



**RIVERSIDE COUNTY
OFFICE OF EDUCATION**

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


Student
ACADEMIC EVENTS

2025/2026

OUR PLEDGE

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





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: \$675 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 18, 2025

Program Launch – Coordinator Packet Available

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2025

Team Registration Deadline
Includes: transcripts, team registration, and volunteer information

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2026

Riverside County Academic Decathlon Competition
Essay | Remote

SATURDAY, JANUARY 24, 2026

Riverside County Academic Decathlon Competition
Objective Tests | Remote

SATURDAY, JANUARY 31, 2026

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

FRIDAY–SUNDAY, MARCH 20–22, 2026

California Academic Decathlon State Competition
Santa Clara, CA

THURSDAY–SATURDAY, APRIL 23–25, 2026

United States Academic Decathlon Competition
Garden Grove, CA

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: \$750 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 18, 2025

Program Launch – Coordinator Packet Available

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2025

Team Registration Materials Deadline
Includes: Team List and Student Participation Forms

THURSDAY, JANUARY 22, 2026

Riverside County Mock Trial Competition, Round 1 | 6:00 p.m.
Riverside Hall of Justice, 4100 Main Street, Riverside
Southwest Justice Center, 30755-D Auld Road, Murrieta
Larson Justice Center, 46-200 Oasis Street, Indio

TUESDAY, JANUARY 27, 2026

Riverside County Mock Trial Competition, Round 2 | 6:00 p.m.
Riverside Hall of Justice, 4100 Main Street, Riverside

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2026

Riverside County Mock Trial Competition, Round 3 | 6:00 p.m.
Riverside Hall of Justice, 4100 Main Street, Riverside

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2026

Riverside County Mock Trial Competition, Round 4 | 9:00 a.m.
Riverside Hall of Justice, 4100 Main Street, Riverside
Awards Ceremony | 2:30 p.m.
Riverside County Office of Education Conference Center, 4280 Brockton Avenue, Riverside

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2026

Riverside County Mock Trial Competition, Round 5 (Elite Eight) | 6:00 p.m.
Riverside Hall of Justice, 4100 Main Street, Riverside

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2026

Riverside County Mock Trial Competition | Round 6 (Semi-Finals) | 6:00 p.m.
Riverside Historic Courthouse, 4050 Main Street, Riverside

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2026

Riverside County Mock Trial Competition | Round 7 (Finals) | 6:00 p.m.
Riverside Historic Courthouse, 4050 Main Street, Riverside

MARCH 2026

California Mock Trial Finals
TBD

THURSDAY–SATURDAY, MAY 7–9, 2026

National High School Mock Trial Championship
Des Moines, Iowa

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: \$50 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 18, 2025

Program Launch – Coordinator Packet Available

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2026

Registration Materials Deadline
Includes: District Summary Sheet and zFair account creation

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2026

Projects due in zFairs

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2026

Riverside County Science and Engineering Fair
Project Set-up and Judging | 7:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Riverside Convention Center, 3637 Fifth Street, Riverside

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2026

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

TBD

California Science and Engineering Fair
TBD

SATURDAY–FRIDAY, MAY 9–15, 2026

International Science and Engineering Fair
Phoenix, Arizona

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: \$50 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 9, 2025

Riverside County History Day District Coordinators Orientation

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2026

Registration Deadline

Includes: District Summary Sheet, zFair account creation, and volunteer information

MONDAY, MARCH 2, 2026

Projects due in zFairs

SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 2026

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

FRIDAY–SUNDAY, MAY 1–3, 2026

National History Day - California State Contest

California State University, Sacramento

SUNDAY–THURSDAY, JUNE 14–18, 2026

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 Bee advances to the Scripps National Spelling Bee.

Registration fee: \$250 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**

AUGUST 19, 2025–JANUARY 30, 2026 Scripps Enrollment Period**

****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 30, 2026. Independent home-schooled students must also enroll in Scripps by January 30, 2026 to participate within their local public school, with approval of the school. To enroll, visit www.spellingbee.com during the enrollment period.**

MONDAY, AUGUST 18, 2025

Program Launch – Coordinator Packet Available

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2026

All district and/or private, parochial, or charter school Spelling Bees to be completed by this date

FRIDAY, MARCH 6, 2026

Registration Materials Deadline
Includes: District Registration Form and Student Participation Forms

THURSDAY, MARCH 26, 2026

Riverside County Regional Spelling Bee Competition | 9:00 a.m.
Riverside County Office of Education Conference Center, 4280 Brockton Avenue, Riverside

SUNDAY–FRIDAY, MAY 24–29, 2026

Scripps National Spelling Bee
Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center
National Harbor, Maryland

RIVERSIDE COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Edwin Gomez, Ed.D.



www.rcoe.us/student-events

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