



Renaissance
Knights Chess
Foundation

Dear Chess Coaches and Administrators:

The Department of Academic Competitions anticipates sending 80 students in grades 7 through 12 to the US Chess High School National Tournament in Baltimore, MD. from April 4 - 8, 2024. Each school will be allowed to send up to 8 students in grades 7-12 but must send a minimum of 6 students.

To better manage travel and logistics, we are selecting 10 schools to participate in Nationals as part of our group. CPS Academic Competition will provide round trip flight, shared double bed hotel room (2 students per room), tournament entry fees, and US Chess Membership, if needed for the tournament. Schools will need to cover the cost of meals for their students and chaperones. Students may bring money for personal expenses like snacks, souvenirs, etc.

Selection of schools will be considered based on the following criteria:

- 1) Schools willing to cover the cost of meals for their students and chaperones**
- 2) Priority will be given to schools that were not selected to attend in previous years**
- 3) Active participation in the Academic Chess program over past several years**
- 4) Ability to provide two level 1 chaperones for their team**
- 5) Send a minimum of 6, maximum of 8 students in 7th - 12th grade**

We will host an information session for school administrators/coaches on Tuesday November 14 at **4:00 pm** via Zoom. Register in advance for this meeting is required: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUode6rrjojHtWnPAqXhVQLXaq2-7tjUn-y>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

The tentative itinerary is attached to this letter for your review.

To confirm your school's interest, please have your administrator sign and return this document to Jourdain Gant (jlgant3@cps.edu) by Friday, December 1, 2023.

Selected schools will be announced by Friday, December 8, 2023.

Yes, _____ (school name) would like to participate in the trip to the US Chess High School National Tournament in Baltimore, MD! The school agrees to cover the cost of meals for their students and chaperones during the trip.

School point of contact will be _____ at

Email _____

Administrator Name Administrator Signature

Tentative list of students to send on the trip

	Last Name	First Name	Grade
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			

We look forward to returning to the US Chess High School National Championship as a group. If you have any questions, contact David Heiser at daheiser@cps.edu or Arlecia Taylor at ajtaylor@cps.edu.

Tentative Itinerary

Thursday, April 4

- Depart Chicago/Arrive DC
- 5:00 pm HS National Blitz tournament

Friday, April 5

- 1:00 pm Round 1, 7:00 pm Round 2

Saturday, April 6

- 9:00 am Round 3, 2:00 pm Round 4, 7:00 pm Round 5

Sunday, April 7

- 9:00 am Round 6, 2:00 pm Round 7, 6:00 pm Awards, celebration dinner

Monday, April 8

- Depart Washington DC/Arrive Chicago

Note: *Itinerary subject to change based on funding availability*