



CANADIAN BIOLOGY OLYMPIAD 2024

The Canadian Biology Olympiad / Les Olympiades Canadiennes de Biologie (CBO / OCB) is a nation-wide organization involved in the selection of four secondary school students, talented in the field of biological sciences, to represent Canada at the International Biology Olympiad (IBO).

This year the 35th IBO will take place in **Astana, Kazakhstan**, from July 7 to 14, 2024.

The CBO committee will run an online competition to select the top four performing students to represent Canada at the 35th IBO-2024 (see details below).

A) Who can participate in the CBO / OCB competition?

- Competitors must be residents of Canada and be Canadian Citizens or Landed Immigrants.
- Competitors are students of a regular secondary school for general education in Canada. Most of the successful students have taken at least one stand-alone biology course. In Quebec, first year CGEP students are also eligible to participate.
- Competitors have not obtained a diploma allowing them to study at a university or equivalent institution, before the 1st of January 2024.
- Competitors have not yet started studying at a university or equivalent institution as part-time or full-time students.
- Competitors must be under the age of 20 as of July 1st, 2024.
- Competitors have not already participated in the IBO (can only participate once).

B) Selection of the national team and participation in the IBO

In addition to the criteria stated above:

- In accordance with the IBO rules, competitors cannot train for more than one week in a specialized credit granting school besides their regular secondary school.
- Competitors cannot compete in another International Olympiad in the same year they are participating in the IBO.
- No school can have more than 2 members on the CBO team.
- Initial team selection should have students from at least 2 Canadian provinces/territories. Team composition may vary depending on student's acceptance to join the IBO team.

C) The CBO/OCB Competition

The CBO competition will take place **on Saturday April 13, 2024 from 1 to 2 pm (ET); 10 to 11 am (PT)**

The CBO-OCB competition is a time-limited online exam with questions based on any of the topics covered by the Campbell biology textbook. The questions are designed to test the student's ability to apply their knowledge of biology. Most questions will be formatted as True/False, Multiple choice, Fill-in the blank, and calculations.

In order to participate in the competition, you need to register (see registration information below). Students who register to the CBO/OBC competition will receive additional information and the link to the exam.

Please note that the CBO / OCB takes academic integrity very seriously. The test must be done on your own without help from anyone and/or from books, internet sources, etc. Accessing external help while completing at the exam will be considered plagiarism and anyone who engages in this practice will be automatically disqualified from the competition.

D) Registration for the CBO/OCB competition:

Students who want to compete in the CBO/OCB competition need to complete the registration form and send a **registration fee of \$20**.

Your **school must be registered** as well in order for you to participate in the competition.

The link to your personal and school registration forms are included below:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeTWksoYxs4W8Mlnh9r5u-4s0IQdSjMVEOv18QazkhTJxuTLw/viewform?usp=sf_link

About the registration fee payment:

- The submission of your registration form will generate an email notification with instructions on how to complete the payment of the registration fee.
- **Students are not officially registered until the school registration and the registration fee have been received.**

Registration and payment close on **April 4, 2024; 11:59 pm Eastern time**. No extension will be given.

E) Selection of the team

Final placing for the competition and selection of the four students who will be part of the National Team to compete at the 35th IBO will be based solely on the results of the CBO/OCD 2024 online exam.

Exam correction and team selection is made by the CBO Jury consisting of Biology Professors and Teachers. All decisions from the Jury are final.

F) Cost of going to the IBO

As a non-for-profit organization run by volunteers, we usually have limited funding to support team Canada students with the cost of attending the competition. We expect the cost to be at minimum \$,3500 this year. We understand that this is a very high cost to bear by the students and we will do our best to support any fund-raising activities the students may want to do to offset the cost.

Summary of Important Dates

Events	Deadlines
Registration to the CBO/OCB competition (including school registration and fee payment)	April 04, 2024, 11:59 (ET)
CBO/OCB national exam	April 13, 2024; 1 pm (ET); 10 am (PT)
CBO Biology Camp – Tentative	June 30 – July 4
35th IBO in Astana, Kazakhstan	July 7 to 14, 2024