

Be Part of Science-Education History: Join the 5th Annual U.S. Physics Olympiad for Middle-School Students

Olympiad Day: Thursday, April 24, 2025

Format: Virtual Competition

Who Can Participate: Middle school students (grades 6, 7, and 8) and their dedicated teachers

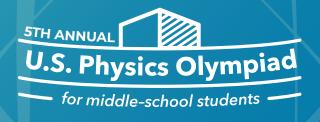
Registration Deadline: April 22, 2025

Application Fee: None

Estimated Time to Complete Application: 15 minutes (see in next page)

Eligible Applicants: School leadership, teachers, and school coaches are invited to apply on behalf of middle-school students.

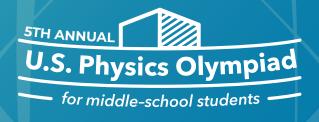
Announcement of Winners & Prize Distribution: May 8, 2025



Event Host

Physical Science Research Associates (Physcira) - the nation's leading company dedicated to making physics a distinct discipline in U.S. middle schools - is committed to making physics education engaging for students and teachers alike. Physcira aims to strengthen America's position as a global leader in science and technology.

The Olympiad is proudly supported by leading American firms, national laboratories, and government organizations.



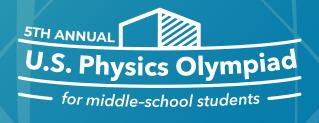
Background

The tradition of hosting national and international Physics Olympiads for middle- and high-school students began in 1967 among Eastern European nations, later expanding to other European and Asian countries. The United States introduced its own national physics competition for high school students in 1986, with the American Association of Physics Teachers and the American Institute of Physics sponsoring a U.S. team in the prestigious International Physics Olympiad ever since.

Until recently, a nationwide physics competition for U.S. middle-school students did not exist. This changed in 2021 when Physcira organized the Inaugural Middle School Physics Olympiad on April 29, attracting 1,012 participants from nearly every state. The event consisted of two challenging sessions, testing students' knowledge through curriculum-based physics problems.

- 2nd Olympiad: March 31, 2022
- 3rd Olympiad: March 9, 2023
- 4th Olympiad: March 28, 2024

On April 24, 2025, Physcira will host the 5th U.S. Physics Olympiad for Middle-School Students, further solidifying its role as a pioneer in physics education. Physcira has earned both national and international recognition for its innovative approach to physics education, including its widely successful Physics in a Box program, now used in schools nationwide. With a vision to elevate U.S. science education to world-class levels, Physcira continues to provide extensive support to educators and school leadership teams. Beyond rewarding excellence, the Olympiad aims to raise awareness about the critical need for physics education in middle and junior-high schools, provide valuable networking opportunities for science teachers, and encourage and prepare students for national and international competitions in high school.



Event Details

The 5th U.S. Physics Olympiad for Middle-School Students is a one-day virtual competition. Students will tackle problems in mechanics, optics, and electricity & magnetism, demonstrating their understanding and analytical skills. Competition Structure:

Morning Round: 25 multiple-choice questions (90 minutes)

• Questions will be sent electronically to the coaches of registered participants at 8:00 AM local time on April 24, 2025.

• Coaches are responsible for supervising students, scanning responses, and submitting them by 12:00 PM (local time) for evaluation.

Afternoon Round: 6 open-response, pre-algebra-based physics problems (90 minutes)

• The session begins at 1:00 PM local time, with all responses due by 5:00 PM local time.

The competition will be overseen and judged by a distinguished panel of internationally renowned scientists and educators, led by Dr. Anatoliy Glushchenko, Professor and Chair of the Physics Department at the University of Colorado.

Results will be announced on May 8, 2025.

All participants will receive certificates recognizing their academic excellence and participation in this prestigious event.

Top performers will be awarded special certificates, ideally presented during school-wide award ceremonies.



physcira.com/olympiad-application

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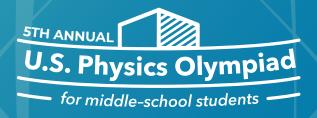
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Start Application

Frequently Asked Questions

Note: If you are applying for a student(s) and are not the parent/guardian, prior consent from the prospective participant(s) and their parent(s)/guardian(s) should be obtained and kept for your records.



Questions?

We are happy to answer your questions or provide additional details. Please contact us at: **Olympiad@physcira.com**.

We look forward to receiving your application and seeing you at what is sure to be an exciting event!

The Physcira Team