

February 20, 2026

The Department of Mathematics and Statistics at The University of Tennessee at Martin will host the annual Desiree McCullough Junior High / Middle School Mathematics Contest on **Thursday, April 9, 2026**. The contest will include sixth, seventh and eighth grade divisions.

To participate in the contest, submit a **single enrollment form per school** with names of students from sixth, seventh and eighth grades. Please use the electronic enrollment form at the link in the email to which this document is attached. Electronic forms can be filled out multiple times so you will be able to keep us updated on any roster changes as the contest nears. We need to receive your final **enrollment by March 20, 2026**.

I will keep a list of schools currently registered and other details on the contest web page at <https://sites.google.com/ut.utm.edu/devito/middle-school-math-contest>.

The contest will be at The University of Tennessee at Martin campus in the Boling University Center. Register between 8:00 am and 9:15 am in the foyer of Watkins Auditorium in the northwest corner of the University Center on the first floor. Please stay for the presentation of awards as all participants will receive mementos for participating in the contest.

The test fee is \$5.00 per contestant. We prefer that you mail your payment by March 20, 2026, but it is acceptable to bring the check the day of the contest. Please make the check payable to "UTM Math and Stat Department". You **MUST** pay by check. **WE ARE NOT ALLOWED TO ACCEPT CASH**. After testing begins, a representative from each school will receive a single copy of each of the three tests.

The test will last 60 minutes. Students may use any calculator that does not have a QWERTY keyboard. There will be 30 questions, and the scoring formula includes a penalty for wrong answers, so discourage students from guessing.

The cafeteria will be selling tickets for lunch from 9:45-10:30 am in front of Watkins Auditorium for \$8.50 per person. The price applies for students, teachers, bus drivers, or chaperones. These tickets are good only in the cafeteria where you may eat all you want from a variety of entrees, side items, beverages, and desserts. Teachers are asked to collect the money prior to the start of the contest for lunch tickets and to purchase the tickets while the students are testing. If paying by a check, the check should be made out to "Sodexo". The UTM math department **cannot** accept money for the meal tickets – if paying by a check, it must be a separate check from the registration check. If you pay at the door rather than buying a ticket, the price will be higher. In addition to the cafeteria, there are also a Chick-fil-A, the Mein Bowl with Asian cuisine, and Freshens, with smoothies, grilled flatbreads, and ricebowls, but these venues are cash/credit only.

We look forward to seeing you on April 9, 2026. If you have any questions regarding the contest, then please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Dr. Jason DeVito
Contest Co-Coordinator
Professor of Mathematics
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