



RIVERSIDE COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION

EDWIN GOMEZ, Ed.D. | County Superintendent of Schools

Student ACADEMIC EVENTS

2026–2027

OUR PLEDGE

Every student in Riverside County
will graduate from high school academically
and socially prepared for college, the workforce,
and civic responsibility.



RIVERSIDE COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION | **STUDENT ACADEMIC EVENTS**



The Riverside County Office of Education organizes a number of countywide and regional events for students in grades 4 through 12 in all types of learning environments. These events give individual students and school teams the opportunity to participate in competitions and activities with other schools and students. The academic events are designed to support, encourage, recognize, and promote student learning.

Each of our academic events support teachers through program models supporting California state teaching standards and recognize outstanding student and/or team performances in subjects ranging from art and performance to math and science.

The Riverside County Office of Education student academic events are open for participation by any public school, school district, charter school, private, or parochial school located within the county of Riverside. Independent home-schooled students may participate through the public school the student would normally attend, with approval of the school.

For additional information regarding the events, please contact:
Yadira Chavelas | (951) 826-6570 | ychavelas@rcoe.us

RIVERSIDE COUNTY **ACADEMIC DECATHLON**



Academic Decathlon is an academic competition for students in grades 9 through 12. Students compete as team members in a series of academic tests and demonstrations. Each team consists of three “A” (Honor), three “B” (Scholastic), and three “C” or below (Varsity) students. Awards are presented to the top teams as well as the top individual students in each event.



Academic Decathlon is, like its ancient Greek counterpart, a 10-event contest. Participants demonstrate their academic strength by completing seven objective tests, writing an essay, delivering a prepared and an impromptu speech, and participating in an interview. The exciting Super Quiz is a team event held before a live audience.



Within Riverside County, the champion of the county event advances to the California Academic Decathlon. The California Academic Decathlon winner advances to the United States Academic Decathlon competition.

Registration fee: \$725 per team*

Teams must also provide a minimum number of judges or be subject to a surcharge.



**High schools may participate with more than one team.*

Registration forms and additional information available at:
www.rcoe.us/student-events/academic-decathlon

RIVERSIDE COUNTY **ACADEMIC DECATHLON** | **IMPORTANT DATES**

MONDAY, AUGUST 17, 2026

Program Launch – Coordinator Packet Available

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2026

Intent to Participate Form Deadline

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2026

Team Registration Materials Deadline
Includes Team List, Student Participation Forms, and Volunteer Information

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13, 2027

Riverside County Academic Decathlon Competition
Essay | Remote

SATURDAY, JANUARY 23, 2027

Riverside County Academic Decathlon Competition
Objective Tests | Remote

SATURDAY, JANUARY 30, 2027

Riverside County Academic Decathlon Competition
Speech & Interview | 8:00 a.m.
Super Quiz | 1:00 p.m.
Awards Ceremony | 4:00 p.m.
Riverside County Office of Education Conference Center
4280 Brockton Avenue, Riverside, CA 92501

**THURSDAY–SATURDAY,
MARCH 18–20, 2027**

California Academic Decathlon State Competition
Santa Clara, CA

**THURSDAY–SATURDAY,
APRIL 29–MAY 1, 2027**

United States Academic Decathlon Competition
Bloomington, MN

RIVERSIDE COUNTY **MOCK TRIAL**



The Mock Trial competition is designed for students in grades 9 through 12. Mock Trial simulates a criminal trial, with students trying the case as members of the defense and prosecution teams. Through performance-based education, the program furthers an understanding of both the content and processes of our legal system; increases basic skills, analytical ability and self-confidence; and promotes cooperation among students of various cultures and interests.

Within Riverside County, the champion of the county event advances to the California Mock Trial Finals. The California Mock Trial winner advances to the National High School Mock Trial Championship.

