

Dear Colleagues,

The District Committee would like to cordially invite you to attend the American Forensics Association - National Speech Tournament District IX Qualifier on Sunday, **March 3rd, 2024**.

This year the District IX Qualifier will be a virtual tournament. The tournament will be administered using [forensicstournament.net](https://forensicstournament.net), which is integrated with "8x8" video competition software. Coaches will need to include an email and phone number for each coach, student, and accompanying judge when they register so that students and judges can receive links to their rounds. Please examine information available at <https://forensicstournament.net/online> in order to familiarize yourself with the special requirements of virtual tournaments. And remember, you must cover your entry for the entire tournament.

AFA-NST District IX includes any college or university in Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, Utah, Wyoming, El Paso County, Texas, plus Montana State University, Billings, which offers an Associate of Arts degree and/or higher degree. Any college or university in this region is eligible for membership in AFA-NIET District IX, so all are very welcome to attend! **Registration closes on Wednesday, Feb. 28th at 2:00 PM MST**. All fees will be assessed at this time. Any drops or changes after this time will be charged a \$20 fee.

This invitation contains complete information about the tournament. If there is a question you don't find answered, please do not hesitate to contact me via your preferred medium. Let's qualify some students for nationals!

Best wishes,

Dr. Jillian Jaeger  
AFA-NST District IX Chair  
Head Speech and Debate Coach  
Colorado College  
[jjjaeger@coloradocollege.edu](mailto:jjjaeger@coloradocollege.edu)

**Eligibility:** Any regularly enrolled undergraduate in a two year or four-year college is eligible to participate. Eligibility standards for AFA will be enforced.

**Individual Events:** We will offer all eleven AFA-NST events at both tournaments in the following patterns:

Pattern A: Prose, Informative, POI, Extemporaneous, After Dinner Speaking

Pattern B: Impromptu, Duo, Persuasion, Drama, Communication Analysis, Poetry

### Patterns Breakdown at AFA-NST:

A: IMP, PRO, INF

B: Duo, POI, PER, EXT

C: CA, ADS, DI, POE

Individuals may not exceed a maximum entry of six events. Events are subject to the rules of the AFA National Individual Events Tournament. Finals will follow two preliminary rounds with a maximum of seven competitors advancing to finals. Semi-finals will occur in events where there are more than 36 entries. If placing for an event can be determined during preliminary rounds using AFA-NST guidelines of at least 3 judges evaluating 2 rounds, then we will proceed that way to expedite the tournament. Please note that we are not following the traditional AFA-NST patterns so plan accordingly. Complete event descriptions can be found on the official AFA-NST website: [AFA-NST \(google.com\)](https://www.google.com)

**At-Large Legs Records:** Please prepare your At-Large Legs records and documentation utilizing the [AFA-NST At-Large Reporting Form](#). Your legs records must be uploaded onto the google document and sent to Jillian Jaeger, District IX Chair, for evaluation no later than at Registration for the District IX Qualifying Tournament. Please note that complete leg packets should include the At-Large Reporting Form as well as information that can be used to verify the acquisition of legs (e.g. participating school lists for individual tournaments, final round tabulation sheets, etc.). If this information cannot be readily verified, legs may not be counted toward qualification.

**District Qualification:** Ten percent of participants in each event at the district tournament will advance to the AFA-NST, with the total rounded to the highest number. In all cases, a minimum of three will qualify in each event. **NOTE: Students who have already qualified in an event may NOT enter that event, but may enter others in which they have NOT qualified at-large.** If a student has earned one leg towards at-large qualifying, and that student earns a second leg at the district tournament, that student shall be certified through the at-large procedure, and all other students will be moved up accordingly for purposes of NST qualification, if tournament entries meet the standards for at-large qualification. Please review the current [AFA-NST Charter](#).

**Judging:** Each school is required to provide at least **1 judge per 6 IE entries**. If schools fail to do this, the tournament director may drop some of your entries.

**Fees:**

- AFA Fee: If you haven't paid your AFA district or nationals fees, they are due at registration (Fee is \$50). You can pay this via forensicstournament.net when you pay entry fees. Other accepted forms of payment: Check, Cash, Zelle, Venmo. Please contact Jillian Jaeger for information on how to pay if not using forensicstournament.net.
- Entries: \$10 for each individual event slot. \$15 will be charged for each uncovered entry in individual events. One judge covers 6 IE Entries. \*Note: Fees will be assessed as of 2PM (MST), Wednesday, February 28th, and schools will be expected to pay fees as indicated by their entry (at that time) regardless of subsequent deletions. Drops/adds after this time will be charged \$20 for each change.

**Registration: Please submit/edit changes to your entry by Wednesday, February 28th, by 5:00 pm MST. FORENSICTOURNMENT.NET is the preferred method of entry and payment.**

**SCHEDULE:** Sunday, March 3rd District IX Qualifier (ALL TIMES ARE MST)

8:00 AM REGISTRATION, check-in via Zoom

8:30 AM EXT Draw

9:00 AM RD 1A

10:15 AM EXT Draw

10:45 AM RD 2A

12:15 RD 1B

1:30 PM RD 2B

3:00 PM FINALS EXT Draw

3:30 FINALS A\*

4:30 FINALS B\*

\*If possible, finals will collapse into a single timeframe.

AWARDS to follow ASAP