

# Welcome to the 2023 AALC Spelling Bee Competition!



Thank you for registering for the 2023 AALC Spelling Bee!  
We wish you the best of luck over the next few months and  
we hope to see YOUR TEAM at the State Finals in  
Springfield on October 26!



Please read the following information and let us know if you have any questions.

## This Spelling Kit Contains:

1. Rules & Information
2. Word List for Local Competitions
3. Score Sheet
4. Tracking Sheet

## Key Dates to Remember!

|                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| <b>July – Aug. 25</b> | Hold Local Competitions to Determine Winning Team  |
| <b>Aug. 25</b>        | Notify AALC with the name of the winning team advancing to Regionals                       |
| <b>Aug. 28 – 31</b>   | AALC will send out Regional Study List to communities advancing to Regionals               |
| <b>Sept. 1-25</b>     | Study for Regionals  |
| <b>Sept. 26</b>       | North Regional Competition – Held at: Lacy Creek Supportive Living, Downers Grove, IL      |
| <b>Sept. 27</b>       | Central Regional Competition – Held at: Erin's Pavilion in Southwind Park, Springfield, IL |
| <b>Sept. 28</b>       | South Regional Competition – Held at: Heritage Woods of Centralia, Centralia, IL           |
| <b>Oct. 2</b>         | AALC will send out State Study List to communities advancing to Finals                     |
| <b>Oct. 26</b>        | Final 3 teams will compete for State Championship!   |



Check out the rules on the following pages.  
Remember the biggest rule is to HAVE FUN!  
Good luck everyone!

## Local Competition Overview

1. Communities will first be required to conduct a local Spelling Bee competition at their SL community. The top team from each community will advance to a regional competition.
2. A minimum of two judges will be required for each local spelling contest.
3. The local spelling contest will consist of 15 rounds.
4. Each team will write down their answer to each word and assign a point value (1-15). Each point value can only be used once.
5. The teams will be allowed two minutes to spell out the word, assign a point value, and write out the word. During the two minutes, teams may ask the judges for the word's part of speech and definition.
6. After two minutes, the team must slide the answer sheet to the front of the table and put down their pencils/pens.
7. A judge will come around and collect the answer sheets and read the answers aloud.
8. If the team answers correctly, they earn the allotted points. If the team does not answer correctly, they will not earn the points.
9. Repeat this process for 15 rounds. The team with the most points at the end of 15 rounds is the winning team. No team is eliminated until the 15 rounds are concluded.
10. If at the end of 15 rounds there is a tie for first, the match will become a single-elimination tournament. The teams that answer correctly in each round will move on to the next round. The teams that do not answer correctly will not move on to the next round. The last team remaining is the winning team. You must complete each round before a team is eliminated.
11. The words will be selected randomly from the provided list by the judges.
12. The winning team will advance to regionals.
13. If the winning team does not wish to advance, the second place team will advance to regionals.
14. Notify AALC of winning team name advancing to finals by **August 25**.
15. The advancing team will receive a new set of study words by **September 1**.

## Regional Competition Overview

1. Regional spelling contests will be held September 26, 27 & 28, 2023
2. The regional competition will follow the same format as the local competition.
3. The top team from each of the (3) regions will advance to the state finals in Springfield, IL on October 26, 2023.
- 4. If a regional winner is unwilling to make the trip to Springfield, they must notify AALC on the day of the regional competition so the slot will roll down to the next team in line.**

## State Competition Overview

1. These top three teams will compete in the final competition on October 26, 2023. The same format will apply for the state competition as local and regional competitions.

### Additional Spelling Contest Rules

1. The spelling lists for all contests will be provided by AALC. The local and regional Spelling Bee contest will be emailed to the staff member that is provided on the registration form. Only the Spelling Bee words can be used during the local spelling contests.
  - Regional Spelling Bee words will be taken from both local and regional lists.
  - The state contest will use words from the local and regional sources. In addition, never seen words will be included! AALC reserves the right to use never seen questions in the case of a tie.
2. At no time during the contests will participants be permitted to use smart phones or any other aids or devices that may assist the team in correctly answering. If an audience member gives audible help, the teams will be given a new word to spell.
3. If a team does not drop their pen/pencils at the two minute time, the team must forfeit that question.


## Score Sheet & Score Sheet Tracker

We've provided you with two types of scoring sheets. Please see the explanation on how to use them below.

### SCORE SHEET

Each team will get 15 of these score sheets. They will write their word in the space, circle a score for that word, then write the score in the blank. The judge will then pick up each score sheet to review the spelling and tally



 **Our Time to THRIVE**  
SUPPORTIVE LIVING 2023

Team Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Score Sheet**

Scores: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15

Remember: Each score can only be used once.


WORD: \_\_\_\_\_

SCORE: \_\_\_\_\_

### SCORE SHEET TRACKER

Each team will get one score tracker. This will stay with the team. Each time they use a score, they can cross off that score so they don't use it again. Each number can only be used once.



 **Our Time to THRIVE**  
SUPPORTIVE LIVING 2023

Team Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Score Sheet Tracker**

Scores: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15

Remember: Each score can only be used once.

Please use this sheet to track which score you've used for each word played. You can only use each score one time.

# Hosting a Spelling Bee in Your Community

We've pulled together some ideas to help you plan your community's Spelling Bee. The local competition is a fun way for your team(s) to practice for the regional competition!

## Study Time

Let your teams study the word list and then have them quiz each other prior to holding your official local Spelling Bee.

## Communities with Two or More Teams

If your community has registered several spelling teams, have them compete against each other. The winning team from the local competition would advance to the regional competition.

## Communities with One Team

If you only have one spelling bee team, you'll need to find a team they can compete against, so they are prepared to go to the regionals. There are some fun ways to involve individuals in the Spelling Bee competition including:

- Inviting a local Boy Scout or Girl Scout club to form a team
- Inviting local retired educators to compete
- Forming a team from your leadership team and staff

## What You'll Need for the Spelling Bee

### Judges:

You will need at least 2-3 Spelling Bee judges (an odd number is good for voting if needed). Ask individuals within your city to be involved in the activity. Judges can be anyone including:

- Department heads
- Retired local educators
- Local fire or police dept staff
- City officials or individuals from agencies familiar with your community

## MC

The Activity professional should lead the competition as MC, which includes using the provided local word list and the forms provided to hold the competition as well as the procedures on how to host the local spelling bee that is included in the toolkit.

## Score Keeper

An official scorekeeper will be needed. Have a chalk board or white board available to write down the scores for each word. Each word turned in by the team will have a score associated with it. If the team spells the word correctly, the scorekeeper will write the score down under the team's name. If the team spells the word incorrectly, no score is given.



## Make it Fun!

Spelling Bees are fun to watch. Be sure to write it on the calendar and invite residents, family, and staff to be your viewing audience and cheerleaders. Serve refreshments and be sure to take pictures for your social media. Tag @AALCIllinois and use the hashtags #SpiritofSupportiveLiving & #OurTimetoThrive2023 on your posts.



Remember to thank all the team members for their hard work and dedication in studying the words!

# GOOD LUCK!