



2027 HIGH SCHOOL NATIONALS TRIP

Dear Chess Coaches and Administrators,

The Department of Academic Competitions plans to send up to 13 Chess teams to the 2027 National High School (K-12) Championship, taking place April 2-4, 2027, at the Renaissance Schaumburg Convention Center Hotel, 1551 N. Thoreau Dr., Schaumburg, IL 60173.

Our plan is for students to stay overnight at a hotel on both Friday and Saturday nights. However, we are still awaiting approval from CPS Administration for overnight accommodations. If approval is not granted, we will need to arrange daily bus transportation to and from the tournament, as was required last year.

Itinerary

- Friday, April 2, 2027
 - Arrival & Lunch at hotel – 11:00 am
 - Round 1 - 1:00 pm
 - Round 2 - 6:00 pm
 - Dinner at hotel – 7:00 pm
- Saturday, April 3, 2027
 - Breakfast at hotel – 7:30 am
 - Round 3 - 9:00 am
 - Lunch at hotel – Noon
 - Round 4 - 1:30 pm
 - Round 5 - 6:00 pm
 - Dinner at hotel – 7:00 pm
- Sunday, April 4, 2027
 - Breakfast at hotel – 7:30 am
 - Round 6 - 9:00 am
 - Lunch at hotel – Noon
 - Round 7 - 1:30 pm
 - Depart hotel – 5:00 pm

Please Note: The itinerary is tentative and subject to change.

Students will be picked up from designated schools throughout the city and transported by bus to the tournament venue.

- If overnight accommodations are approved, students will travel to the tournament on Friday morning and return to their designated pickup schools on Sunday following the conclusion of the event.
- If overnight accommodations are not approved, bus transportation will be provided to and from the tournament each day, Friday through Sunday.

Each selected school may send up to ten (10) students in grades 5 – 12, with a minimum of six (6) students required. Schools must also provide two (2) approved adult chaperones to accompany their students.

CPS Academic Chess will cover the costs of busing to & from the event, tournament entry fees, and US Chess memberships (if needed). If overnight accommodations are approved, CPS Academic Chess will also cover shared double-occupancy hotel rooms for students (two per room) and single-occupancy rooms for chaperones.

Meals

CPS Academic Chess cannot cover meal costs. Each selected school is responsible for arranging and providing meals for their participating students and chaperones.

Travel Requests

Each selected school is responsible for submitting, coordinating, and managing travel requests for its participating students and chaperones.

- **Friday, December 18, 2026:** All travel requests must be submitted. A copy of the submitted request must be emailed to David Heiser at daheiser@cps.edu.
- **Friday, January 22, 2027:** Schools must email a copy of their approved travel request to David Heiser at daheiser@cps.edu.

Schools will be advised whether to submit travel requests for overnight accommodations or daily transportation once CPS Administration makes its determination

Important: Schools that fail to provide a copy of their approved travel request by January 22, 2027, may be removed from the list of participating schools.

Students and Chaperones

Each selected school is responsible for having the Parental Permission form and the Assumption of Risk and Release of Liability Domestic Travel/Events form completed for each student. Schools are to retain these forms for use by their designated chaperones.

School Selection Criteria

Selection of schools will be based on the following factors:

1. Commitment to arranging and covering meal costs for participating students and chaperone
2. Priority given to schools that were not selected in previous years
3. Active participation in the Academic Chess program over the past several years
4. Commitment to sending 6 to 10 students in grades 5–12

If you have any questions, contact David Heiser at daheiser@cps.edu, or Arlecia Taylor ajtaylor@cps.edu.



2027 HIGH SCHOOL NATIONALS INTEREST FORM

To confirm your school's interest, please have a school administrator sign and return the below form to David Heiser at daheiser@cps.edu by **Friday, November 13, 2026**. **Selected schools will be announced by Tuesday, November 17, 2026.**

(school name)

We would like to participate in the 2027 National High School (K-12) Championship in Schaumburg, IL.

If our school is selected, we agree to:

- **Submit a travel request by Friday, December 18, 2026**, and email a copy of the submitted request to David Heiser at daheiser@cps.edu. A copy of the approved travel request must also be emailed to David Heiser no later than **Friday, January 22, 2027**.
- **Meals:** Arrange and provide meals for our participating students and chaperones.
- **Parental Permission Forms:** Obtain completed Parental Permission and Assumption of Risk and Release of Liability Domestic Travel/Events forms for each participating student and retain the completed forms.
- **Submit student roster & chaperones online:** Complete the Online Student Roster & Chaperone Forms (listing all participating students and designated chaperones) by **Friday, January 22, 2027**.

If CPS does not approve overnight hotel accommodations for students, would your school still be interested in participating in this event by transporting students to and from the venue by bus each day?

☐ Yes ☐ No

School point of contact for this trip is _____

at Email _____

and phone _____

Administrator Name & Position

Administrator Signature & Date