



1.0 Overview

The 2023 NAPTA Troubleshooting Skills Competition (TSC) is a two-round competition:

- Qualifying Round (Virtual from your home campus)
- Championship Round (In-person)
- Unlimited number of member colleges may participate in the Qualifying Round.
- An unlimited number of teams from each registered member college can participate in the Qualifying Round.
- Twelve (12) teams will advance based on their scores. No more than two (2) teams from any college will advance to the Championship Competition.

Teams will travel to the host school to compete using a PC-based dynamic process simulator.

- The Troubleshooting Competition will be hosted by San Jacinto College in Pasadena, Texas on April 21 – 22, 2023.
- Registration will open on November 1, 2022, and close on March 1, 2023.
- Team member names do not need to be submitted at the time of registration.
 - Team names and team member names must be submitted no later than 6:00 P.M. CT on March 1, 2023.
- Each registered team will qualify for a \$500 travel stipend paid directly to the hotel.



TRAVEL FUNDS OVER THE \$500 STIPEND is the responsibility of each team. Each team is responsible for securing all remaining funds for travel to/from the event.



If your team is unable to raise travel funds by March 1st at 6 p.m. Central Time, they must concede their spot by sending an email to troubleshooting@naptaonline.org to allow an alternate team to be selected to participate.

For more information about travel planning, see section 5.0, travel considerations at the end of this document.



2.0 Teams

NAPTA member schools may enter an unlimited number of teams in the Qualifying Round, but a maximum of two teams from any school will advance to the Championship Round. The teams must meet the criteria below.

2.1 Description

- Teams consist of four students
 - one team captain
 - three team members
- An alternate **MUST** be designated for each team.
 - Their name must be submitted with the team member names, and they must meet the same criteria to compete.
- Students cannot participate on multiple teams.
- Teams **CAN** compete with only three (3) members on the day of the event if a member is unable to participate and **the designated alternate is NOT available** to compete with the team.
- An alternate will not attend the Championship Competition unless he/she is serving as a regular team member, replacing a teammate that was unable to attend/participate.



Coaches/instructors have discretion of team member selection to meet the student qualification criteria listed below.

2.2 Student Qualifications

- Must be **currently** enrolled in the Process Technology program
- May be enrolled on a **full** or **part-time** basis
- **CANNOT** be employed now or in the past in industry as an **operator**
- Students serving as co-ops or interns are **acceptable**
- Students employed as an **apprentice operator** are **NOT** acceptable

3.0 Qualifying Round

Teams will compete using a web-based system via the internet. The Qualifying Round will take place on the college's home campus.

- There are three (3) timed scenarios in the Qualifying Round.
- Teams will compete at a time and date chosen by their coach.
- Teams will compete during the time frame of March 1st through March 31st.

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- Teams will be observed by a proctor during their Qualifying Round. Coaches must remain outside the competition room for the entirety of the competition.

3.1 Qualifying Round Format

The Qualifying Round consists of three (3) troubleshooting scenarios. During each scenario, the team will work on an LMS e-learning system via the internet.

Each scenario is timed. Time begins when the facilitator says to start.

- Scenario A 30 minutes
- Scenario B 30 minutes
- Scenario C 30 minutes

The scenario is complete when either the team leaves the competition area, or the time expires.

The top twelve teams based with the highest scores from the Qualifying Round, will compete in the Championship Competition.

3.2 Process

As the coach, you will need to:

- Register your team(s)
- Practice, Practice, Practice
- Update the coordinator with your team name(s) and the names of the team members including your alternate(s) by 6:00 pm Central time, March 11, 2022.

3.3 Preparations

Make sure teams have read the 2023 NAPTA Troubleshooting Skills Competition: “2023 Team Member Information and Guidelines.”

- Check for questions and understanding
- Practice, Practice, Practice
- Make your reservations for travel, if needed.



Please ensure you get your team name(s) and team member names to the coordinator by 6:00 PM CT on March 1, 2023.

Remember alternates will not attend the TSC unless serving as a regular team member.

3.4 Qualifying Round Competition Rules

1. Coaches are not allowed into the room where the Competition Rounds are conducted.



2. Teams may consult with coaches during breaks between rounds.
3. Team members cannot bring any outside materials into the room, including hard copy or electronic textbooks, notes, or information.
4. Backpacks, satchels, or similar items are not allowed into the computer center.
5. The team may not use any electronic devices (cell phones, tablets, watches, etc.) in the computer center. Team members must not use or wear any headphones, earbuds, or earpieces (like Bluetooth devices).
6. The team must follow all competition room rules (including food/drink, security, etc.) or the team may be disqualified.
7. Timed rounds start when the facilitator gives the command to begin.
8. Once the timed scenario starts, team members cannot leave the room. If a team member leaves for any reason, the team may be disqualified.
9. There will be a 15-minute break after the 1st and 2nd scenarios. Team members must promptly return from the breaks.
10. The team must log out of the system at the completion of each scenario to demonstrate they have finished.
11. Team members from the same team can converse with each other at a reasonable volume not disruptive to the other competing teams.
12. Team members must monitor their own time; the facilitator will not provide verbal time remaining notices. The facilitator will stop the team at the maximum time limit for each exercise.

4.0 NAPTA Troubleshooting Competition Championship Format

- Twelve teams will participate in the Championship Rounds of competition.
- All travel expenses over and above the \$500 hotel stipend award are the responsibility of the teams. **The travel stipend applies to those colleges with travel distance that is greater than 50 miles from the competition site (San Jacinto College CPET Campus) to the competing college's campus.**
- If a team is unable to completely cover travel costs, the team must relinquish its position at the TSC Championship event – ***Please begin your fundraising efforts now!***
- All team members will participate in industry sponsored activities on Friday, April 21st.
- Alternates will not attend the two-day Championship Competition event unless participating as a regular team member, replacing a team member that was unable to attend/participate.
- **All** teams will compete in live simulation-based exercises on Saturday, April 22nd.
- Rounds will be timed.
- The cumulative score from all rounds will determine the 1st – 12th place teams.

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- The awards ceremony and the announcement of the top three highest scorers will take place during the NAPTA TSC Awards Banquet held Saturday evening at 5:00 PM.

5.0 Travel Considerations

5.1 Air or Vehicle Travel

All travel expenses over and above the \$500 hotel stipend award are the responsibility of the teams. **The travel stipend applies to those colleges with travel distance that is greater than a 50-mile radius from the competition site, San Jacinto College CPET Center, to the competing college's campus.**

- Airfare/taxes/fees for the coach and four team members
- Travel to/from airport including parking, tolls, and related costs
- Vehicle rental
- Fuel or mileage
- Tolls

5.2 Lodging

- At least a three-night hotel stay (Thursday, Friday, and Saturday night) at the designated hotel for the competition
- NAPTA is organizing a block of discounted rooms at the designated hotel
- The coach may secure a separate room at his/her discretion and expense

5.3 Meals

The team is responsible for any meals during travel, except:

- Friday lunch
- Friday dinner
- Saturday lunch
- Saturday Awards Banquet
- The hotel selected for the competition will provide breakfast each morning.

5.4 Funding Sources for Travel

Teams will receive a \$500 travel stipend to help cover the cost of travel. (See *section 5.1*) **This stipend is paid directly to the hotel.** All remaining expenses are the responsibility of each team. Potential sources of funding include your college, industry partners, and industry associations. Your team can also take advantage of crowd sourcing or fund-raising activities.

More details about the hotel and rates will be provided to you shortly.