

PAGE Georgia Academic Decathlon

EXPLANATION OF SCORING

1. The Academic Decathlon has ten events; each event is evenly weighted at 1000 points per competitor for a 10,000-point possible total. **However, only six scores are counted for the team ranking, (top two Honor, top two Scholastic and top two Varsity) so the top team score possible is 60,000.** Winning scores at the State Finals are usually in the 30,000-40,000 range.
2. At the Georgia State Competition, six of the objective tests have 50 items; the raw score is converted to 1000 points by the computer with each item worth 20 points. The math test has 35 items. The value of each item is also converted so that the total for math is 1000 points. The USAD National Competition tests may have a different number of questions.
3. The essay is scored based on a rubric. *(A copy of the rubric can be found in the ESSAY tabbed section of this manual. It is also published in the USAD Practice Test Booklet.)* Each essay is read independently by two different judges. If there is a difference of more than 200 points in the scores of the two judges, the essay is read and scored by the Essay Coordinator. The third score then replaces the divergent score. The two most closely aligned scores are averaged for the final score.
4. The Speech and Interview events are performed before a panel of judges (2-3 judges). The judges complete the scoring forms. (Either a Google form or paper rubric.) These are scanned directly into the computer scoring program, which then computes an average score based on a maximum of 1000 points.
5. Super Quiz is now a collaborative team event. All Varsity students will answer 13 questions in the first round, all Scholastic students will answer 13 questions in the second round, and all Honor students will answer 13 questions in the third round. Each question is worth one point.
6. Gold, silver and bronze medals are awarded in each event and for each student category. All individual ties are awarded. Only team awards are given for Super Quiz, no individual awards are earned. No ties will be allowed in Super Quiz – there is a tie-breaker system in place.
7. Team overall ranking is determined by the top two individual scores in each category, i.e. the top two Honor scores, the top two Scholastic scores and the top two Varsity scores.
8. In Super Quiz the team ranking is determined by the total number of points earned by each team.
9. A Winner's List is released following the presentation of awards which lists the gold, silver, and bronze medal winners in each event, the special awards, the top teams in the Super Quiz and the top teams in the Overall Standings. **Each coach receives a printout of his/her own team's scores. Georgia does not award all of the medals listed on this print-out.**
10. Each school participating in state competition will be assigned to either Division I (higher Round 2 scores) or Division II (lower Round 2 scores) based on the submitted Round 2 scores. Each division will have a championship team, a first runner up team, and a second runner up team. The championship team for each division will be deemed the state championship team in that division. The Division I or Division II team with the highest Overall score will represent the State of Georgia in the USAD national finals. The next highest scoring teams may also be invited to participate in USAD Nationals. The number of teams invited to Nationals may change from year to year.

SCORING TIPS for PAPER-BASED TESTING

ACCURATE SCORING IS DEPENDENT ON:

- Using an appropriate marking instrument.
(A #2 pencil gives the best results.)
- A clear mark.
(The mark should be dark, filling the space.)
- Erasures should be clean.
(Incomplete erasures are read as a mark.)
- Only one answer should be marked clearly.
Should two answers be marked for a question, the question is counted as incorrect and no credit is given for that question.
- Marks should fill the box.
Answers should never be marked by circling the correct letter, or drawing a square around it, or placing a check over it.
- Marks should be directly on the correct letter.
(Marks placed too high, too low, or too far to the right or left are not read by the scanner.)

**EVERY ANSWER SHEET MUST HAVE THE
“STUDENT IDENTIFICATION NUMBER” AND “NAME.”**

PAGE Georgia Academic Decathlon

DIVISION GROUPINGS

State Championship Team to USAD National Competition

DIVISION GROUPING

Beginning with the 2001 state competition, PAGE Georgia Academic Decathlon divided all participating schools into two divisions based on school enrollment. Beginning with the State Competition in 2025, teams were divided based on their Round 2 scores (score-based divisions). These two groups are known as **Division I (higher scores)** and **Division II (lower scores)**.

SELECTION of CHAMPIONSHIP TEAMS

Following the completion of all competitive events at state competition, a championship team in each division (Division I and Division II) will be identified. The championship team in each division will be determined as the one with the highest Overall score for all ten events. There is also a first runner-up and second runner-up in each Division. The two team members having the highest score in each student category (top two Honor, top two Scholastic, and top two Varsity) will be counted as the team's Overall score for all ten events. The team member having the lowest score in each category will not be counted in the team's Overall score.

ADVANCING TO NATIONAL COMPETITION The team with the highest Overall score will earn the right to represent Georgia at the USAD national competition. The next highest scoring teams will earn the right to represent Georgia at the USAD National Competition. The number of teams invited to participate in Nationals may vary from year to year.

All schools advancing to national competition are divided into divisions based on their state scores.

