



Welcome

The NYC Urban Debate League cordially invites you to participate in its third tournament of the year!

Registration is open to all schools.

This document is meant to supplement the [NYCUDL State Championships Guide](#).

Date & Location

The high school tournament will take place on **Friday April 9th to Saturday, April 10th** on the online **classrooms.cloud** platform (access via [tournaments.debate.nyc](#)).

Schedule

[Link to the schedule is here.](#)

Registration

Registration closes at 5pm on Monday, April 5th. Please be sure your registered students have linked accounts here on Tabroom.com.

Check-in will open at 12:00 pm on Friday, April 9th, the day of the tournament. Check-in will close at 3:30 pm (3:45 pm for Policy debate).

[You must check-in using the digital meetup form here to compete at the tournament. The form will begin accepting responses on Saturday at 7:00am.](#)



Fees

The state championship tournament cost is determined by school status and league membership:

- \$20 / entry for Title-1-designated league member schools
- \$40 / entry for all other league member programs
- \$50 / entry for all other programs + \$50 school fee

Waitlists

We are maintaining waitlists to ensure the quality of the experience for everyone. All entries are automatically placed on the waitlist. Waitlist clears will begin the week before the tournament. Entries will be removed from the waitlist that fulfill the following criteria:

The **school is in good standing** (if a league member)

The students in the entry have filled out their participation **permission slips** (see below)

The students in the entry have **linked** accounts on Tabroom.com

The students are entered into the correct **division** according to their experience level (see below)

You have provided or requested enough **judging** to cover the entries (see below)

Placing an entry on the waitlist is still considered entering them into the tournament, meaning that those entries are subject to the drop/change deadline (and corresponding late drop penalties). Even though it may not show them registered, they are included in judging / room request / division audits.



Permission Slips

Each debater must fill out a permission slip to debate. The high school form is [here](#). The middle school form is [here](#).

Please, check to make sure your students are on the list! If they're not, they won't be able to debate. Let the tournament director (tyler@debate.nyc) know if they need to be added to the permission slip list.

Events

Parliamentary

Novice, Intermediate, and Open.

Public Forum

Novice, Intermediate, and Open for both the league and national topics (HS only).

1. The Novice division is for debaters who have never debated in a previous year, with allowance for one tournament in a previous year.
2. The Intermediate (Junior Varsity) division is for debaters who have debated at one or more tournaments in a previous year, but for no more than one previous year.
3. The Open (Varsity) division welcomes all debaters, regardless of experience. It is meant to provide good debates for those with two or more years' experience.

Policy

Beginners, Novice, JV, and Open

1. The Beginners division is for debaters who have never debated before and whose coaches are relatively new to the debates. Entry into the Beginners division must be approved by the tournament. Beginner policy debate arguments are limited to the Implicit Bias Training Aff/ Neg and the SROs Aff provided in the Washington UDL files.



2. The Novice division is for debaters who have never debated before, with allowance for one tournament in a previous year. *Novice debate arguments are limited to those in the NDCA 20-21 Packet, the Backlash DA, and the Capitalism K files in the Google Classroom.*
3. The Intermediate division is for debaters who have debated at more than one tournament in a previous year, but for no more than one previous year. *Intermediate debate arguments are limited to those in the NDCA 20-21 Packet, the Backlash DA, and the Capitalism K files in the Google Classroom.*
4. The Open division welcomes all debaters, regardless of experience. It is meant to provide good debates for those with two or more years' experience.

Topics

Parliamentary

This House would make remote learning a permanent option in all public schools.

This House would disarm the police.

(Round 5 and Elims will be drawn at random from all the topics from the whole season)

Public Forum

Middle School

Resolved: On balance, the benefits of United States sanctions against China outweigh the harms.

High School

Students can choose to debate either of the following resolutions:

Resolved: On balance, the benefits of urbanization in West Africa outweigh the harms (NSDA February)

Resolved: On balance, the benefits of United States sanctions against China outweigh the harms.



Policy

Resolved: The United States federal government should enact substantial criminal justice reform in the United States in one or more of the following: forensic science, policing, sentencing. (NFHS 20-21)

Judges

You must provide one judge for every two teams in each event in which your kids compete, rounding up.

We will be e-balloting, so make sure your judges have linked Tabroom.com accounts (they also need a Tabroom.com account to enter the Classrooms.cloud platform).

Judging obligations may be “hired out” at a rate of \$175 / (uncovered) entry if you cannot provide your own. To do so you must get approval for help from Emily Moffa (send an email to emily.moffa@debate.nyc).

Please enter any schedule conflicts on Tabroom.com for your judges. This is important to do so we know your judging commitments are fulfilled. The scheduling is done in morning and afternoon shifts, and each judging entry must have all shifts covered. [We have a video tutorial on entering scheduling conflicts here.](#)


Missed round fine: \$50 (administrative fee) + \$50 / round. This is not a cash grab - we’ll be happier if your judges show up than we will with piles of cash generated from them not showing up (the former allows us to have debates; the latter does not). If your judge misses their first two rounds, we may delete the judge (leaving you under obligation and therefore incurring higher fines) as we can’t count on that judge to exist for the rest of the tournament.

Elimination rounds

Judges are obligated through the first full elimination round and then one past the round in which your school’s final team is eliminated. That means if your teams don’t make it to elims, judges have to judge the first elimination round; if they make it to quarterfinals, the judges have to judge semifinals, etc.



Judging Requirements

Judges for Middle school and High School Novice/JV events must be either adults or high school students who are competing above that division. Schools MUST disclose student judges in the coaches' notes (found by clicking the  icon to the left of the judge's name on your school's judge list).

Judges for high school Open events must be adults. Student judges cannot be used to cover any part of this obligation, since if everyone brought students we wouldn't have enough judges to judge open.