



February 27 - March 1, 2020  
Arlington, VA

## **Frequently Asked Questions – 2020 Mock Trial Competition for Law School Chapters**

### **1. What is the Mock Trial Competition?**

The P.A.D. Law School Mock Trial Competition is an annual competition held in late winter in the Washington, D.C. area. This is the competition's 13th anniversary as an official, national, P.A.D. event.

28 teams from P.A.D. law chapters across the country compete for first through fourth place, with additional honors for outstanding defense, prosecution, advocates, witnesses, and fraternalism awarded. The competition is judged by volunteer lawyers and judges (both P.A.D. alumni and non-members). Teams are comprised of four students and all competitors must be P.A.D. members. This competition is for law school chapters only.

### **2. When is the competition? When should I plan to arrive and leave?**

The official competition dates are February 27th through March 1st. Teams should plan to arrive on Thursday the 27th to check in and attend the team meeting. **At least ONE member of each team must be present at this meeting and ALL TEAM MEMBERS MUST BE CHECKED IN BY 8:00 PM ON THURSDAY NIGHT.**

Competition rounds will run all day Friday and Saturday, with the top four teams advancing to the finals on Saturday afternoon. The official events wrap up with the Awards Reception on Saturday night. There are no events on Sunday, so you are free to leave at any time.

The official competition agenda is posted on the event page. Any updated versions will be emailed to all competitors.

### **3. Where is the competition? Do I need to make my own hotel arrangements?**

Our host hotel is the [Hilton Arlington](#). All teams must make their own hotel arrangements. We have secured a discounted rate of \$124/night (plus taxes) at the Hilton. [Click here to complete your hotel reservation in our room block](#). Rooms must be booked by January 28, 2020 to receive the discounted rate.

The closest airport to the competition is Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport (DCA). There is not a hotel shuttle, but the hotel is adjacent to the Ballston-MU stop on the D.C. metro line, which will take you to and from the airport and into Washington, D.C.

#### **4. Are there any restrictions on who can compete?**

All competitors must be student P.A.D. members (joined, paid, and initiated by the time the competition starts).

#### **5. How many students are on a team, and how many teams can we send?**

There are four (4) students to a team. You can send up to three teams, but each team must be registered in separate registration rounds (there are three).

#### **6. How does registration work?**

Registration will take place online at the link provided on the Mock Trial webpage. All that is required to register is your chapter name and payment of the registration fee. Only one person must register the team and participant names are not required at registration.

Because we only accept 28 teams, registration works in rounds. Each chapter is allowed to register one team per registration round. Registration fees must be paid in full when the teams register UNLESS you provide proof that your school will be providing funding at a later date. The first registration round opens at 9 am on Monday, October 14th and stays open for one week.

Round two of registration will open Monday, October 28th and, like round one, be open for one week. Round three will be opened Monday, November 11th and stay open until all 28 slots are filled.

If you have difficulty registering online, call the Executive Office at 410-347-3118 to register and pay over the phone.

#### **7. What happens when all 28 slots are filled?**

We will open a wait pool. Should a team drop out, all teams in the wait pool will be contacted. The first team to get their registration in will get the slot.

#### **8. How much does Mock Trial cost, and what does that include? Do you offer refunds?**

The cost for this year's competition is \$450.00 per team. This includes registration for all four competitors and covers materials, breakfast and lunch during the competition, and the receptions. Registration costs are non-refundable.

#### **9. Do we need to know who all our team members are when we register?**

No, you do not, since only the chapter name must be provided during registration. However, all team members' names, contact information, and emergency contact information must be submitted to Director of Events Emily Baranoski ([emily@pad.org](mailto:emily@pad.org)) by January 15, 2020.

#### **10. What happens if we need to switch someone on our team after we've submitted participants' names?**

Just email Director of Events Emily Baranoski ([emily@pad.org](mailto:emily@pad.org)) to make team changes and updates. You can make changes to your team all the way up to the start of the competition, but once your team checks in at the competition you cannot change your team.

**11. Do our team members play all roles? Are two competitors specifically witnesses while two are specifically attorneys?**

In any given round, the team will be assigned to compete as either prosecution or defense, and the competitors portraying attorneys on one side (prosecution, for instance) must portray witnesses on the other (in this instance, defense). For example: a chapter sends one team to compete. They are assigned to compete as prosecution during round one and then as defense during round two. All four members of the team will compete as prosecution during round one, two as attorneys and two as witnesses. All four members of the team will compete as defense during round two, two as attorneys and two as witnesses.

Presume the names of the four competitors from this chapter are A, B, C, and D. If when assigned prosecution, A & B are attorneys while C & D are witnesses, when assigned defense C & D **must** be attorneys and A & B **must** be witnesses. You cannot have a team member that is ONLY one or the other.

**12. We have someone who wants to come with us. Is that ok?**

Yes, of course! We welcome guests, coaches, team coordinators, alternate team members, friends, family, etc. Guest and Coach Registration is available on the event page on PAD.org. If they intend on participating in all the events – such as breakfast, lunch, and the receptions – there is \$125 fee per person. If they do not intend to participate – for instance, if they are just coming to watch someone compete for the day – they do not need to pay a fee. Guests who have paid for meals will receive a special notation on their name tag to show that they are permitted to participate in breakfast and lunch. REGARDLESS OF WHETHER GUESTS ARE PARTICIPATING IN EVENTS AND PAYING THE FEE, THEY MUST REGISTER.

**13. When will we get the case for the competition?**

The case is released after the registration rounds are complete. It is generally sent out in late November or early December.

**14. After we get the case, who should I ask if I have a question about it?**

All participants will get the opportunity to ask Case Coordinator Nick Lee questions about the case after its release. Questions must be posed to the Case Coordinator on the Question/Answer thread in the Mock Trial Community. All questions/answers will be made available to all teams.

**15. Is there a list of the official rules?**

Yes – it will be included with the case.

**16. Will we get to see our scores and judges notes?**

Yes! They will be emailed to all team members after the competition is complete.

**17. I have a question that isn't on this list. Who should I talk to?**

Email Director of Events Emily Baranoski at [emily@pad.org](mailto:emily@pad.org) or call her at the Executive Office (410-347-3118).