14th Annual
National Process Technology Troubleshooting Skills Competition
2026

The National Process Technology Troubleshooting Skills Competition:

- showcases the problem-solving (troubleshooting) skills of PTEC students from across the nation

- is a two-round competition
  - **Qualifying Round** ("QR" - compete online at your home campus)
  - **Championship Round** ("CR" - compete in person at hosting campus)
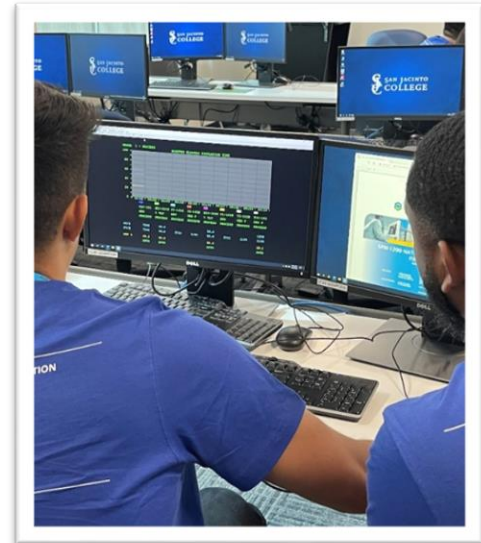
TSC Registration & Qualifying Round

- TSC Registration is currently open on the NAPTA website and **will close on March 6, 2026**. Your team's name and team member names must be provided by this **deadline**.

- To complete registration, each team member and alternate must provide a copy of their college photo ID.

- Alternates must be designated and **your team's alternate may not be changed after the QR**.

TSC Registration & Qualifying Round

- NAPTA member and non-member colleges can participate

- Unlimited number of colleges may participate

- Unlimited number of teams from each registered college can participate

- Teams **must** have 3 team members to compete, and an additional alternate team member is highly recommended.
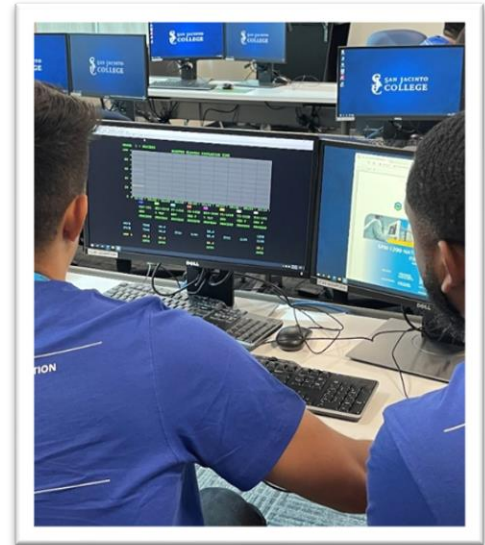
TSC Registration & Qualifying Round

- **New to the competition** - Colleges without a full team can still compete in the competition.

- Students from separate schools can join together into a combined team, practice online together (in Simcirrus), and compete in the QR together.

- Combined teams will be eligible to advance to the CR.

- Combined teams can have a coach from both schools if desired, or only one.

Qualifying Round

- Top 12 highest-scoring teams advance as finalists to the Championship Round, with the limitation that only 2 teams from any single college can advance to the CR

- Finalist teams must travel to the host school to compete

Qualifying Round

There are several resources for you on the NAPTA website.

