

Calculator/Testing Rules

Calculator usage at all levels of the Academic Challenge competition will follow the guidelines used in the ACT, SAT, and PARCC. As in past years, calculators are allowed on the **math, physics, and chemistry tests only**.

- Examinees must bring their own calculators and may not share calculators.
- Only one calculator per student is allowed.
- Each competitor is responsible for his/her own calculator.
- Testing site staff will not have extra batteries or calculators.
- An acceptable calculator includes any four-function, scientific, or graphing calculator, as long as it doesn't have any of the prohibited features (see **prohibited** list below).

The following calculators and types of calculators are prohibited:

- Calculators with built-in computer algebra systems. Calculators in this category include:
 - Texas Instruments: All model numbers that begin with TI-89 or TI-92, and the TI-Nspire CAS (the non-CAS TI-Nspire is permitted)
 - Hewlett-Packard: HP 48GII and all model numbers that begin with HP 40G, HP 49G, and HP 50G
 - Casio: Algebra fx 2.0, ClassPad 300 and ClassPad 330, and all model numbers that begin with CFX-9970G
- Handheld, tablet, or laptop computers, including PDAs
- Electronic writing pads or pen-input devices (Sharp EL 9600 is permitted)
- Calculators built into cell phones or other wireless/electronic communication devices
- Calculators with a typewriter keypad (QWERTY format)
- Calculators with paper tape and/or that make noise
- Calculators that can communicate wirelessly with other calculators
- Calculators that have power cords

Competitors will be dismissed from the test and their answer sheets not scored if they are found:

- Using unauthorized calculators
- Using the calculator's memory to store any test materials
- Using any device to share or exchange information at any time during the tests or during break (All electronic devices, including cellular phones and pagers, must be turned off from the time the competitor is admitted to test until dismissed after testing concludes.)
- Removing any part of a test book or any notes relating to the test from the test room
- Creating a disturbance or allowing an alarm, pager, or phone to sound in the testing room