



Eligibility and Deadlines

Who May Enter? The Spelling Bee is open to all 4th-8th grade public, private, parochial, home and charter school students in the 38-county Dallas region.* More than 700 schools participated at the classroom level in the 2008 Dallas Morning News Regional Spelling Bee.

The Dallas region is made up of 38 North and East Texas counties. They include: Anderson, Bowie, Camp, Cass, Cherokee, Collin, Cooke, Dallas, Delta, Denton, Ellis, Fannin, Franklin, Freestone, Grayson, Gregg, Harrison, Henderson, Hill, Hopkins, Hunt, Kaufman, Lamar, Limestone, Marion, Morris, Navarro, Panola, Rains, Red River, Rockwall, Rusk, Shelby, Smith, Titus, Upshur, Van Zandt and Wood. Each county may send one champion to the Regional Spelling Bee, except Dallas County, which may send two champions — one from the public schools and one from the private schools.

The regional champion will win an all-expense paid trip for two to Washington, D.C., to compete in the National Spelling Bee, along with many other exciting prizes.

Enrollment will take place at Scripps National website www.spellingbee.com, from August 15 through October 15, 2008. Scripps has incorporated an enrollment fee for each school involved at any level of the bee. This enrollment fee will cover all study guide costs. Please visit the Scripps website at www.spellingbee.com for more information.

Complete rules for The 51st Annual Dallas Morning News Regional Spelling Bee presented by The University of Texas at Dallas can be found online at www.dallasnewsspellingbee.com. For a complete listing of rules and eligibility requirements from Scripps National Spelling Bee, please visit www.spellingbee.com.

Please note the following deadlines:

October 15 Deadline to enroll your school with Scripps

January 30 Deadline for reporting School Champion** to your County Coordinator

February 27 Deadline for returning County Champion Form and Photo

March 21 The Dallas Morning News Regional Spelling Bee presented by Northern Trust

May 23-27 National Spelling Bee Week in Washington, D.C.

* *Eligible 4th-8th grade students include only those who have not reached their 15th birthday on or before September 1, 2008. Students must not have passed beyond the 8th grade on or before February 1, 2008. Students must attend a school enrolled to participate in the Regional Spelling Bee.*

** *Your county may require an additional district spelloff, in which your school champion may have to compete in additional levels to determine who will move on to the County Bee. You will be contacted directly by a district coordinator if this process affects your school.*