

Solo Math

LEVEL:	Grade 8
TYPE OF CONTEST:	Individual
COMPOSITION OF TEAM:	N/A
NUMBER OF STUDENTS:	Preliminary – As determined by your local MESA Center Regional – 3 Delegates per MESA Center
SPONSOR:	Enrique Guzman, MESA Coordinator, UC Santa Barbara MSP
OVERVIEW:	Students individually take a mock PSAT exam (PSAT 8/9) with multiple choice questions from the Math Test in order to better prepare them for the actual PSAT and SAT. Participation logistics, limits, and competition facilities may vary by host site. Advisors and students are responsible for verifying this information with their center director.

CATEGORIES:

For Regional Events Only:

- Delegates: A student who qualified to represent his/her Center in Solo Math
- At-Large: A student who is representing his/her Center in another event but did not qualify to advance as a Delegate in Solo Math.

MATERIALS:

The Host Center provides the following:

- Exam Booklet
- Scantron Answer Sheet
- #2 Pencil

The student provides the following:

- Calculator for the “Calculator Section” (acceptable calculators are described in General Rule #7)

GENERAL RULES:

- 1) The student’s full name, school name, grade and MESA Center must be filled out completely on the Scantron answer sheet. Scantrons that are illegible or not filled out correctly will not be scored.
- 2) All 8th grade students participating in the Regional Event must take the Solo Math exam and all 6th and 7th grade students must take the Team Math Quest exam.

- 3) Students take the exam individually. Books, mathematical tables, or other resource materials may not be used during the exam.
- 4) Students will be allowed **15 minutes for the “No Calculator Section”** and **35 minutes for the “Calculator Section”** to complete the exam. Tardy students will not be admitted.
- 5) No penalty will be given for wrong or blank answers.
- 6) No calculators are allowed for the “No Calculator Section.”
- 7) Only non-QWERTY calculators are permissible for the “Calculator Section” and must be supplied by the student. Calculators that have typewriter-like keyboards, require an electrical outlet, make noises, or use paper are not permitted. Additionally, devices with embedded calculator functions such as cell phones, iPods/iPads, laptops or tablet computers are strictly prohibited. If any of the devices mentioned are in the student’s possession on event day, they must be securely stowed away and turned completely off during the exam session.
- 8) At regional events, the Delegate competition is separate from the “At-Large” competition. Students may share testing areas, but scores are evaluated independently by category.
- 9) The Host Center provides each student with an exam booklet, Scantron answer sheet and #2 pencil.

JUDGING:

- 1) A student’s score is determined by the number of correct answers. No penalties will be given for incorrect responses or blanks.
- 2) In the event of a tie, the Host Center determines a winner with the tiebreaking procedure outlined in the Solo Math testing guidelines given to Host Centers. If a tie still exists after the procedure, then duplicate awards will be given.

AWARDS:

- Center Preliminaries: Medals will be awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place.
- Regional Events: Medals will be awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place per category (see “CATEGORIES” for definition of Delegate and At-Large)