



North Dakota State Spelling Bee

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Web Site: www.pembinacountynd.gov/statespellingbee

September 14, 2015

Dear County Superintendents / Designees / Coordinators:

It is time once again to get enrolled for the 2016 Spelling Bee. I look forward to the State Spelling Bee competition and I am anxious to find out who will be declared the State's **new** Champion and win a trip to compete at the 2016 Scripps National Spelling Bee in Washington DC.

The North Dakota State Spelling Bee will be held on **Monday, March 21, 2016**, at the Ramkota Hotel in Bismarck. We want all North Dakota students, **through grade 8**, to be eligible to compete in the State Spelling Bee so want to ensure you are aware of the Scripps National and NDACS State enrollment requirements and deadlines. It is critical that all schools in your county are notified of state and national requirements for participation in the State Spelling Bee. Please forward this information to all your county schools immediately so they can get registration fees approved in order to meet the enrollment deadlines.

Please note that vocabulary will be included in the written test portion of the 2016 State Bee.

Scripps incorporated vocabulary at the National Bee in 2013 and the State's goal is to align our competition with the National Bee. It is up to each County to determine whether or not they choose to incorporate vocabulary at the school or County levels of competition.

ONLY school buildings enrolled both with Scripps National Spelling Bee (SNSB) and the ND State Spelling Bee by the deadlines will be eligible to send students to the State Spelling Bee. We want to ensure that we don't have disappointed students and parents that find out after the County Bee that their school / student is not eligible to compete at the State Bee.

- Scripps National enrollment is open online now – go to <http://www.spellingbee.com/> to enroll. The Scripps fee is **\$136 per participating building** and **\$94 per home school** wishing to enroll separately from their school of residence. Although the Scripps site states that the early bird period ends October 15th, NDACS negotiated with Scripps to extend the early bird deadline. **Scripps enrollment must be completed online and paid by November 30, 2015.** After that date, Scripps will assess an additional **\$75 late fee** until the late enrollment period closes. Schools not enrolled with National are ineligible to send competitors to the State Bee.
- The State enrollment form can be printed and completed manually or by opening the link on the web site, you can enter the data into the table fields, save and print. The completed form should be mailed along with a check. The State fee is **\$50 per school** (or \$5 per student for schools with fewer than 15 students – maximum of \$50). **State enrollment and payment must be received by November 30, 2015.** After that date, NDACS will assess an additional **\$25 late fee** (or \$2.50 per student) until the late enrollment period closes.

Thank you for your cooperation, dedication and support for the continued success of the State Spelling Bee; and for disseminating information to your County's schools. Please feel free to contact me at the phone number and email address listed above if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Lorraine Weber
Spelling Bee Coordinator

North Dakota Association of County Superintendents