In addition, the highest scoring large, medium, and small sized school based on USAD school size regulations, will represent Georgia in the USAD online national competition which is held concurrently with the traditional USAD national competition. During the 2026-27 school year the online nationals may be undergoing a revision of how teams are selected/placed in divisions. Information will be shared as soon as it is available.

PAGE Georgia Academic Decathlon

WILD CARD INVITATIONAL

PAGE GAD instituted the Wild Card Invitational for the 1999-2000 school year. The rationale for the Wild Card Invitational is to increase the level of competition statewide as well as reward excellent achievement beyond the local level of competition. The PAGE GAD Advisory Board recommended that the four-to-eight highest scoring, non-winning local teams from across the state would be extended an invitation to the state competition. These four-to-eight teams would be invited to participate in the state competition at the same level as the district-level championship teams that have advanced to the state competition. Only these four-to-eight teams would be invited. If any one of them chooses not to participate, the invitation stops there.

Directions for calculating the scores at the district-level can be found on the following pages. These directions and score sheet reports must be the ones used for reporting scores of schools being considered for Wild Card slots. Only scores from the objective tests will be used to determine the standings in order to have an equal representation of performance among the contending teams.

Since there is a very tight turn-around before the deadline for registering for state competition, school districts must adhere to the deadline for submitting team scores. The State Director will initiate the invitation on the published date following the deadline for submitting team scores. Wild Card teams must adhere to the same registration deadlines for state competition as all other teams.

Teams and team members of the Wild Card teams are candidates for medals, awards, and trophies at the state competition just as all district winning teams and team members.

Directions for Calculating Scores for Georgia Academic Decathlon Wild Card Invitational

Overview: For each high school, Academic Decathlon involves a team of not less than 6 students: 2 Honor, 2 Scholastic, and 2 Varsity and no more than 9 students – 3 Honor, 3 Scholastic, and 3 Varsity. All students participate in all events. If your district is participating in the online Round 2 test, you do not have to “submit” your Wild Card scores, but you do need to let the State Director know which of your schools to consider.

A **student’s total score** is the sum of the **test scores**. Each **test score** is out of a possible 1000 points. Since many Georgia schools do not hold the subjective (communications) portion of the competition (speech, interview, and essay) at the district-level (Round 2 test), a **student’s total score** will be limited to the sum of the scores on only the written tests (Art, Economics, Literature, Math, Music, Science and Social Science) for purposes of determining state competition Wild-Card invitations.

The **team score** is the sum of the two highest **student total scores** in each division (Honor, Scholastic, Varsity). Therefore, it is possible to compete and win with only 6 students on the team as identified above.

The **average test score** for the team will be the **team score** divided by 6 (for the number of students), and again divided by 7 (for the number of written test areas). Since each test score is out of a possible 1000, the maximum student score is 7000, and the maximum team score is 42,000.

All scores are rounded to the nearest whole number, except for the **average test score**, which is to be carried out to one decimal place.

The top four to eight **non-winning teams** in the state (at their respective district competitions) will be offered an invitation to participate in the Wild Card slots at state competition.

How to calculate the test scores:

1. **Using the self-calculating spreadsheet** is the easiest method to obtain the Wild Card score. The official self-calculating spreadsheet **MUST** be submitted to the state office for consideration of your Wild Card scores. The bottom part of the spreadsheet (the colored part) is set up for you to enter the number of questions that the decathletes get correct on each test. **Record the number of correct questions** for a given test in the appropriate space on the colored part of the score sheet (bottom half of the sheet). When you enter the number of correct responses in the lower portion of the score sheet, the upper portion of the score sheet will automatically calculate and populate the scores.
2. **To calculate test scores by hand.** Divide the number of correct questions by the total number of questions for that test, and then multiply by 1000. For all tests except Math, the total number of questions is 50. The math test has 35 questions. Divide the number of correctly answered questions by the total number on the test, and then multiply by 1000. This will return a number equal to or less than 1000 and equal to or greater than 1. Record each test score in the appropriate space on the score sheet (top half of the sheet). Round to the nearest whole number, if necessary.

Directions for Calculating Scores for Georgia Academic Decathlon Wild Card Invitational *(continued)*