Registration fee: \$800 per team*

**Participation is limited to one team per high school.
(A wild card second team may be selected if odd number of teams participating.)*



Registration forms and additional information available at:
www.rcoe.us/student-events/mock-trial

RIVERSIDE COUNTY **MOCK TRIAL** | **IMPORTANT DATES**

MONDAY, AUGUST 17, 2026	Program Launch – Coordinator Packet Available
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2026	Intent to Participate Form Deadline
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2026	Team Registration Materials Deadline Includes: Team List and Student Participation Forms
THURSDAY, JANUARY 21, 2027	Riverside County Mock Trial Competition, Round 1 6:00 p.m. Riverside Hall of Justice, 4100 Main Street, Riverside, CA 92501 Southwest Justice Center, 30755-D Auld Road, Murrieta, CA 92563 Larson Justice Center, 46-200 Oasis Street, Indio, CA 92201
TUESDAY, JANUARY 26, 2027	Riverside County Mock Trial Competition, Round 2 6:00 p.m. Riverside Hall of Justice, 4100 Main Street, Riverside, CA 92501
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2027	Riverside County Mock Trial Competition, Round 3 6:00 p.m. Riverside Hall of Justice, 4100 Main Street, Riverside, CA 92501
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2027	Riverside County Mock Trial Competition, Round 4 9:00 a.m. Riverside Hall of Justice, 4100 Main Street, Riverside, CA 92501 Awards Ceremony 2:30 p.m. Riverside County Office of Education Conference Center, 4280 Brockton Avenue, Riverside, CA 92501
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2027	Riverside County Mock Trial Competition, Round 5 (Elite Eight) 6:00 p.m. Riverside Hall of Justice, 4100 Main Street, Riverside, CA 92501
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2027	Riverside County Mock Trial Competition Round 6 (Semi-Finals) 6:00 p.m. Riverside Historic Courthouse, 4050 Main Street, Riverside, CA 92501
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2027	Riverside County Mock Trial Competition Round 7 (Finals) 6:00 p.m. Riverside Historic Courthouse, 4050 Main Street, Riverside, CA 92501
MARCH 2027	California Mock Trial Finals TBD
THURSDAY–SATURDAY, MAY 13–15, 2027	National High School Mock Trial Championship St. Louis, MO

RIVERSIDE COUNTY SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING FAIR



The Science and Engineering Fair is a competition of science and engineering projects designed, developed, and displayed by students in grades 4 through 12.

Participants share their creative abilities, knowledge, and interests with other students. Experienced judges critique the projects for qualities including scientific method, content, clarity of presentation, and originality. The Riverside County Science and Engineering Fair is affiliated with the International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF).

Within Riverside County, the competition begins at the school level, with winners advancing to an affiliate fair competition, then to the county level. Riverside County winners advance to the California State Science and Engineering Fair. Select participants may also advance to the ISEF competition and the Thermo Fisher Scientific Junior Innovators Challenge competition.

Registration fee: \$55 per student*

**Participation based on allocations provided to districts, charter schools, private, or parochial schools.*

Registration forms and additional information available at:
www.rcoe.us/student-events/science-engineering-fair

RIVERSIDE COUNTY **SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING FAIR** | **IMPORTANT DATES**

MONDAY, AUGUST 17, 2026

Program Launch – Coordinator Packet Available

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2026

Intent to Participate Form Deadline

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2027

Registration Materials Deadline
Includes District Summary Sheet and zFairs Account Creation

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2027

Projects Due in zFairs

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2027

Riverside County Science and Engineering Fair
Project Set-up and Judging | 7:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Riverside Convention Center, 3637 Fifth Street, Riverside, CA 92501

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2027

Riverside County Science and Engineering Fair
Public Viewing | 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Awards Ceremony | 12:00 p.m.
Riverside Convention Center, 3637 Fifth Street, Riverside, CA 92501

TBD

California Science and Engineering Fair
TBD

SATURDAY–FRIDAY, MAY 8–14, 2027

International Science and Engineering Fair
Los Angeles, CA

RIVERSIDE COUNTY HISTORY DAY



National History Day (NHD) is a year-long educational program in which students in grades 4 through 12 become historians.

