



2021 Challenge Bowl Rules & Procedures

Below is information about Challenge Bowl orientation, game scoring and policies. If you have any questions about the orientation or Challenge Bowl event, please email students@aapa.org.

Orientation and On-site requirements

The date and time of team orientation will be announced in April 2021. The on-site orientation and Challenge Bowl event will be held in the Philadelphia Convention Center, in Philadelphia, PA. Only the three team members attend the orientation. Alternates will not be allowed entry into the ballroom during orientation.

Team members are expected to eat dinner or a snack prior to coming to orientation and should not bring food or drink into the ballroom (water bottles are fine). Team members will remain in the team area until the doors open for the start of the Challenge Bowl.

At the time of orientation, the three team members will check-in using their Conference badge with AAPA Student Academy staff and volunteers. Team members will be directed to their assigned seats on the floor, where further information will be provided.

Round 1

Teams will be seated in the team area and will receive an assigned Audience Response System (ARS) keypad to answer 20 multiple choice questions. Questions are scored by a computer system based on how quickly the team answers correctly. Incorrect answers do not lose points. The highest-scoring 36 teams will advance to Round 2.

Round 2

Teams advancing to Round 2 will answer free response questions on a variety of topics on-stage using a buzzer. Teams will have 10 seconds to buzz in before a question is thrown out. Once a team buzzes in they have 10 seconds to answer. Not answering will be considered an incorrect answer. Teams can only buzz in once per question. If they answer a question incorrectly, they cannot buzz in again for the same question. A correct answer will receive 10 points. An incorrect answer will lose 10 points. The nine teams with the highest scores will advance to Round 3.

Round 3

The rules and scoring for Round 3 are the same as Round 2. The top three teams will advance to the Final Round.

Wild Card Round

Once the three teams for the Final Round have been determined, there is an opportunity for a fourth team to join the final round. Any team that is not part of the final round is eligible. Teams who wish to participate in the Wild Card Round need to stay in room until the Wild Card Round.

The Wild Card round will use the ARS keypads to answer 10 difficult multiple-choice questions. Scoring will work the same as in Round 1. The team with the highest score will join the other three teams on-stage for the Final Round.

Final Round

The rules and scoring for the final round are the same as Rounds 2 and 3. The top scoring team will be the 2021 AAPA National Medical Challenge Bowl Champion!

Student Academy Challenge Bowl Policies:

SA-P-300.1 National Medical Challenge Bowl Eligibility

SA-P-300.1.4

PA Programs are required to have an AOR representative or AOR alternate attend the AOR in its entirety.

SA-P-300.1.7

There is no registration fee, but team members must be registered attendees of the AAPA's annual conference and show their individual conference badge at the time of team registration.

SA-P-300.1.8

The decision of the judges is final.

SA-P-300.1.9

All questions in the National Medical Challenge Bowl are the property of SAAAPA and the AAPA. Duplication or recording of questions is strictly prohibited. Any PA student, faculty, or alumni caught recording questions in any fashion will have their school disqualified from the current year's challenge bowl. The school in question will then be ineligible for participation in the National Medical Challenge Bowl for three subsequent years.

SA-P-300.1.10

Abuse in any form of AAPA staff, Student Academy leadership, Challenge Bowl volunteers, AV staff, judges, or announcers will not be tolerated. Inappropriate behavior by students, faculty, alumni, program staff, parents, or other observers may result in the team's immediate disqualification. Inappropriate behavior may include but is not limited to: profanity, physical violence towards equipment or another person, aggressive behavior, refusal to follow instructions or rules, recording questions in any form, or disrupting the AOR or other student events.

SA-P-300.1.11

Final decision on team eligibility as outlined in the policy above will be enforced by the Student Academy Staff Advisor(s).