3. **Do Not Include Any Super Quiz, Essay, Interview or Speech Scores when you REPORT your wild card scores to the GAD State Director.** If your district includes any of the above in district competition, those scores **should be used to** determine your district champion and placement within your district. However, since some districts do not include anything but the seven objective tests in their competition, **ONLY OBJECTIVE TEST SCORES** should be submitted for Wild Card consideration. **This score removal is for reporting purposes only - District Champions and District Wild Card submissions should be determined prior to Super Quiz and subjective test score removal if your district competition includes them.**
4. **Calculate the student total score.** The self-calculating spreadsheet does this for you. This is automatically populated in the far left column on the top portion as you place numbers of correct responses in the bottom portion. This represents a simple total of each students test scores. The maximum here is 7000 points.
5. **Calculate the team score.** The self-calculating spreadsheet does this for you. It is automatically populated in the box labeled “Team Score” below the upper portion of the spreadsheet. This represents the sum of the top two student total scores in each of the categories. If you are calculating this by hand, record this number in the appropriate space.
6. **Calculate the average test score.** The self-calculating spreadsheet does this for you. It is automatically populated in the box labeled “Average Test Score.” If done by hand, take the team score and divide it by 6, then divide again by 7 (or you can just divide by 42 – same thing). Carry this calculation out to one decimal place, and record in the space provided at the bottom of the sheet. **This is the number that will be used for comparison with other teams to determine invitations to state competition.**

Example: John gets 41 right on the Social Science test, 18 correct on the Math test, 42 right on the Economics test, 44 correct in Music, 40 right on the Literature test, 37 correct on the Art test, 35 right on the Science test. His scores for each of the above areas are as follows:

Social Science: $41/50 \times 1000 = 820$

Math: $18/25 \times 1000 = 720$

Economics: $42/50 \times 1000 = 840$

Music: $44/50 \times 1000 = 880$

Literature: $40/50 \times 1000 = 800$

Art: $37/50 \times 1000 = 740$

Science: $35/40 \times 1000 = 875$

John's **total student score** is $820 + 720 + 840 + 880 + 800 + 740 + 875 = 4589$.

All of these calculations may be done manually or by using the self-calculating spreadsheet provided.

Directions for Calculating Scores for Georgia Academic Decathlon Wild Card Invitational *(continued)*

On the following pages are copies of a blank score sheet (page 69) and a sample score sheet (page 70). Please complete a score sheet for each team competing in your district competition and have each one signed by the appropriate officials. Send the completed sheets to the State Director by the deadline. (Electronic score sheets may be sent as email attachments to gad@pageinc.org.)

District winners are automatically invited to the state competition. Wild Card invitations will be sent to the top four to eight non-winning schools across the state. These score sheets will be used to determine the wild card schools. Score sheets **must** be received by the deadline date. Team score sheets not received by the deadline will not be considered for Wild Card invitations.

If your district is conducting Round 2 online testing you do not have to submit these sheets. But you DO need to let Michelle know which of your teams to consider for Wild Card bids.

If you have questions, please contact Michelle Crawford, State Director, PAGE Georgia Academic Decathlon.

**SUBMIT WILD CARD SCORE SHEETS by deadline listed on current calendar
to:**

Michelle Crawford
gad@pageinc.org

PAGE Georgia Academic Decathlon									
Team Name:									
	*	*	*	*	*	*	*		
Honor (A)	S.S.	Math	Econ	Music	Lit.	Art	Sci.		Totals
Scholastic (B)									
Varsity (C)									
								Team Score	
<i>Enter # of correct questions in the spaces provided below</i>									
# of test items	50	35	50	50	50	50	50		
Honor (A)									
Scholastic (B)									
Varsity (C)									

Average Test Score = _____

I certify that these scores are correct: _____

Official Scorer

Date

Local Coordinator

Date

PAGE Georgia Academic Decathlon

SAMPLE - Wild Card Application

Team Name:											
	S.S.	Math	Econ	Music	L&L	Art	Science			TOTALS	
Honors (A)											
John	820	514.3	840	880	800	740	700			4594.3	
George	840	542.9	760	820	700	640	640			4302.9	
Paul	760	400.0	700	700	760	740	680			4060.0	
Scholastic (B)											
Ringo	700	342.9	860	720	660	720	560			4002.9	
Regis	660	314.3	700	660	500	620	580			3454.3	
Moe	520	400.0	720	520	720	640	480			3520.0	
Varsity (C)											
Larry	500	371.4	520	740	760	660	440			3551.4	
Curly	520	342.9	540	520	440	520	480			2882.9	
Schemp	360	171.4	540	600	680	500	520			2851.4	
								Team Score		22,854.3	
Enter # of correct questions in the spaces provided below.											
Number of Test Questions:	S.S.	Math	Econ	Music	L&L	Art	Science				
	50	35	50	50	50	50	50				
Honors (A)											
John	41	18	42	44	40	37	35				
George	42	19	38	41	35	32	32				
Paul	38	14	35	35	38	37	34				
Scholastic (B)											
Ringo	35	12	43	36	33	36	28				
Regis	33	11	35	33	25	31	29				
moe	26	14	36	26	36	32	24				
Varsity (C)											
Larry	25	13	26	37	38	33	22				
Curly	26	12	27	26	22	26	24				
Schemp	18	6	27	30	34	25	26				
Average Test Score =	544.15										

I certify that these scores are correct:

Official Scorer

Date

Local Coordinator

Date