Orange County Department of Education
Educational and Student Services Division

Orange County Academic Decathlon
2026-2027 Competition Options for Grades 9 and 10

STEFAN BEAN, Ed.D.
County Superintendent of Schools

Junior Varsity (JV) Competition	Main Competition

Students participate in the following **six** events:
• Art
• Literature
• Music
• Interview
• Science
• Social Science
	Students participate in all **ten** events:
	• Art
	• Economics
	• Essay
	• Interview
	• Literature
	• Mathematics
	• Music
	• Speech
	  ○ Prepared (3.5 – 4 minutes)
	  ○ Impromptu (1.5 – 2 minutes)
	• Science
	• Social Science

Fees:
• JV students compete individually for $60 per student.
	Fees:
	• Competing as a member of the school team
	  ○ Fee for the first 6-9 students is $695
	  ○ Fee for additional students beyond 9 (or less than 6) is $100 per student

GPA Calculation Requirements: • Grade 9 – submit official high school transcript showing proof of enrollment • Grade 10 – submit official high school transcript with unweighted cumulative grade point average listed or as calculated using designated GPA calculation form	GPA Calculation Requirements: • Grade 9 – submit official high school transcript showing proof of enrollment** • Grades 10-12 – submit official high school transcript with unweighted cumulative grade point average listed or as calculated using designated GPA calculation form
Eligibility for Medals: Students must participate in all **six** events held on the following dates: • Saturday, January 23, 2027 • Saturday, January 30, 2027	Eligibility for Medals: Students must participate in all **ten** events held on the following dates: • Wednesday, January 13, 2027 • Saturday, January 23, 2027 • Saturday, January 30, 2027
Awards: Individual awards will be announced as part of the main competition awards ceremony on February 5, 2027.	Awards: Team and individual medals will be presented on February 5, 2027.
Eligibility for State Competition: • JV competitors are not eligible to compete at the in-person state competition, but may participate in the virtual California Academic Decathlon competition (Heptathlon or Octathlon)	Eligibility for State Competition: • Based upon overall team scores, students competing as a part of the school team may be invited to the in-person California Academic Decathlon competition • All students are eligible to compete individually as alternates or as a member of the school team in the virtual California Academic Decathlon competition • **Teams that wish to be eligible for the national competition must use USAD's GPA criteria for classifying ninth grade students

For additional information, please contact OCAD@ocde.us.