

CHEMICAL EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION



How To Get Started *Instructional Guide for Educators*

WHAT IS THE CHEMICAL EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION?

CHEMICAL
EDUCATIONAL
FOUNDATION

The Chemical Educational Foundation (CEF) is a non-profit organization dedicated to *fostering a greater understanding of the science and value of chemistry.*

CEF works with members of the chemical industry to provide communities with programs and publications that *promote science education and increase awareness of the presence and benefits of chemistry in our everyday lives.*

WHAT IS THE YBTC CHALLENGE?



The YBTC Challenge is an **educational** and **fun** academic competition designed to **engage** 5th-8th grade students in the science of chemistry.

WHY PARTICIPATE IN THE CHALLENGE?

The You Be The Chemist Challenge ...

- Exposes students to the fascinating world of chemistry as it applies to their everyday lives, allowing them to gain a greater appreciation of how chemistry and chemicals will continue to shape their world
- Encourages students to seek answers about the world around them and solve problems independently

... and for educators ...

The Challenge provides science-enrichment materials for 5th-8th grade classes in a form that challenges students to develop critical thinking skills, understand and apply scientific inquiry, and prepare for the Challenge!

WHY IS SCIENCE ENRICHMENT THROUGH THE CHALLENGE IMPORTANT?

According to the 2005 National Assessment of Educational Progress, 71% of 8th graders scored below “proficient” when tested in science.

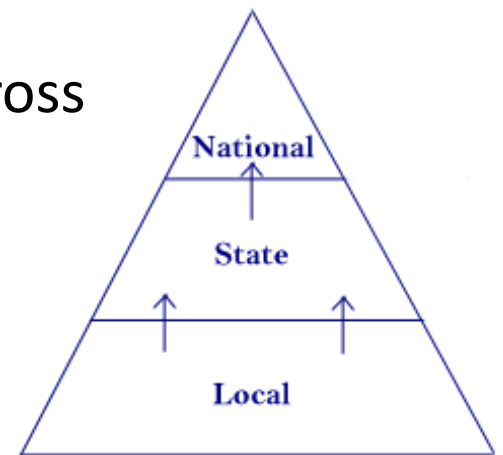
The Challenge can help to improve the level of basic science knowledge and understanding among 5th-8th grade students!

- Study guide material and competition questions comply with the National Science Education Standards and more!
- The competitive and rewarding dynamic of the event helps educators get kids excited about learning chemistry.
- The Challenge encourages parental participation in their child’s learning experience.

PROGRAM PROGRESSION

The Challenge progresses through three levels: local, state, and national.

Local Challenges take place in communities across the country. The winning students from those competitions advance to a **State Challenge**, with state winners advancing to the **National Challenge** organized by CEF.



Local and state competitions take place throughout the year, and the cycle ends with the national competition in June.

HOW TO GET STARTED

1. Visit our Web site at www.chemed.org/ybtc/challenge/ to learn more about the Challenge.
2. Use the Local Challenge listing on the Local Challenge page to determine whether or not there is a Challenge site established in your area.
 - a. If there is a Challenge site in your area, contact us, so we can help you connect with your Local Challenge organizer.
 - b. If a Challenge site has not been established in your area, complete the online registration form to create a new Local Challenge site. We will contact you once we receive your registration.
3. Contact us at 703/527-6223 or challenge@chemed.org with any questions. We're here to help!

FINDING AN INDUSTRY SPONSOR

If you are launching a new Local Challenge site, you will need to **connect with a local industry member** to sponsor your competition.

Remember to emphasize the *benefits* to industry:

- **Increasing awareness among youth** about the value of chemistry (and all science) in their lives
- **Fostering a greater interest in the sciences** among 5-8th grade students – our future leaders – and encouraging them to pursue careers in science

If you are not sure where to start, contact us. We will help you find industry members in your area.

IS YOUR COMMUNITY UP FOR THE CHALLENGE?

*The YBTC Challenge is an **easy, fun, and inexpensive** program that brings students, parents, educators, community organizations, and chemical industry members together to celebrate science.*



Your Local Challenge is organized based on what will **work best in your community**. Use the 2009-2010 Challenge Guidelines (posted on our Web site) to determine the best format for your area. Be sure to collaborate with educators, administrators, and chemical industry members when making your decision.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Need help getting started? Contact us!

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