Alabama Consortium for Technology in Education (ACTE)

Region 4

Dear Region 4 Fair Participant:

We are very excited about the upcoming Region 4 ACTE Fair here at Jacksonville State University. This year our region will host students from Calhoun, Clay, Cleburne, Randolph, and Talladega Counties.

This event will be held **Friday, February 7, 2020.** We are happy to again host the event in the **Pete Matthews Coliseum** this year, which is located at **775 Park Ave NW, Jacksonville**. This facility is such a great location for the fair and we appreciate our athletic department for allowing us to use it.

The ACTE Regional Technology Fair is open to all students in the Region 4 area in grades 3-12. There are five entry levels and multiple 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 student will receive a Certificate of Participation. First and second 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 Region 4 ACTE Technology Competition on February 7th!

All the best,

Kelly Paynter & Jimmy Barnes

ACTE Region 4 Team

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**LEVELS AND CATEGORIES:**

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.

# INFO & CHANGES TO NOTE

## Requirements (Including New/Changes for 2020)!

* + ACTE's east central region is Region 4, which covers Calhoun, Clay, Cleburne, Randolph, and Talladega counties.
	+ The date for this year's state fair is April 17-18, 2020.
	+ Students MUST participate in the regional fair and place 1st or 2nd to attend the state fair.
	+ Each student can only enter TWO projects for competition.
	+ Each school can only have 6 students who take the IT test.
	+ You may have only **TWO (2) people on a team/group** but teams and individuals will not compete against each other within each grade grouping. *The exception to this is the Team Programming Challenge and Group Robotics, which can have 4 members/team.*
	+ Schools may enter up to **THREE (3) individual projects per level, per category**, and up to **FOUR (4) group/team projects per level, per category**.
	+ If a team places at regional, **in order to compete at state, both members must pay the registration fee and attend the state fair** in order for the team project to compete at the State Fair.
	+ A student may only be a team member of one group per category.
	+ Projects cannot be moved from group to individual.
	+ Students who are in a group will compete at the oldest group partner's level.
	+ Regardless of the length of the project, *the maximum judge time is 15 minutes*; therefore, judges may only view a portion of the actual project.
	+ Judges will use a category rubric as a guideline for exemplary characteristics of projects in this category.

**CATEGORIES**:

1. Animation (Group and Individual)
2. Audio (Group and Individual)
3. Computer Project Programming (Group and Individual)
4. Digital Art (Group and Individual)
5. Digital Game Design (Group and Individual)
6. Hardware Modification (Group and Individual)
7. Multimedia Applications (Group and Individual)
8. Multi-Dimensional Design (3D Modeling) (Group and Individual)
9. Productivity Design (Group and Individual)
10. Robotics (Group and Individual)
11. Video Production (Group and Individual)
12. Website Design – Internet Based (Group and Individual)
13. Website Design – Manual Coding (Group and Individual)
14. Information Technology Test (Individual)
15. Team Programming Challenge (Open to Levels III, IV, and V only)

For descriptions of each category, please visit the state website here:

[**https://www.alabamaconsortiumfortechnologyineducation.org/categories**](https://www.alabamaconsortiumfortechnologyineducation.org/categories)

**REGISTRATION:**

Registration for Students is the same as last year. Please click this link and register EACH PROJECT and not each student as in the past. This time you will submit each project and then type the student or student’s names on the form before you hit submit. You will submit one form per project.

Registration Link: <https://tinyurl.com/ACTE-2020-reg>

**The ABSOLUTE DEADLINE for registration is Friday, January 17, 2020**

**The ABSOLUTE DEADLINE for payment this year will be Friday, January 24, 2020. You will receive an invoice a few days after you register to let you know the amount your school owes.**

**PAYMENT:**

Checks should be made **payable to Jacksonville State University**. You must mail your check **($15 per student; $10 per teacher/sponsor**) to: Jacksonville State

University, Counseling & Instructional Support, Attn: Lori Reynolds, 304 Ramona Wood Building, 700 Pelham Road North, Jacksonville, AL 36265. **MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: JACKSONVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY and on the MEMO line add: ACTE TECHNOLOGY FAIR.**

**\*We will not take money at the fair this year. Please go ahead and let your bookkeeper know now that you will receive an invoice in the coming weeks and we will need a check mailed to us this year instead of bringing it to the fair.**

**RULES AND SCORING:**

Please make sure you read all the rules and review the scoring rubrics located on the state ACTE website: <https://www.alabamaconsortiumfortechnologyineducation.org/categories>

**NOTEBOOKS:**

Each project requires an accompanying notebook. Please read notebook requirements on the state ACTE website: <https://www.alabamaconsortiumfortechnologyineducation.org/categories>

**IT TEST:**

**Each school can only have 6 students who take the IT test**.

**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 meal ticket will be provided for each student and sponsor that has paid. (Parents that attend will need to stop at the table in the lobby and have a name tag created for them before entering the coliseum—parents and/or other adult chaperones will have lunch on their own and will not be provided a meal ticket since they do not pay to attend).

**JUDGING PROCESS:**

Judging will begin promptly at 9:00 a.m. We will not assign times for students this year. Please have a sponsor at the table waiting on judges and have students seated in the bleacher seats, holding their notebooks, ready for you to signal them to come to your table when their judge is there looking for them.

Each project will be judged by two judges working as a team. (Occasionally, one judge will be assigned a category alone). However, judges will submit separate scores. The students(s) have approximately 10-15 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 to locate Wi-Fi 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 a.m. The team programming groups should be ready to **begin at 8:00 a.m.** All other participants should check in, set up, and be **ready to start judging at 9:00 a.m.** 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 a.m. 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 a.m. We expect the awards ceremony to take place beginning at approximately 1:30 p.m, but sometimes the fair did run as late as 3:00 p.m. Our goal, however, is to be finished by 3:00 p.m.

**Schedule at a Glance**

 7:30 a.m. Doors Open

 8:00 a.m. Team Programming Challenge

 8:00-8:30 a.m. Registration/Set Up

 8:45 a.m. Opening Ceremony

 9:00 a.m. Competition Begins

 11:00-1:00p.m. Lunch (you will receive schedule)

 1:30 p.m. Awards Ceremony (Tentative)

**GUESTS/PARENTS:**

This year we will not be charging parents for the fair. Parents are free to leave campus and eat anywhere they’d like. They can visit the café to eat with you but will need to pay for their meal at the front. We are doing like the state fair has always done—most parents will go eat off campus and then come back for the awards probably. Parents are asked to stop at the front table before entering the coliseum floor and have a name tag written for them. They will need to wear this name tag at all times. Parents that are coming only for the awards ceremony will not need a name tag as always—they may begin arriving by 1:00 p.m. for the awards ceremony only.

**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, you will have access to the Gamecock Express like previous years, but please do as previous years and use your bus if it is available due to the mass amount of people at the competition.

**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 April 17-18, 2020, at AUM in Montgomery. Please visit the state website for info about registration: <https://www.alabamaconsortiumfortechnologyineducation.org/>

**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.