

Roane State Community College

Academic Festival General Guidelines

Guidelines

1. Event Date: Friday March 27, 2026
2. The competition is limited to students in grades 9 through 12.
3. The festival is a one-day event.

School Classifications:

Division AA Schools: 1-69 registered students (including homeschool programs)

Division AAA Schools: 70+ registered students (including homeschool programs)

This is the total number of students entering per school, not the total number of events entered per school or coop. For example, a school may have 41 students entered in a total of 70 events and be classified Class AA. This is not based on actual school size but on the number of students entering the festival. Schools could conceivably change classifications from year to year.

Awards

1. The festival will award each classification a first, second and third place Sweepstakes trophy to the schools accumulating the most points during the festival. First, second and third place winners will be announced for each event. There are 62 competitive events. First-place winners will earn five points for their schools, second-place winners will earn three points for their schools and third-place winners will earn one point for their schools.
2. Each first-place winner will receive a festival medallion, and all second- and third-place winners will receive certificates. Medallions will be awarded the day of the festival. Certificates will be mailed to the schools at a later date.
3. Photographs will be taken of the first-place winners each day of the festival. Please look for instructions in the program.

Registration

1. **To Register Individually:** All registration is completely online. Online registration opens December 15, 2025. To register go to:
 - a. roanestate.edu/academicfestival
2. **To Register as a Group:** This is a two-step process. Each person in the group (including music) **must:**
 - a. register individually online **AND**
 - b. Register as a group using a "Group Registration Form" online
3. Online registration begins December 15, 2025.

Participation Limits

1. An individual student may enter a **maximum of four events (only one may be a live day-of-festival event)**.
2. **Bowl Events**—All bowl competitions (indicated by BOWL on the Event Code List) require students to be available all day in case their team places in a runoff or due to performance times. They may, however, register to compete in non-performance events such as Creative Writing or Journalism.
3. Due to the time constraints of the festival, there are caps on some events. The number of student entries per school is included in the Division Guidelines.
4. An individual student may submit only one work or performance in each event with the exception of Art Division entries.

Event Codes

1. Event codes that begin with a “P” (ex. PW-030) indicate in-person events held on the day of the festival.
 - a. Performance competitions are held between 9 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.
2. Events that begin with an “N” (ex. NM-601) indicate an early submission category submitted through the ExaVault system.
 - a. All submissions are due Wednesday, March 11, 2026.
3. Last day for online registration for individuals and groups is Friday, March 20, 2026.
4. Online registration will be turned off at the close at 5:00 pm EST.

Pre-judged Written Entries

1. All pre-judged entries---**must be submitted to ExaVault by Friday March 11, 2026**. The school contact person is responsible for seeing that all entries are received by the deadline.
2. **Absolutely no entries accepted after this date.**

Pre-judged Journalism

1. Journalism Yearbook Entries:
 - a. Schools submitting a paper copy of their Yearbook entry may mail it (see division guidelines) with a postmark dated on or before **Thursday, March 19, 2026**. Entries delivered in person must be received at the Harriman campus no later than **5:00 PM EST** on that date.

Pre-judged Art Entries

1. There are 2 due dates for the Art Division
 - a. **Wednesday, March 11, 2026** – digital uploads due.
 - b. **Thursday, March 19, 2026**
 - i. **Only the winning entries in each category will need to be physically delivered before or on Thursday, March 19, 2026, and**

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featured in a show in the art gallery (O'Brien Room O-225). DO NOT MAIL THESE ENTRIES. ROANE STATE CANNOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY DAMAGE SUSTAINED BY MAILING ENTRIES.

- c. The art exhibit will open Monday, March 23, 2026 and run through the day of the festival. Students may pick up their art pieces immediately following the festival. If you are unable to pick up the piece day of the festival, please contact the event coordinator to schedule an alternative pick-up date.

Questions? Please Contact:

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Dr. Jessica Dalton-Carriger dcarrigerjn@roanestate.edu

December 15, 2025

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