After selecting a historical topic that relates to an annual theme, students conduct extensive research by using libraries, archives, museums, and oral history interviews. They analyze and interpret their findings, draw conclusions about the significance of their topics in history, and create final projects to present their work. These projects can be used at the school site for rich project-based learning experiences and/or entered into a series of competitions from the local to the national level, where they are evaluated by professional historians and educators.

Within Riverside County, the competition begins at the school level, with winners advancing to a district competition, then to the county level. Riverside County winners advance to NHD-CA State Finals, and state winners then advance to the National HD Contest in Maryland.

Registration fee: \$55 per student*

Districts must also provide a designated number of judges based on the entries submitted, or be subject to a surcharge.

**Limit of three entries in each category at the district, charter school, private, or parochial school level.*

Registration forms and additional information available at:
www.rcoe.us/student-events/history-day

RIVERSIDE COUNTY **HISTORY DAY | IMPORTANT DATES**

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2026

Riverside County History Day District Coordinators Orientation

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2026

Intent to Participate Form Deadline

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2027

Registration Materials Deadline

Includes District Summary Sheet, zFairs Account Creation, and Volunteer Information

MONDAY, MARCH 1, 2027

Projects Due in zFairs

Includes Written Materials for All Categories and Projects in the Following Categories:
Documentaries, Podcasts, & Websites

SATURDAY, MARCH 13, 2027

Riverside County History Day Competition

Judging and Interviews | 8:00 a.m.

Awards Ceremony | 4:00 p.m.

Canyon Springs High School, 23100 Cougar Canyon Road, Moreno Valley, CA 92557

FRIDAY-SUNDAY, MAY 7-9, 2027

National History Day - California State Contest

Sacramento State University

SUNDAY-THURSDAY, JUNE 13-17, 2027

National History Day Contest

University of Maryland, College Park

RIVERSIDE COUNTY REGIONAL **SPELLING BEE**



The Spelling Bee competition is for students in grades 4 through 8. The Bee helps students improve their spelling, increase their vocabularies, learn concepts, and develop correct English usage.

Students study the correct spelling of words from prepared study lists and participate in “round” competition in which contestants are eliminated as they misspell a word. Students prepare for the county Spelling Bee using materials provided by Scripps through required school enrollment.

Within Riverside County, the competition begins at the school level, with winners advancing to a district competition, then to the county level. The top speller in the county Spelling Bee advances to the Scripps National Spelling Bee.

Registration fee: \$275 per district*

**Limit of two participants, one winner and one alternate, from each district, charter school, private, or parochial school level.*

Registration forms and additional information available at:
www.rcoe.us/student-events/spelling-bee

RIVERSIDE COUNTY REGIONAL **SPELLING BEE** | **IMPORTANT DATES**

TUESDAY, AUGUST 18, 2026 Scripps Enrollment Period Opens**

****All spellers in the Riverside County Spelling Bee must be from a school that has enrolled and paid the enrollment fee to Scripps by January 29, 2027. Independent home-schooled students must also enroll in Scripps by January 29, 2027 to participate within their local public school, with approval of the school. To enroll, visit www.spellingbee.com during the enrollment period.**

MONDAY, AUGUST 17, 2026 Program Launch – Coordinator Packet Available

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2026 Intent to Participate Form Deadline

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2027 All District and/or Private, Parochial, or Charter School Spelling Bees to Be Completed by This Date

FRIDAY, MARCH 5, 2027 Registration Materials Deadline
Includes District Registration Form and Student Participation Forms

THURSDAY, MARCH 25, 2027 Riverside County Regional Spelling Bee Competition | 9:00 a.m.
Riverside County Office of Education Conference Center
4280 Brockton Avenue, Riverside, CA 92501

**MONDAY–FRIDAY,
MAY 31–JUNE 4, 2027** Scripps National Spelling Bee
University of Maryland, College Park

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RIVERSIDE COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Edwin Gomez, Ed.D.



www.rcoe.us/student-events

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