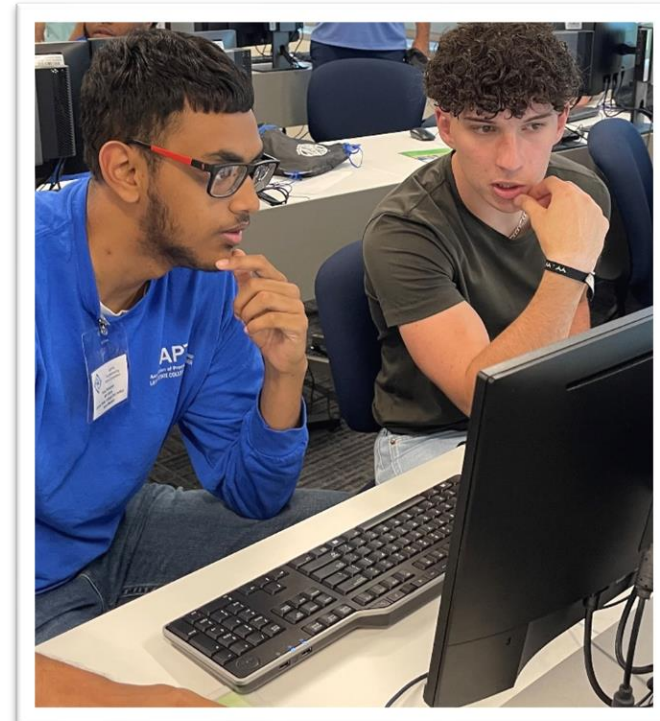Updated TSC rules and guidelines for 2026 will be available on the NAPTA website on 1/30/26.

BE SURE to read through these documents!

Qualifying Round Format

Teams will compete using a web-based system from the college's home campus:

- QR will consist of 3 timed simulator scenarios followed by online eLearning questions. Once teams begin the online test, they will not be able to click backwards on the slides.

- Team competition in the QR can be scheduled from March 16th through 27th.
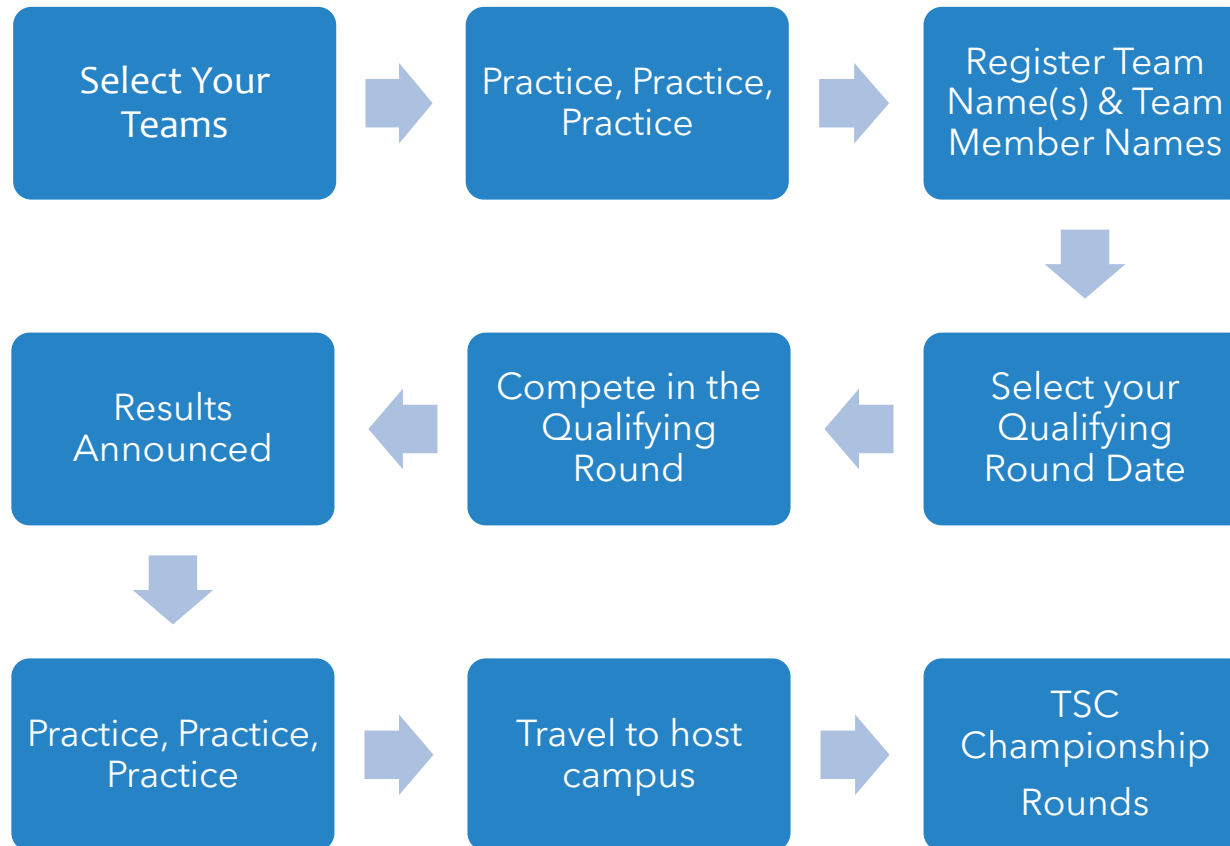
Qualifying Round Format

