

ONTARIO HIGH SCHOOL GERMAN CONTEST RULES AND REGULATIONS

These regulations were revised in 2016 in order to ensure fairness for all participants. We have introduced a new category which will allow heritage students an opportunity to participate. There have also been some changes made to other categories. Please read the rules and category descriptions carefully and respect them fully. Please read the notes following the category descriptions for strategies to avoid misplacement of students. For further clarification, please contact your Provincial Committee members.

A. ALL PARTICIPATING STUDENTS:

1. must be under the age of 21 as of May 1st of the year of the contest and must be enrolled in an Ontario high school during the current school year.
2. must not have lived for more than one year during the last six years prior to January 1st of the contest year in a German-speaking country.
3. must not have received more than one year of their formal education in German during the last six years prior to January 1st of the contest year.
4. must submit to the contest chairperson a student fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00), which will help to fund the following on the day of the contest: a light lunch, snacks and a prize bag.
5. must make application by the deadline

B. IN ORDER TO QUALIFY FOR A SPONSORED TRIP TO GERMANY, STUDENTS:

- a) must be at least 16 years of age on June 30th of the contest year.
- b) must not have won a sponsored trip to Germany before (previous winners may participate but will not be eligible for the top prize in Group B).
- c) must be competing in Group B.
- d) must clearly indicate on their Certificate of Eligibility and Application Form that they are able to participate in such a trip and possess a valid passport. **Please note that the winner of the flight cannot possess German citizenship.**

C. ALL PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS MUST SUBMIT TO THE CONTEST ORGANIZERS:

* for each school: a completed and signed Registration Form

*for each participant: an accurately completed Certificate of Eligibility and Application Form, in addition to the applicable fee.

IN ADDITION ALL PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS MUST:

*verify that each student is correctly placed in the appropriate category.

* send one Teacher Volunteer or designate (with a strong knowledge of German) to assist with marking, test proctoring and/or other duties during contest day.

D. CLARIFICATION OF CATEGORIES:

Participating students will be divided into four groups, which will be ranked separately.

Group A:

Students who: a) have had no academic experience with the German language outside of the current school year's course;

and b) are currently enrolled in or have **only** completed LWGAD or LWGBD (**Students currently enrolled in LWGCU should be placed in Group B**);

and c) have had **no travel opportunities** in a German-speaking environment **exceeding a total of 3 weeks (21 days) in the past 4 years**;

and d) have had no additional, significant exposure to the language through family, community or other enrichment opportunities.

Group B:

Students who: a) have had **1 to 4 academic years** (or equivalent) of German instruction **in any classroom setting at any time**;

and b) have had **no travel opportunities** in a German-speaking environment **exceeding a total of 3 weeks (21 days) in the past 4 years**;

and c) have had no additional exposure to the language through family, community or other enrichment opportunities.

Group C:

Students who: a) have had **1 to 4 academic years** (or equivalent) of German instruction **in any classroom setting at any time**;

and b) have lived for more than **3 weeks (21 days)** but not more than **4 months** in total during the **past 4 years** in a German-speaking environment;

or c) have had additional enrichment opportunities (e.g. exposure to the language through family, community or other enrichment opportunities).

Group D:

Students must be placed in this category if they meet any of the following criteria:

a) They have **lived for four months but less than one year** during the **last six years** prior to January 1st of the contest year in a German-speaking country or community;

b) They have received **not more than one year of their formal education** in a German-speaking country or community **during the last six years** prior to January 1st of the contest year;

c) They have had **more than 4 academic years (or equivalent) of German instruction** in any classroom setting at any time;

d) They have had **considerable** exposure to the language because of **extensive** contact with German-speaking family members and/or travel/stays in German-speaking countries or communities.

E. NOTES:

1. Teachers of participating students must ensure that applications are completed accurately and that students are placed in the appropriate category. In order to avoid disqualification of candidates, teachers are encouraged to investigate the degree of benefit students have derived from any additional exposure they have had to the language. This includes visits with relatives and any other travel or exchange programs. Teachers are encouraged to make contact with the student's home in order to ascertain the degree of language exposure if they are unsure. Please note that having a parent who teaches German or speaks German does not necessarily mean they must participate in Group D as the amount of exposure to the language may vary greatly.

2. The Committee reserves the right to request clarification of information provided from student participants, and the right to disqualify students if such information is found to be inaccurate. The Contest Chair, in consultation with the Committee, shall have the final decision regarding such matters.

3. Should questions about student eligibility arise, teachers should contact the Committee before submitting the student's form.

5. All participants are expected to remain at the contest venue for the duration of the day, including the closing ceremonies. Students must be present at the closing ceremonies in order to be awarded their prizes. If a student is absent their prize will be re-assigned to another participant. Teachers cannot accept major prizes for their students.