

Alabama Council for Technology in Education (ACTE)
East Central Regional Fair

Dear East Central Region Fair Participant:

We are excited to announce that after 22 years of organizing and hosting the East Central ACTE Regional Fair here at Jacksonville State University, Applied Engineering has passed the torch to the School of Education. We are overjoyed to have the opportunity to serve you and continue their good work through hosting the ACTE technology competition here on the Jacksonville State University campus. Our region includes the counties of Calhoun, Chambers, Clay, Cleburne, Lee, Macon, Randolph, Russell, Talladega, and Tallapoosa.

This event will be held **Friday, March 17, 2017**. We are happy to be back in the **Pete Matthews Coliseum** this year, which is located at **775 Park Ave NW, Jacksonville**. This facility was a participant favorite two years ago, and we are thrilled to be able to return the competition to this venue.

The ACTE Regional Technology Fair is open to all students in the East Central Region in grades 3-12. There are five entry levels and a total of eight different competition categories. Awards will be given for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places in each category, along with honorable mentions in larger categories. At ACTE, we consider all students “winners” for having participated, and each will receive a Certificate of Participation. 1st and 2nd place winners are eligible for the state fair on the campus of AUM in Montgomery.

Please read the following information carefully and do not hesitate to contact us should you have further questions. We look forward to having you at the East Central ACTE Technology Competition on March 17!

All the best...

Brandy Russell

ACTE East Central Team

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LEVELS AND CATEGORIES:

LEVELS:

LEVEL I: Grades 3-4 LEVEL II: Grades 5-6 LEVEL III: Grades 7-8

LEVEL IV: Grades 9-10 LEVEL V: Grades 11-12

*A student can participate in a group project with students in other grade levels, but the group will be judged at the level of the highest grade participant.

CATEGORIES:

1. General Applications (Group and Individual)
2. Multimedia Projects (Group and Individual)
3. Web Site Creation (Group and Individual)
4. Video Production (Group and Individual)
5. Hardware Robotics (Group and Individual)
6. Computer Programming (Group and Individual)
7. Information Technology Test
8. Team Programming Challenge (Open to Levels III, IV, and V only)

Projects for each category must be unique and cannot be entered in more than one category. Projects that were entered in past years and won (1st, 2nd, or 3rd) at a regional fair are not eligible. Students may enter more than one category, but may have only one project per category. However, the same student may enter an individual project and be part of a group project within a single category, providing the projects are different either in content or composition. There is no limit to the number of categories a student may enter. Experience shows, however, that the more categories entered, the lower the quality of work. ACTE encourages students and teachers to select only their best work. Schools bringing large numbers of students are strongly encouraged to hold school-based fairs and select only their best, most representative work. Large numbers of projects in categories take an enormous amount of time to judge and force delays in processing awards. It should not be the intent of a school to dominate a category simply to win. **A school can enter a maximum of 3 individual and 3 group projects per category, per level.** *Please also see the attached ACTE Rules document for more information/rules.

REGISTRATION:

Registration for Students AND the School Summary Form:

<http://acteastcentral.weebly.com/register.html>

The ABSOLUTE DEADLINE for registration is Friday, March 3, 2017.

PAYMENT:

Checks should be made **payable to Jacksonville State University**. You may either mail your check (**\$15 per student; \$10 per teacher or adult chaperone**) to: Jacksonville State University, Office of Clinical Experiences, 700 Pelham Road North, Jacksonville, AL 36265 or bring it with you on the day of competition. **MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: JACKSONVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY and on the MEMO line add: ACTE TECHNOLOGY FAIR**

RULES AND SCORING:

Please make sure you read all the rules and review the scoring rubrics located on our website under the “Competition” tab: <http://acteeastcentral.weebly.com/>

NOTEBOOKS:

Each project requires an accompanying notebook. Please read “Notebook Requirements” located on our website under the “Competition” tab: <http://acteeastcentral.weebly.com/>

IT TEST:

Every student participating in the fair will take the IT Test. Questions are both vocabulary and concept oriented. Awards are given in the category and students will advance to the state level that place 1st or 2nd in their level competition.

PARTICIPANT IDENTIFICATION:

All participants and sponsors will be provided a sticker to wear indicating their name and school. This sticker should be worn at all times. A separate meal ticket will be provided for all paying attendees.

JUDGING PROCESS:

Each sponsor will receive a schedule with tentative times that their students’ projects will be judged. The schedule will be emailed to you the week of the competition. Please check the schedule carefully, and let us know immediately if any of your projects are left off the list or entered into the wrong category. Please make sure on competition day, that your student(s) are ready, with their binder, a few minutes before their scheduled time in case the judges are running ahead of schedule.

