



2021 Virtual UWindsor Science Olympiad

General Overview:

The 2021 Virtual UWindsor Science Olympiad will span a two-week period between October 18th – 29th. Within the two weeks, there will be an introductory session, 5 challenges and a closing ceremony, **which are all held after school**. The challenges will be engaging, collaborative, and related to the following UWindsor science departments:

- Biomedical Sciences
- Chemistry and Biochemistry
- Computer Science
- Environment
- Economics
- Forensics
- Integrative Biology
- Mathematics & Statistics
- Physics

The members of the winning team for each individual challenge will receive a medal (to be mailed after the event). In addition, the members of the top 3 overall scoring teams will win a scholarship to a UWindsor Science program. More information about the scholarships is provided in the guide below.

Before registering, please read the following document **fully** as it provides essential information.

Science Olympiad Guide:

1) Registration and Team Formation

- In previous years, teachers from each high school would place students into teams of six. This year, since the event runs after school, students are required to make their own team.
- Since we can't provide lunch and t-shirts this year, team registration is FREE.
- Each team may have 4 to 6 grade 11 and/or 12 students from the **same** high school.
- Every participant is expected to have access to a laptop/desktop computer with internet access. Audio and video capabilities are strongly recommended for collaborating with your team members.
- To register, **only** one student per team needs to fill out the registration form for the entire team. **Make sure to double check all your information before registering.**
- All team information must be submitted at the same time – you can't hold a spot without submitting full details.
- There is no limit to how many teams can be registered from the same high school.
- Registration will be on a first-come, first-served basis as we have a limited number of spots. We will close registration once we reach our cap, or once the deadline passes, whichever happens first. We recommend registering early!
- Deadline to register is **October 8th, 2021, at 6 pm.**
- A confirmation email will be sent to the registered teams before **October 13th, 2021, at 11:59 pm.**



- k. Once a team has been registered, **there can be no replacements/additions of members**. If your team falls below 4 members, you will simply have to compete with fewer than 4 members.
- l. If the Qualtrics survey to register is closed, that means we have reached our limit of students. Please email scienceolympiad@uwindsor.ca to be added to our waiting list. If a team drops out before Olympiad begins, we will email teams on the waiting list in the order they have contacted us. If teams drop out after Olympiad has begun, we will not replace them.
- m. After registering, please check your email **daily** as that will be our main form of communication with you.

2) Schedule Overview: (also available on our website)

Date	Olympiad Schedule
Monday, October 18 th	<i>Opening Ceremony/Intro Session: 4:00 – 4:30 pm</i> <i>Challenge #1: Starts at 4:30 pm</i>
Tuesday, October 19 th	No Olympiad event
Wednesday, October 20 th	<i>Challenge #2: Starts at 4:00 pm</i>
Thursday, October 21 st	No Olympiad event
Friday, October 22 nd	<i>Challenge #3: Starts at 4:00 pm</i>
Monday, October 25 th	<i>Challenge #4: Starts at 4:00 pm</i>
Tuesday, October 26 th	No Olympiad event
Wednesday, October 27 th	<i>Challenge #5: Starts at 4:00 pm</i>
Thursday, October 28 th	No Olympiad event
Friday, October 29 th	<i>Closing Ceremony: 4:00 – 5:00 pm</i>

3) Opening Ceremony/Introductory Session

- a. A virtual Opening Ceremony and introductory session will be held on **Monday, October 18th, from 4:00 – 4:30 pm.**, through **Blackboard Collaborate** (invitation will be sent out to all participating teams in advance) before the first challenge is released. You will not be required to turn on your camera to participate in the introductory session.
- b. At the introductory session, participants will be able to learn more about the challenges, meet the UWindsor Science Olympiad organizing committee and ask any final questions.

4) Challenges

- a. There will be 5 challenges throughout the two weeks. **It is our expectation that this event is completely virtual, with no in-person meetings, and challenges are all designed for virtual collaboration.**
- b. Each challenge **may** use a different platform – for example, you may be sent a Qualtrics survey with questions that you must complete by the given deadline for that challenge. Others may be conducted over Blackboard. Participants will not need to download any software; guest links will be sent out. Every platform that will be required to use will be completely free for participants.



- c. You will be informed of the format and platform of each event (e.g. Qualtrics survey, Blackboard, emailed instructions) at least one week prior to the start of Science Olympiad. However, you will only receive specific instructions and scoring details for each challenge once it is released.
- d. The date and time of each challenge is displayed under the ‘Schedule Overview’ section in this guide as well as on the website.
- e. During the challenges, students are welcome to use any online resource. **However, teams must not get help from their friends (outside of their registered teammates), family or teachers. When you submit each challenge, we will ask you to sign to verify that you haven’t received outside help.**

5) Closing Ceremony

- a. A virtual closing ceremony will be held on **Friday, October 29th, from 4:00 – 5:00 pm** through **Blackboard Collaborate** (invitation will be sent out to all participating teams in advance). You will not be required to turn your camera on to participate. Winners will be announced during the closing ceremony.
- b. All participants will receive an e-certificate for completing the UWindsor Science Olympiad, to be emailed after the event.
- c. Each member of the team that comes in first place for each challenge will receive a medal, to be mailed to team members after the event.
- d. Team verification: Before we send out scholarship forms to the winners, we will be checking the names of the winners with the high school they listed. If any team info is incorrect or falsified (i.e. students do not all go to the same high school) the entire team will forfeit their scholarship.

6) Scoring/Ranking

- a. For scoring, teams will be ranked based on their performance in a specific challenge. The team who ranks first in each challenge will win medals. Then, teams will be given points associated to that specific rank, which contributes to a cumulative score. The 3 teams with the highest cumulative score will win the scholarships.
- b. Awards for top 3 teams overall: each member of each team will receive a scholarship toward a UWindsor Science program, in the following amounts¹:
1st place: \$1500 2nd place: \$1000 3rd place: \$500
- c. The Science Olympiad Committee **will not** be releasing the scores (i.e. the number of questions answered correctly) in each individual challenge to any participating teams.
- d. Rankings beyond the top three in each event will not be shared publicly. A survey will be provided to teams at the end of Science Olympiad where teams can indicate whether they would like to receive their own ranking results. More information will be provided during closing ceremonies.
- e. In the event of a tie, the Science Olympiad Committee has planned a tiebreaker event that will take place during the closing ceremonies. Therefore, it is a requirement for all members of each team to plan to attend the closing ceremonies.

¹ Scholarships will be applied to a student’s account once they register in an eligible UWindsor Science program. Scholarships have no cash value and are not transferable.



7) Technical Difficulties/Errors

- a. With any online event, there is always a chance of technical issues.
- b. We will correct any issues that arise throughout the event, **given** the error is ours.
- c. If a participating student has separate technical issues (i.e computer dies or internet disconnects) that affects their performance in the challenge, we will be unable to accommodate this student and their team. For example, if you join late, you will not be given extra time.
- d. We strongly encourage you to check your junk/spam folders if you are expecting an email from us but don't see one in your inbox. This happened in 2020 and is out of our control.

8) Communication

- a. Any questions about the event should be directed to scienceolympiad@uwindsor.ca. You can expect a response within **24h**.