- The QR will take approximately 2.5 hours.

- Teams compete at a time and date chosen by their coach.

- Choose and schedule your team's QR location on your home campus (classroom, testing room, computer lab, etc.)

- Ensure the computer has internet access

- You may want to use two monitors

Qualifying Round Process

- Assign a proctor (non-PTEC), then notify NAPTA of your proctor's identify & schedule your QR date/time. (You'll receive an email.)

- Confirm accessibility (practice login)

- Your team will log into the website to compete during their scheduled time

Qualifying Round Process

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Select Your          →     Practice, Practice,     →     Register Team
Teams                      Practice                      Name(s) & Team
                                                         Member Names
                                                              ↓
Results              ←     Compete in the          ←     Select your
Announced                 Qualifying                     Qualifying
                          Round                          Round Date
    ↓
Practice, Practice,  →     Travel to host          →     TSC
Practice                   campus                        Championship
                                                         Rounds
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Championship Rounds

NAPTA National Collegiate Process Technology Troubleshooting Skills Competition

Wed. – Fri. April 29th – May 1st, 2026
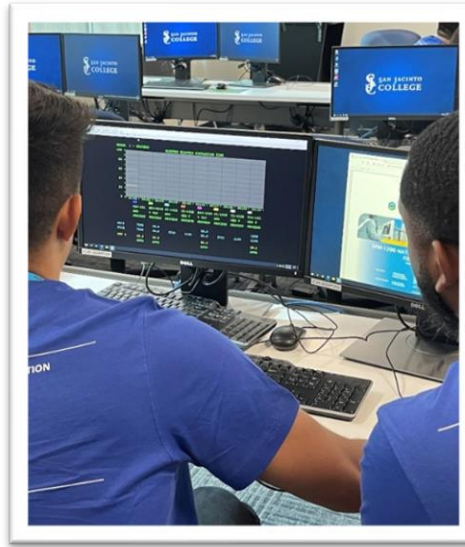(Team check-in at 3:00 p.m. on Wed. for practice simulation/Q&A session.)

San Jacinto College's LyondellBasell CPET
Pasadena, TX

Championship Rounds

New to the competition - alternates who travel with their teams to the CR will compete together in "alternate teams" which will be formed at check-in for the CR on day 1 (April 29, 2026).

➢ Alternate teams will participate and be scored in the competition. Subject matter experts will be provided to serve as Coaches for the newly-formed alternate teams.

Championship Rounds

- Twelve highest-scoring teams from the QR advance and participate in the CR, along with the newly-formed alternate teams

- All teams will check in and participate in a simulation practice and Q&A session on Wed. 4/29/26.

- All teams will compete in live simulation-based exercises on Thurs. 4/30/26

- All team members will participate in industry-related activities, hands-on competition, and electronic testing on Fri. 5/1/26.

Championship Rounds

- Scores will include 3 timed rounds, hands-on elements, and an electronic knowledge test, and these scores will be factored into the cumulative score.

- Awards ceremony will be held Fri. afternoon

- All team members and alternates advancing to the CR are awarded a "National Finalist" certificate

- Trophies awarded to top 3 teams

Questions?