

Home School Policy - adopted May 2007

For Science Olympiad competitions in Washington State, home school students are defined as students who meet the following criteria:

- filed an intent to home school with their school district
- taking up to two courses at a public or private school, college or university. A course is defined as up to 5 hours each week.

At the time of registration, a home school team must submit in writing a list of team members and any courses taken at other educational institutions signed by the school principal, or college/university official. Prior to the regional and state competitions this list will be verified by the State Director.

Science Olympiad is a team activity, not an individual one, so a child must be a member of only one team. A team consists of up to 15 children. At this time participation is only extended for Division B (grades 6-9) and Division C (grades 9-12).

Since there is no official method to determine what grade a home-school child is in, we have established that a child's equivalent grade will be determined by their birth date. Hence, a child who will be eleven years old on September 1, will be considered to be a sixth grader and so forth and so on. This calendar age will be used to determine eligibility for Division B or Division C. A child may compete with a higher division team than their age indicates, but not a lower one. For example, a tenth grader can only compete in Division C while a fifth grader could compete in Division B (or even C).

A home-school student may compete on a public school team if that home-schooled student is within the geographical boundaries for that school, and isn't a member of a home-school team.

It is also required that home-school teams meet on a regular basis for academics other than Science Olympiad.