



NMSDA State Speech & Debate Championship

When: February 26-28, 2026

Where: La Cueva High School, 7801 Wilshire Ave NE, Albuquerque, NM

Registration Deadline: February 20, 2026 at 5:00pm

Judge Entry Deadline: February 23, 2026 at 5:00pm

Entry Fees: \$10 per entry, \$20 for team events (CX, PF, DUO)

Registration will be online at nmstate.tabroom.com

Thursday rounds will be virtual via NSDA Campus. Friday and Saturday rounds will be held in person at La Cueva.

Judge Obligations

A \$200 judge bond will be required from each competing school to ensure judging obligations are met. This will be submitted in check form at registration along with other fees and will be returned to coaches at check-out if not forfeited due to missing a judging obligation. The bond will not be returned if a school misses a judging obligation. A \$15 fine will also be added for any subsequent rounds a judge misses.

Number of Debate Entries:	Judging obligations:	Number of Speech Entries:	Judging obligations:
1-3	1	1-6	1
4-6	2	7-12	2
7-9	3	13-18	3
10-12	4	19-24	4
13-16	5	25-30	5
17+	6	31+	6



Events Offered:

Humorous Interpretation
Dramatic Interpretation
Duo Interpretation
Program Oral Interpretation
Original Oratory
Informative Speaking
International Extemporaneous
United States Extemporaneous

Lincoln Douglas Debate (Novice and Varsity)

Public Forum (Novice & Varsity)

Policy (Novice & Varsity).

Maximum debate entries in one division per school: 6

Maximum speech entries per event per school: 4

**Students may enter in up to 2 speech events and 1 debate event. Students may not double-enter in IX and USX.*

***Divisions will be subject to collapse based on low entry numbers.*

School Eligibility:

A competing school must be a member of the NMSDA and the NMAA to compete at the State Tournament. A school must have paid its annual dues to the treasurer, Elise Matton, before the start of the state tournament to compete in the state tournament. A school must have completed the State 2026 Checklist sent out by the NMSDA. Please contact Atalie Nelson if you did not receive the checklist.

Student Eligibility:

An eligibility list (see NMAA non-athletic handbook) must be sent to the NMSDA President prior to the start of the state tournament as specified in the invitation. This list will include the name of each participating student, and an administrator will sign to affirm that all names on the list are academically eligible to participate.

**The NMAA eligibility form and the Coaches' Verification form need to be uploaded into Tabroom by February 20th at 5:00pm.*



Debate Topic Areas:

Public Forum

Resolved: The Federal Trade Commission should establish a federal regulatory framework for sports betting.

Lincoln-Douglas

Resolved: The possession of nuclear weapons is immoral.

Policy

Resolved: The United States federal government should significantly increase its exploration and/or development of the Arctic.

Extemp Topic Areas:

USX 1: US Foreign Relations

USX 2: Social Issues

USX 3: Economics

USX Finals: Constitutional Issues

IX 1: Europe

IX 2: Asia

IX 3: Africa and the Middle East

IX Finals: International Conflicts

***Cross Examination will be run in Extemporaneous Speaking events.*

Important Information:

- *Outrounds for both Speech and Debate are subject to change based on the number of entries for the tournament*
- *Please do not arrive on campus earlier than 3:50pm on Friday.*
- *The student lounge will be located in the cafeteria. The judges' lounge will be located in the library. Extemp prep will be in the lecture hall.*



Thursday, February 26 (Virtual)

4:00 pm	Debate Round 1
6:00 pm	Extemp Prep
6:30 pm	Speech Round 1
7:30 pm	Debate Round 2

Friday, February 27

4:30 pm	Extemp Prep
5:00 pm	Speech Round 2
6:00 pm	Debate Round 3
8:00 pm	Extemp Prep
8:30 pm	Speech Round 3

Saturday, February 28

8:00 am	Debate Round 4
10:00 am	Extemp Prep
10:30 am	Speech Semi Finals (if needed)/Finals
12:00 pm	Debate Quarter Finals (if needed)/Semi Finals
2:00 pm	Extemp Prep (if needed)
2:30 pm	Speech Finals (if needed)
3:30 pm	Debate Semi Finals/Finals
5:00 pm	Debate Finals
6:30 pm	Awards

