



2016 STEM COMPETITION FAQ

WHAT ARE TAME’S STEM COMPETITIONS ALL ABOUT?

Every year, TAME brings together students to compete and celebrate achievement in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM). During a STEM Competition, students participate in both a math and a science test, and then team up to solve real-world engineering problems in a timed Engineering Design Challenge.

Chapters across the state host Divisional STEM Competitions in winter. Out of those participants, 300 high achieving students from Divisionals will be eligible to receive an invitation to the State STEM Competition in spring. The 2016 State STEM Competition is scheduled for April 30 in San Antonio. Formerly known as Math and Science Competitions, these events are a great way for students to show off their skills, make new friends, and explore their future.

HOW MUCH DOES IT COST? WHO CAN COMPETE?

There is no fee to sign up or compete in any of these events. To participate in a STEM Competition, you must be in grades 6-12 and an active member of a registered TAME Club.

HOW DO I SIGN UP MY STUDENTS?

If you are new to TAME: Our Clubs are free and require only four students, an Adult Sponsor, and regular meetings about STEM in person. Annual Club Registration is [here](#).

If you have a TAME Club: To sign up for Competition, students submit a Student Info and Release Form to the Adult Sponsor of the TAME Club to be considered an active member.

By December 9th, the Adult Sponsor must do three things:

1. Complete the Annual Club Registration (click [here](#) for link)
2. Submit Student Info and Release Forms (download PDF [here](#))
3. Email programs@tame.org with a list of students who will be attending the Divisional Competition

WHEN ARE THE COMPETITIONS? WHAT ARE THE DEADLINES?

These are important dates for the 2016 Divisional STEM Competitions, current as of October 13, 2015. For more up-to-date information for different Chapters, please visit the [Chapter Team](#) page of TAME’s website.

December 9th is the deadline to register a TAME Club, submit Student Info and Release Forms, and turn in your list of students who will be attending Divisionals.

Abilene	to be determined	Lubbock	January 23 (tentative)
Amarillo	to be determined	Odessa	February 6
Capital Area	February 6	San Angelo	to be determined
Dallas	February 6	San Antonio	to be determined
Fort Worth	to be determined	Wichita Falls	January 23
GC-TAME	to be determined	Valley	to be determined
GT-TAME	to be determined	STATE	April 30

HOW DO I PREPARE MY STUDENTS TO COMPETE?

Practice with your Club! We’ve collected over 200 [engineering activities](#) on Pinterest to spark creativity. TAME’s Blog features monthly [Engineering Adventures](#) for Middle School and High School. We also recommend that students test their skills with TAME’s [practice tests](#).

Teachers can find strategies to help with our article [Compete Like A Scientist: How to Talk to Your Students About Winning and Losing](#). You will also find an [infographic of teaching hacks](#) that emphasize a growth mindset—such as isolating variables, praising effort, and treating competitions like experiments. Remember, the goal of the competitions isn’t necessarily to win. It’s to inspire students to pursue STEM.