rounds at the discretion of the tournament director.

Teams from the University of Kentucky are eligible to compete in 2024 JW Patterson Debates, including elimination rounds, and receive speaker awards. Individuals affiliated with the University will not participate in any requisite tabulation decisions for rounds involving UK teams.

The tournament abides by the rules and norms of the American Forensics Association and the American Debate Association.

Debate rounds are open to registered tournament participants.

Tabulation & Judging

Nick Ryan will oversee tabulation of the 2024 JW Patterson Debates. The tournament remains committed to promoting judge diversity and providing a quality experience for all participants.

Judges will be ranked ordinally. Judges in the top 75% of a team's rankings will be placed based on mutuality *of the percentile in relation to rounds in the pool*. The tournament will aim for within 25% mutuality. The lowest 25% will be considered strikes.

Prelim preference sheets will be used throughout elimination rounds on Monday, September 30—unless judge availability necessitates dipping below the strike percentile, in which case strike cards will be distributed, with the number of judges depending on availability. The tab room will accept ballots only from the exact judge(s) assigned to any given round.

Judge Expectations

We require 3 rounds of judging per entry. All coaches are expected to make themselves available for at least a 2-round judging commitment, barring reasonable accommodations. **All judges are obligated through Octofinals on Monday, September 30, then 1 round beyond the elimination of your program's last entry.** All judging for hire should be arranged via the hiring system on Tabroom.

Judges are expected to have college policy debate experience.

Judges must vote for a single team in each round, as well as submit their decision within 2 hours and 15 minutes of the posted start time for all rounds. This time limit will be strictly enforced.

Judges and competitors should enter constraints on Tabroom under the following circumstances.

- If you are former college or high-school debate colleagues
- If you have a substantial fiduciary relationship with the school or program
- If you have had a professional student/coach relationship, or a non-platonic personal relationship
- If you have been a party to a harassment, discrimination, or similar complaint filed with an educational institution, intercollegiate debate association, or other entity charged with resolving grievances of this nature

Participant Conduct

All debaters, judges, coaches, observers, staff members, and other individuals present at the 2024 JW Patterson Debates, or participating in activities associated with the tournament, are expected to know and required to abide by this policy. Participants should also adhere to the policies and procedures of their own educational institutions, as well as all local, state, and federal laws, avoiding discrimination or harassment on any basis prohibited or regulated by law or applicable policies.

Participants should recognize the rights of others and treat debaters, judges, coaches, observers, staff members, tournament hosts, and other individuals with respect. Communication or conduct that fosters ill will toward forensics is a disservice to all and should be avoided.

The tournament follows all University of Kentucky policies and procedures on harassment and discrimination. A compliance officer with the Office of Institutional Equity & Equal Opportunity will be on call for the duration of the tournament. The Tournament Director must first be contacted if an issue involving allegations of harassment and/or discrimination arises.

All participants, including program directors, researchers, and assistants, must ensure their conduct complies with this policy throughout the tournament and avoid, mitigate, and prevent situations that may generate harassment, discriminatory, and/or offensive actions, including during any post-round explanation or reason for decision in a particular round. Coaches and program directors are encouraged to discuss this policy with all of their school's participants prior to the tournament, and are expected to take any reasonable and necessary action to ensure compliance by individuals affiliated with their institution. By participating in the tournament and/or activities associated with the tournament, each individual shall be deemed to have agreed to comport themselves in accordance with this policy.

For more information regarding University of Kentucky policies and procedures on harassment and discrimination, please see [here](#).