

# Online Debate/Speech Tournament Technical Requirements for Participants



THIS IS PART OF A LARGER DOCUMENT THAT COVERS ALL ASPECTS OF WACFL'S ONLINE TOURNAMENT PROCEDURES AND IS INTENDED TO SUPPORT COACH, COMPETITOR, AND JUDGE PREPARATION FOR OUR VIRTUAL SEASON.

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The Washington Arlington Catholic Forensic League is using the NSDA Campus platform to conduct its online debate and speech tournaments during the COVID-19 pandemic. This document provides guidance to coaches, competitors, and judges regarding hardware and software requirements. NSDA Campus is integrated with NSDA's Tabroom software, so all coaches, competitors, and judges *must* have [Tabroom](#) accounts linked to their schools rosters to be able to participate in the league's online competitions.

More extensive information on tournament procedures is forthcoming.

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## **NSDA Campus Equipment & Connection Requirements**

NSDA Campus is an internet based platform. It does not require the download of any applications and runs only on the Google Chrome browser (ensure you have the latest [Chrome update](#)). We recommend competitors, judges, and coaches watch this [3-minute overview of NSDA Campus](#).

**A laptop or desktop is required to participate in online debate** — you cannot run NSDA Campus on your smartphone or tablet.

**The device must have a camera capability** and the camera and microphone must be permissioned to run on Google Chrome browser (this can be accomplished during the testing process).

**Use an external microphone or headset with microphone included to ensure you can be heard. We recommend** headphones (*e.g.*, corded cellphone earbuds or gaming headphones) attached to the computer via audio jack or USB. Ear pods (*e.g.* Samsung Galaxy buds, AirPods) connected to the device are also acceptable, but please note that bluetooth devices may create a delay of voice and video connection (and are not recommended).

**High Speed Internet Connection** — We recommend a minimum bandwidth speed of 5 MBPS. If you are unsure of your internet speed, please visit [www.fast.com](http://www.fast.com) to run a test.

If your connection is inadequate, consider the recommendations below to improve connectivity and optimize performance when competing from home.

- Reboot the router
- Update the firmware
- Use a dual-band router
- Move closer to the router
- Create a separate channel
- Enable WME/WMM (if applicable)
- Connect via ethernet instead of Wi-Fi
- Minimize interference (*e.g.* walls, home appliances, electronic devices)