



October 25, 2024

Dear Middle School Students,

This letter is an invitation to compete in the **2025 AMC 8**, the Mathematical Association of America's annual **American Mathematics Competition** for **8th-grade** students and younger. Through friendly competition, participants develop a love of mathematics and build analytical skills necessary for future careers in an innovative society. Please read below for more information.

What is the AMC 8?

The AMC 8 is a 25-question, 40-minute, multiple-choice examination designed to promote mathematical knowledge and problem-solving skills. The exam is a middle school precursor to the MAA's series of competitions culminating with the International Mathematical Olympiad (IMO). **The AMC program strengthens the nation's mathematical capabilities for the next generation of problem-solvers.**

Why participate in the competition?

STEM majors often report that their enjoyment of math began with math competitions. After participating in the AMC 8, many students choose to compete in the AMC 10 and the AMC 12 in high school, as well as the Putnam exam in college. Competitive students can aspire to advance through progressively more challenging invitational competitions that culminate with the International Mathematical Olympiad. **The AMC 8 can be a first step to joining a mathematical community** of collaboration and meaningful friendships. About 75 middle school students participate in the AMC 8 exam through Jesuit. The problem-solving skills developed through AMC participation help students prepare for a wide variety of challenges they will encounter in the future.

Who is eligible to participate?

Younger siblings of Jesuit students, middle school students who attend Portland area Catholic schools, and middle school students who have taken math classes at Jesuit High School can register for the AMC 8 through Jesuit. The exam is independent of Jesuit High School's admissions process, and a student's **participation and results will not affect Jesuit's admissions decisions.**

Where and when will the exam take place?

About 140,000 students from about 2,000 schools will take the exam in January. Jesuit will administer the exam in person on Jesuit's campus at **3:45 p.m. on Friday, January 24, 2025.**

How can students register to take the exam through Jesuit?

[Register here](#) by **Tuesday, November 26**. Jesuit High School will purchase a limited number of exams and reserve them for the first registered students. There is no cost to the student.

What skills are required?

Students can solve most AMC 8 problems with pre-algebra, logic, and creativity. The questions are challenging, and 75% of competitors correctly answer ten or fewer of the 25 questions. Patience and openness to growth will allow students to learn from each question answered incorrectly.

How can a student prepare for the AMC 8?

Preparing for the exam is the best part of the competition. Jesuit's Math Community will regularly send practice problems and hold free Zoom sessions for students to discuss AMC problems together. **Students who want to join the study group and not register for the test can do so through the registration link.**

Please email me at jgorman@jesuitportland.org if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Dr. John R. Gorman
Math Instructor and Math Community Coordinator
Jesuit High School

<https://www.jesuitportland.org/academics/math-community>