

2024 Integration Bee Official Rules

1. Competition is open to students at the undergraduate level or below who are enrolled at a Central Valley school (or home school) in the spring 2024 semester. Competition is limited to 100 participants. Slots will be filled in the order the registrations are received, with the following exception: competition organizers reserve the right to cap the number of participants from each school, if necessary, in order to maximize the number of schools participating. If a cap is put in place, students over the cap will be moved to a wait list. Registrants who do not arrive by 1:45 pm will be reclassified as walk-ins. At that time, any students present who are on a wait list will be seated for the competition on a space-available basis. Walk-ins (and/or late arrivals) will then be seated in the order of arrival on a space-available basis.
2. Competition will be held on Saturday, May 4, 2024 at 2:00 pm in room Science 2, Room 109.
3. All integrals in the competition will be indefinite or proper definite integrals of a single variable. Correctness will be determined by judges whose decisions are final.
 - (a) Only the final answer counts in the determination of correctness. Simplification is not required.
 - (b) Final answers may not be expressed in terms of other integrals.
 - (c) Definite integrals must be evaluated.
 - (d) Correct answers must include “ $+C$,” if appropriate.
 - (e) Absolute values, if required, must be present.
4. **Qualifying Round.** Before the regular rounds begin, there will be a qualifying round. (Qualifying round may be cancelled if the number of participants is low.) Participants
 - will sit separately from spectators, in designated seats at the front of the room, and will be provided with paper.
 - are not allowed to consult notes, books, calculators or other people at any time during the competition.
 - will be shown several integrals and must write the correct answers in the designated spots on the paper provided.
 - must put pencils down and raise their papers when time is called.

At the end of the qualifying round, there will be a break for refreshments, to give judges a chance to score the qualifying round. Judges will determine a cutoff score in order to qualify an optimal number of competitors. Typically, 15-25 participants will qualify; however, results vary from year to year. Judges' decisions are final. Students who advance to the regular rounds will be referred to in these rules as **contestants** or **competitors**.

5. The order in which competitors will compete for each regular round will be determined by random seating selection, to be determined at the end of the qualifying round. Contestants will sit in the order determined by the lottery. Participants who have been eliminated must sit with the other spectators.
6. Contestants are not allowed to consult notes, books, calculators or other people at any time during the competition. Contestants may not bring anything to the board on their turn except their free pass.

7. Contestants will each receive one **free pass** (“**pass**”) token or ticket.
 - (a) The pass may be redeemed during any regular or semifinal round. Passes are not valid during the Qualifying Round, Final Round, Run-Off Round, or Sudden Death.
 - (b) A contestant may redeem their pass on their turn in lieu of completing an integral. They will then be called to the board in the next group.
 - (c) The pass must be redeemed before time is called.
 - (d) One **turn** consists of one completed integral, correct or incorrect. A contestant’s turn ends when time is called and they do not redeem a pass.
8. **Regular Rounds (Rounds 1-4)**. In each **round**, contestants will be called to the white board at the front of the room in groups of three, until all contestants have had one turn. At the end of a round a group may consist of fewer than three competitors. Each group will be presented with a single integral. The contestants will have **2 minutes** to write the correct answer in their designated area on the board and box or circle it. Dry erase markers will be provided. When multiple contestants are at the board simultaneously, contestants will be separated by partitions. Contestants must stay close enough to the board that they cannot see their competitors’ work.

If four or more contestants remain at the end of Round 4, contestants will compete in one or more **Semifinal Rounds**.
9. **Semifinal Rounds**. Semifinal rounds will proceed as in Rounds 1-4, except that contestants will have **2¹/₂ minutes** to complete each integral.
10. For **Regular** and **Semifinal** Rounds, the following rules and procedures are in effect:
 - (a) Contestants must cap their pen when time is called. Marks made after time is called will not be evaluated.
 - (b) Contestants who evaluate their assigned integral successfully will proceed to the next round. Contestants who do not evaluate the integral correctly and do not elect to use their pass will be eliminated from the competition.
 - (c) Integrals will increase in difficulty with each round.
 - (d) In the event that all remaining contestants are eliminated in one round, the contestants for that round will be reinstated and the round repeated.
 - (e) If only one contestant remains at the end of a round, that contestant will be awarded First Prize, ending the Bee. Contestants eliminated in that round will be designated Runners-Up. The combined value of the Second and Third Place Prizes will be distributed as equally as possible to all runners-up.
 - (f) If two or three contestants remain, they will compete in the **Final Round**.
11. **Final Round**. All finalists will be called to the board. They will receive a series of five integrals. The time allowed for each integral is **3 minutes**.
 - (a) Each correct answer is worth 1 point. Each incorrect answer is worth 0 points. Passes are not allowed.
 - (b) The contestant with the highest score is the winner. The second highest score will receive the second place prize. The third highest will receive the third place prize.
 - (c) In the event of ties there will be a **run-off**.
12. **Run-off Rules**.

- (a) Only tied contestants will participate in the run-off.
 - (b) Run-off rounds will continue until all ties are broken. The first will proceed as in the Final Round, but with three integrals. If the tie is still unbroken, the next round will be “sudden death.” In **sudden death**, scores are updated after each integral. Sudden death rounds will continue until all ties are broken.
 - (c) If two finalists are tied for first place, the second place finalist (if applicable) will be awarded Third Prize. The winner of the run-off will receive First Prize and the other will receive Second Prize.
 - (d) If two finalists are tied for second place, the first place finalist will be awarded First Prize. The winner of the run-off will receive Second Prize, and the other will receive Third Prize.
13. Prizes are to be determined based on available funding. In addition to the overall First, Second, and Third Prizes, there will be awards for the top high school and top community college, based on the scores of up to the top three competitors from each school.
14. Rules are subject to change without notice and may be amended as needed per announcement before or at the Bee.