

2026 IASCD Auxiliary Speech Contest



RULES

1. Contestants must be high school students, grades 9-12, prior to the IASCD Conference.
2. Any prior state winner is not eligible as a contestant.
3. Each contestant must fill out or submit an application form to their local Soil Conservation District Office. This will include name, address, phone number, school, grade, age, club affiliations and a brief statement about interests or involvement in agriculture or conservation practices.
4. Each district will determine prizes for its own contest. Each division will determine division level prizes.
5. The IASCD Auxiliary provides the prize money at the state conference in the following increments:
First place: \$300 Second place: \$200 Third place: \$150 Fourth place: \$100
6. The speech shall be at least three minutes and not more than five minutes, including the salutation and title.
7. Contestants will not give their name at any time during their speech. No props or visual aids will be allowed.
8. Speech must be contestant's original text, researched and written by the contestants. Notes will be allowed at the district level ONLY.
9. There shall be three judges and a timekeeper for each contest; district, division and state.
10. It is the IASCD Division Director's responsibility to include the contest in the fall meeting agenda, and secure judges and a timekeeper.
11. Judges and timekeepers shall not be related, in any way, to contestants. At the division level, supervisors from districts with contestants cannot be judges or timekeepers.
12. Any questions arising during the state level contest shall be decided by the IASCD Executive Director and the IASCD Public Outreach Chairperson. At division meetings, the Division Director will handle questions.
13. Contestants who place first at their division meeting contest may participate at the state competition.
14. The speech contest takes its theme from NACD's annual Stewardship Week. Go to the NACD website for some more information on the them. The 2026 Theme: "Soil, Where it all Begins" reminds us that everything starts with healthy soil. Soil grows our food, filters our water, supports wildlife habitats, and provides the foundation for our communities. Without soil, there would be no farms, forests, or places for humans and animals to thrive.