Each project will be judged by two judges working as a team. However, judges will submit separate scores. The students(s) have approximately 10 minutes to present their

project to both judges at the same time, including the judges reviewing the notebook and asking questions. Students are responsible for presenting the project and project notebook. Students should be prepared to share their information with the judges and discuss what they have learned. After the project has been judged, student(s) will return to the bleachers and are free to leave the area with sponsors or parents with the permission of the sponsor.

In the event there are a large number of projects in a category, it may become necessary to split the category and have separate judges. If this happens, students may be asked for a second look by another judge. You will be notified on competition day if this applies to any of your students.

WAITING:

Students who are not being judged are asked to remain in the bleacher area. There they may talk with friends or have devices that do not require Wi-Fi. Parents are encouraged to wait there with them, but are not allowed to come to the tables when they are being judged. Students must be under the general supervision of an adult at all times throughout the day. Students are not allowed to be at the tables while judging is going on unless they are being judged.

INTERNET:

THIS IS VERY IMPORTANT AND CANNOT BE STRESSED ENOUGH. WE WILL SEND MANY, MANY REMINDERS ABOUT THIS. Our IT department comes over every year and sets up extra wireless access spots for us. There are PLENTY of Wi-Fi spots for our participant's projects. The reason we struggle EVERY year with Wi-Fi is because anyone that has a device with Wi-Fi turned ON and walks into the Coliseum, grabs hold of one of the access spots. Even if you don't have the password to enter and you don't get logged in, your device is trying and is "holding" one of those spots. Every device must turn OFF their Wi-Fi BEFORE entering campus. If everyone will do this, our Wi-Fi will run smoothly. You can't wait until you get here to remember. It has to be done BEFORE you arrive on campus. Please make the announcement on the bus to your students. They will need to bring other means of entertainment for the day—not a device that depends on Wi-Fi. **All projects must be backed up on your device's hard drive so that it is available and functional with or without Internet just in case we have Wi-Fi issues.**

SCHEDULE:

Doors to the Coliseum will open at 7:30 am. The team programming groups should be ready to **begin at 8:00 am.** All other participants should check in, set up, and be **ready to start judging at 9:00 am.** One teacher from each school should visit the registration table to pick up their packet. This will contain the schedule for the day, along with your name tag stickers, and meal tickets. Once the sponsor picks up the packet, participants will go to the lower bleacher section. All participants should be seated no later than 8:45 for the opening session, where you will be provided vital information about the day's events. Everyone should attend the opening session. The competition will begin at 9:00 am. We expect the awards ceremony to take place beginning at approximately 1:30 pm, but sometimes the fair did run as late as 3:00 pm. Our goal, however, is to be finished by 3:00 pm.

Schedule At a Glance

7:30 am	Doors Open
8:00 am	Team Programming Challenge
8:00-8:30 am	Registration/Set Up
8:45 am	Opening Ceremony
9:00 am	Competition Begins
11:00-1:00pm	Lunch (you will receive schedule)
1:30 pm	Awards Ceremony (Tentative)

GUESTS/PARENTS:

With the exception of the Awards Ceremony, everyone attending the fair **MUST** be registered. The cost of registration is \$15 for each student and \$10 per teacher or adult chaperone. Please send one check per school. You may bring your school check with you on the day of the competition, but no money will be taken from unregistered guests on the day of the competition. Parents and adult chaperones must be pre-registered so that they have a name tag waiting on them. No one will be allowed to enter the Coliseum without a name tag sticker until the Awards Ceremony. Parents and guests coming to watch the Awards Ceremony only will be allowed into the Coliseum without a name tag and they may begin arriving at 1pm to begin taking their seats.

LUNCH:

Each registrant will receive a meal ticket to visit the café as we have done in previous years. Since the Pete Matthews Coliseum is such a distance from the café, it will be necessary for the students to be transported to and from lunch. We will need each school system to use their own buses to transport their students to lunch and back. If you are not arriving to the competition by your own bus, please email us ASAP so that we can help you figure out alternate transportation for lunch: acte@jsu.edu

GENERAL RULES AND CONDUCT:

We are excited to have you and your students at the competition. For the safety of your students and everyone involved, we ask that the following general guidelines be followed:

- Please do not shout or engage in horseplay.
- Please do not sit in the floor or block the aisles.
- Teachers and chaperones are responsible for their students at all times
- Please be sure to keep your area clean and free from litter—place litter in garbage cans.

STATE FAIR:

We have been informed that the state fair will be held on Saturday, April 29, 2017 at AUM in Montgomery. Registration can be found at: <http://actefair.webs.com/student-registration>

LOCATION/PARKING/BUSES:

The fair will take place at the Pete Matthews Coliseum, located at **775 Park Ave NW, Jacksonville**. For directions, please visit this link:

<http://www.jsugamecocksports.com/sports/2008/6/2/DirectionsPeteMathews.aspx?id=5>

There is plenty of parking on all sides of the Coliseum. You will not need a parking decal for that day. We will notify UPD that we are hosting our competition that day at the Coliseum.