Welcome to the official page of the Stanford Brain Bee! Please check back frequently for updates on important dates and locations.

What is the Brain Bee?

The Stanford Brain Bee is a local qualifying round of the International Brain Bee (IBB), a neuroscience competition exclusively for high school students ages 14-18 (home-school students welcome). The Stanford Brain Bee involves both a written component and a live oral Q&A session. In addition to the competition, students will have the opportunity to attend a presentation by a Stanford neuroscientist and speak with Stanford professors and students from the medical, biosciences, and neuroscience fields.

The IBB motivates students to learn about the brain, captures their imaginations, and inspires them to pursue neuroscience careers in order to help treat and find cures for neurological and psychological disorders. There are currently about 150 Local Brain Bee coordinators in 30 countries worldwide that conduct competitions annually. The winner of each Local Bee is invited to attend the National Brain Bee (NBB) competition in his or her own country, and the winner of each NBB is invited to compete in the International Brain Bee Championship.

No previous neuroscience knowledge required

Contestants should study the 2012 edition of Brain Facts, a 96-page primer available for free at http://www.brainfacts.org/about-neuroscience/brain-facts-book/. Answers to ALL test questions can be found in this booklet, with the exception of questions that are reserved for tiebreakers.

Great prizes to be won

- The winner of the Stanford Brain Bee will receive a $300 cash prize, the right to compete in the USA NBB at the University of Maryland, and subsidized travel and lodging.
• Prizes for USA NBB and IBB vary, but the current 1st place prize for the USA NBB includes $1500, a Society for Neuroscience-sponsored summer research fellowship with a distinguished neuroscientist, a personal trophy, a traveling trophy for display at his or her school, and the right to represent the USA at the IBB. Previous winners have used this research fellowship to find positions at the National Institutes of Health.

• NBB champions will receive free admission to the neuroscience convention that the IBB is held in conjunction with that year. Previous conventions include the World Congress of Neurology, the International Brain Research Organization Conference, the International Congress of Psychology, and the American Psychological Association Convention.

• The IBB 1st place prize includes $3000, a Society for Neuroscience-sponsored summer research fellowship with a distinguished neuroscientist, a personal trophy, and a traveling trophy for display at his or her school. Past winners have used these research fellowships to work with labs in the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke and the National Institute of Mental Health, both branches of the NIH.

Registration is free

Contestants register by emailing StanfordBrainBee@gmail.com with their full name, school, grade, city & state of residence, email address, preferred phone number, whether or not they have previously competed in a Local/Regional Brain Bee, and whether or not they have previously competed in the USA National Brain Bee. We strongly recommend that students register as soon as possible to receive a confirmation email with information regarding rules, format, tips, and study guides for the Stanford Brain Bee that will help direct their preparation.

Optional Review Session

On Sunday, November 8th, 2015, an optional review session will be hosted at Stanford University, which will cover all material tested in the Stanford Brain Bee. Students will receive further details in their registration confirmation email.

Important dates

• Optional Review Session       Sunday, November 8th, 2015, Stanford University
• Registration Deadline        Saturday, December 26th, 2015
• Stanford Brain Bee            Saturday, January 9th, 2016, 12:00pm–5:00pm, Stanford
University School of Medicine, Li Ka Shing Center for Learning and Knowledge, room LK130

- USA National Brain Bee  March 2016, University of Maryland, Baltimore
- International Brain Bee  Summer 2016, TBA

Rules

- All California high school students ages 14-18 are eligible to compete. Exceptions may be made for students from other states who are unable to attend a closer local Brain Bee. Home-schooled students welcome.
- A student may compete in a Local Brain Bee only ONCE per year
- Students may only compete in the USA National Brain Bee ONCE
- The Stanford Brain Bee will include:
  - A Written Test—all questions drawn directly from Brain Facts 2012 Ed.
  - An Anatomy & Histology Test—NOT graded unless a tiebreaker is needed in the event of a tie for 1st place.
  - Oral Q&A Session—all questions drawn directly from Brain Facts 2012 Ed.

Parking & Transportation

The 2016 Stanford Brain Bee is scheduled to happen in Li Ka Shing Center for Learning and Knowledge room LK130 at Stanford University School of Medicine. Please refer to the interactive campus map at http://campus-map.stanford.edu/. If contestants and their families require parking, please refer to the Stanford Visitor Parking page at http://transportation.stanford.edu/parking_info/VisitorParking.shtml

For further information

Refer to the official Stanford Brain Bee website at http://oso.stanford.edu/
The official Stanford Brain Bee Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/stanfordbrainbee
The official International Brain Bee website at http://www.internationalbrainbee.com/
Or contact the Stanford Brain Bee Coordinator at StanfordBrainBee@gmail.com
The Stanford Brain Bee is a local chapter of the International Brain Bee, and is sponsored by Stanford University’s Office of Science Outreach and the Stanford Neurosciences Institute. The International Brain Bee was founded by Dr. Norbert Myslinski and is a program of MIND, Inc. (Mankind for International Neuroscience Development, Inc.). The Stanford Brain Bee was initiated by Stanford undergraduate Thanh-Liem Huynh-Tran.