



We the People

THE CITIZEN AND THE CONSTITUTION

Directed by the Center for Civic Education

Rules for High School Competition

We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution is intended for all students. High schools with classes competing in the We the People simulated congressional hearings must comply with the following rules:

1. Teachers must provide a copy of their official class roster ([see www.civiced.org](http://www.civiced.org)), signed by their school principal or other appropriate school administrator, as a confirmation that the class meets the competition rules.
2. The Center is committed to encouraging the widest possible participation from a broad range of students with the continued emphasis on the involvement of all members of a class. For purposes of the competition a “class” must
 - be constituted according to the school’s normal policies and procedures for student admittance to a class;
 - be designated on the school's master program (schedule of class offerings) as a required or elective class;
 - be in session during the regular hours of the school day;
 - have all enrollees entered in the teacher’s record book;
 - provide graduation credit(s) to students for satisfactory course completion.
3. In addition to meeting during regularly scheduled class periods, students are permitted to meet for extended study and preparation for simulated congressional hearings. If a class ends before the scheduled dates for holding district, regional, state, and national competitions it is understood that preparation for the competition will take place after the class has ended.
4. Students who have competed at a high school district, regional, state, or national competition may not compete again at that same level of competition in a future year. Students who have previously competed may, however, attend hearings as teaching assistants and/or spectators. Students who have participated in elementary and/or middle school hearings are eligible to participate in the high school competition.

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- Each class must be divided into six groups and each group will be responsible for “testifying” on their assigned unit of the text. Each group must have at least three members and the number of students in each group should be as equal as possible. No student may be in more than one group unless a class has fewer than 18 students.
- When a class has fewer than 18 students, teachers may allow some students to participate in two groups but not more than two. The number of students allowed to participate in more than one group is determined by the total number of students in the class.

Number of students in class	Number of different students participating in two groups
17	1
16	2
15	3
14	4
13	5
12	6
11	7
10	8
9	9

- The class roster shall identify the unit to which each student is assigned. A class roster is required for each level of competition (district, regional, state, and national). Teachers may change student unit assignments for each level of competition, if they so desire. New students, however, may not be added to a roster after a class enters its first level of competition without permission from the We the People state coordinator and the national program director, Robert Leming. Once a class is defined by its roster

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as being composed of specific students, the same students must participate in all levels of competition. If a student(s) drops out of a class for reasons beyond their control, verification by the school's principal must be sent to the We the People state coordinator and the national program director. No class with fewer than nine students will be eligible to compete.

8. Two high school classes may be combined in order to participate in the competition if the total number of students in the combined class does not exceed 36 students. The combining of two classes must have the approval of the state coordinator and national director. Both classes must also meet the definition of a "class." All students in both classes must be listed on the class roster and all students must participate in the hearing competition.

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