



Rocket City Math League

Inter-School Test Administering Letter

Virgil I. Grissom High School
Huntsville, Alabama
www.rocketcitymath.org
rcml@rocketcitymath.org

Math Coaches and Sponsors,

Thank you for participating in the 2017-2018 RCML competition sponsored by Mu Alpha Theta, National Math Honor Society. We hope that you find the information below useful as you prepare to administer the Inter-School Test. Please make as many copies of the tests and solutions as needed (note: solutions will not be provided until the testing window has ended). **The sections entitled “Test Information” and “Appeals” must be read aloud to the participating students before they begin testing.** The proctor should confirm that he is administering the appropriate level of the test, as outlined in the “Divisions” section below.

RCML Inter-School Test Schedule

Oct. 30 – Nov. 17	Inter-School CONTEST WINDOW
Nov. 24, 12:00 AM CST	Appeals deadline
Nov. 20	Last day to mail answer sheets to RCML. They must be postmarked by this date. (No exceptions will be made)

Divisions

Depending on the **grade levels** of the students testing, the school should compete in one of the following levels. Please note that contrary to the individual testing rounds, the math courses in which the students are enrolled are not considered for placement in the Inter-School Test:

- **If any members of the team are in grades 10 or above the team must compete in the Senior Division.**
- **If all of the members of the team are in grades 9 or below the team may choose to compete in either the Junior or Senior Divisions.**
- **No school may send in more than one answer sheet or compete in more than one division.**
- **No student may compete in more than one division or on more than one team.**

For those in mixed groups, please read the following regulations:

- Provide a complete list of the students’ schools that they attend regularly. If their regular school is participating in RCML, then they are not allowed to participate with the mixed group.
- If their regular school is not participating in RCML, then they can participate with the mixed group. Be sure to indicate on the answer sheet that the team is a mixture of students from different schools.

Test Information

In the Inter-School Round, an unlimited number of students from your school will collaborate on the test and will submit a **single** answer sheet for the entire team. Teams may strategize and divide questions as they wish, but only one answer sheet should be accepted by the sponsor, and no answers may be written on the answer sheet after time is called. Students must record all answers on the team’s official answer sheet in the appropriate boxes; no other answers will be graded. Please include the school name, school address, sponsor name, sponsor e-mail, grades in your school, and grades participating in the Inter-School on the answer sheet.

Each test will last 30 minutes and contains 15 questions of increasing difficulty. Please note that all questions are not worth the same number of points, and that the point values are designated at the end of each question. Warnings may be issued when 15, 5, and 1 minutes remain. Tests should be distributed face down to the students. The students may flip over the test and begin working when the proctor says to begin testing.

The only materials that may be used on the Inter-School Test are pencils and plain, unlined scratch paper. Calculators and other aids may NOT be used in this competition.

All answers must be marked in the answer boxes. All answers must be exact and written in simplest form. Fractions and radical expressions must be written in simplest form. All answers involving money must be written with the proper number of decimal points, unless otherwise specified. (e.g. \$23.50 must be written as 23.50; 23.5 will not be accepted). Dollar signs or units are not required in your answer. Answers containing fundamental constants such as “ π ”, “ e ”, or “ i ” must be left in terms of the constant, unless otherwise specified.

Results from the contest will be e-mailed to the team sponsor and posted on the RCML website, www.rocketcitymath.org, about four weeks after the end of the testing window. Practice tests and RCML updates can also be found on the RCML website.

GRADING

The tests should be collected at the end of the 30 minute testing period. The answer sheet must be mailed by November 20, 2017. **Do not grade the tests because the RCML staff will be hand-grading the Inter-school tests.** The number of points to be awarded to each problem is specified at the end of each question (either 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 points). An incorrect answer will receive zero points (there is no penalty for an incorrect answer), and no partial credit will be awarded. The maximum number of points attainable on each test is 35. **The winner of a tie will be chosen by grading the test backwards and awarding the higher place to the team that that does not miss a question first.** (e.g. If tied Teams A & B both answered #15 correctly, but team A missed #14 and team B answered it correctly, Team B will be awarded the higher place.) **If a team submits more than one answer sheet, neither answer sheet will be graded and the team will not receive a ranking for the Inter-School Test. For the answer sheet to be regarded as official and for us to be able to break ties accurately, each team is REQUIRED to mail the completed answer sheet to RCML by November 20. No exceptions will be made unless a prior extension has already been granted. Please mail answer sheets to:**

**Grissom High School
Attn: Cindy Rodgers, RCML Inter-School Test
1001 Haysland Rd.
Huntsville, AL 35802**

APPEALS

Any appeals regarding wording, answers, or solutions must be submitted to RCML (via rcml@rocketcitymath.org) by the appeals deadline, November 24. Appeals must include a full explanation and the proposed answer change. RCML staff will review the appeals and take appropriate actions. Decisions are made at the discretion of the RCML staff and are final.

AWARDS

Ten team awards will be given to the top scoring teams in each division. Awards will be mailed to the schools during May 2018. Please note that the results and awards for this round are completely independent of the other three individual testing rounds.

CHEATING

Cheating in any form or fashion will result in disqualification from RCML. Do not post RCML questions on websites or send tests via any electronic or non-electronic source until after the results have been posted. The links to download the tests must be kept strictly CONFIDENTIAL, and should not be shared with anyone. Solutions to each round should not be given to the students until the end of the two-week testing window. Participants may not discuss any test questions until the testing window has ended.

RCML AND WEBSITE

The RCML website address is www.rocketcitymath.org. The website contains all contest information distributed to the registered schools (except for the tests, which will be posted shortly after each round) as well as the latest contest updates.

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns about our competition or procedures, please visit our website or contact us at rcml@rocketcitymath.org.

Sincerely,

Matthew Desanctis, Alison Hu, Charis Harrison, and Patrick Gamble
RCML Directors

Rocket City Math League
www.rocketcitymath.org

Mu Alpha Theta
www.mualphatheta.org