



Eligibility and Deadlines

Who May Enter? The Spelling Bee is open to all 4th-8th grade public, private, home and charter school students in the 38-county Dallas region.* More than 700 schools participated at the classroom level in the 2011 Dallas Morning News Regional Spelling Bee.

The Dallas region is made up of 38 North and East Texas counties. These counties 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 each from the public schools and private schools.

The regional champion will win an all-expense paid trip (plus airfare for two parents) to Washington, D.C., to compete in the National Spelling Bee.

Enrollment will take place at the Scripps National website www.spellingbee.com from August 16 through November 18, 2011. Scripps has incorporated an enrollment fee for each school involved at any level of the bee. Fee enrollment covers all study guide costs. Please visit the Scripps website at www.spellingbee.com for more information.

Complete rules for The 54th Annual Dallas Morning News Regional Spelling Bee can be found online at www.dallasnewsspellingbee.com. For a complete listing of rules and eligibility requirements from the Scripps National Spelling Bee, please visit www.spellingbee.com.

Please note the following deadlines:

November 18 Deadline to enroll your school with Scripps

January 20..... Deadline for reporting School Champion** to your County Coordinator

February 17..... Deadline for returning County Champion Form and photo

March 24..... The Dallas Morning News Regional Spelling Bee

May 27-June 1... 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 August 31, 2011. Students must not have passed beyond the 8th grade on or before February 1, 2012. 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.