

CSI Arizona Competition Qualification Scenario Report Guidelines

The Arizona Bar Foundation is the official sponsor of the
CSI Arizona Competition with funding by the Arizona Department of Education.

Participating in the CSI Arizona Competition provides students with the opportunity to showcase what they have learned in the field of forensic science by applying their knowledge and skills to evidence gathering and crime scene analysis.

The CSI Arizona Competition is a two-part competition:

1. Qualification Scenario Report
 - a. The Qualification Scenario Report requires participating teams to produce a report documenting how the evidence from a mock crime scene was processed, preserved, analyzed, and interpreted. Each report will be evaluated by a panel of judges. Invitations to the State Competition will be extended to qualifying teams based on final rankings and the overall competition structure for that year.. The mock crime scene must be provided by the Arizona Bar Foundation.
2. CSI Arizona State Competition
 - a. The CSI Arizona State Competition will be an in-person event. During the State Competition, each team will be presented with a simulated crime scene and evaluated through a series of competition rounds. High school teams will participate in four rounds, and middle school teams will participate in three rounds. The competition will focus on:
 1. Scene preservation, documentation, and evidence collection
 2. Evidence processing and physical examination
 3. Investigative interviewing (high school only)
 4. Final presentation of hypothesis

I. Eligibility

The competition is available for grades 6-12 and any public, private, or charter school class may participate. Teams from School Safety Program (SSP) funded sites will not be charged a fee; teams not from SSP funded sites will only be charged a small fee if they are invited to the State Competition, and there is no fee for participation in the qualification scenario. In the interest of

ensuring fairness and promoting uniformity, the competition shall be governed by the following set of rules:

1. Schools may have more than one team; however, each team may only submit one Qualification Scenario report.
2. Teams comprised of students in grades 6-12 are eligible to participate in the CSI Arizona Competition under the following criteria:
 - a. Teams are divided into two divisions:
 - i. Middle school – grades 6-8
 - ii. High school – grades 9-12
 - b. Teams must consist of at least 4 students but no more than 6.
 - c. Students are enrolled in the school as evidenced by permanent school records.
 - d. Home-schooled students may compete on public school teams as may be permitted by the policies of the local school district. For purposes of competing on a public school team, a home-schooled student will be considered an officially enrolled student at any high school within the school district in which he/she resides for home school.
 - e. The coach of a team must be a faculty member or officer assigned at the same public or private high school at which the students are officially enrolled. The coach is deemed to certify that all students meet the criteria as an officially enrolled student when the team is registered. The coach must notify the Arizona Bar Foundation of any change in a student's status.
 - f. Only students who participate in and complete the advancing Qualification Scenario are eligible to compete at the State Competition. Teams may not add new students after qualifying. Substitutions may only be made if an original team member is unable to attend the State Competition; however, substitutions may not be used to increase the number of students competing at State beyond the number who participated in the Qualification Scenario.
3. Alternates are not active team members and should not work on the qualification scenario. If your team qualifies for the in-person state competition, an alternate may attend only if replacing one of the original competing students for the team they are listed under. Alternates may not be used to increase the number of students who participated in the qualifying scenario and only a maximum of 6 students per team will be allowed at the in-person state competition.

II. Qualification Scenario Report

1. Each team must submit a Qualification Scenario Report Answer Form answering the questions in the "CSI Arizona Qualification Scenario" document.
 - a. The "CSI Arizona Qualification Scenario" and supporting documents can be downloaded in the document center at <https://lawforkids.org/programs/csi->

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- [arizona/document-center/2027-csi-arizona-qualification-scenario](https://lawforkids.org/programs/csi-arizona/document-center/2027-csi-arizona-qualification-scenario). The Qualification Scenario Report must be the result of a collaborative effort of the students and each student must be provided an opportunity to assist in the completion of the report.
2. Teams must include the CSI Arizona Qualification Scenario Cover Page.
 - a. The Cover Page can be downloaded at <https://lawforkids.org/programs/csi-arizona/document-center/2027-csi-arizona-qualification-scenario>.
 3. All students on the team (no alternates) should complete the qualification scenario. The coach should not assist with completion. The responsibility of the coach is to register the team, obtain the Foundation scenario, provide it to the students and communicate the deadline for submission, and to submit the completed scenario.

III. Artificial Intelligence

1. The Qualification Scenario Report must be the original work of the team members. The use of any form of artificial intelligence is strictly prohibited. The Qualification Scenario Report should reflect the knowledge and skill of the students without the use of artificial intelligence.

IV. Submission of Qualification Scenario Report

1. The Qualification Scenario Report Answer Form and Cover Page must be submitted in PDF format by the date designated by the Arizona Bar Foundation at 11:55pm Arizona time.
2. Only the coach can submit the team's completed scenario. Student submissions will not be accepted.
3. The documents can be submitted by email. Please submit to:

Leah Prager, Senior Program Specialist

Email: Leah.Prager@azflse.org

V. Qualification Scenario Report Evaluation

1. The Qualification Scenario Reports will be evaluated by a panel of judges utilizing a scoring rubric.
2. Classes will be notified via email and on LawForKids.org of the schools invited to the CSI Arizona State Competition.

VI. Awards:

1. The Qualification Scenario Reports with the highest scores in each division (middle school and high school) will be invited to participate in the CSI Arizona State Competition.

VII. CSI Arizona State Competition Guidelines

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1. The CSI Arizona State Competition Guidelines will be posted online at <https://lawforkids.org/programs/csi-arizona/document-center/important-documents>.

VIII. Qualification Scenario and State Tournament

1. For purposes of this program, the state of Arizona will be divided into regions. The number and designation of teams assigned to each region is within the discretion of the Arizona Bar Foundation and may be changed without prior notice. The regional map can be downloaded at <https://lawforkids.org/programs/csi-arizona/document-center/important-documents>.

IX. Dispute Resolution

In the event of a protest, conflict, or dispute during the course of the competition, the final arbitration shall be the responsibility of the Arizona Bar Foundation. Issues must be made in writing to the Chief Learning Officer. Any issues that have not been resolved after communication efforts have been exhausted with the Foundation's Chief Learning Officer, the complainant may contact the Foundation's Executive Director/CEO in writing to state their concern, attempts made to reach the resolution, and desired resolution not reached.

X. Timelines

All timelines must be adhered to. Failure to do so may result in disqualification.

Classroom Instruction Recommendations

1. Participating classes are encouraged to participate in 30 hours of instruction in the field of forensic science.
2. Participating classes are encouraged to interact with a minimum of 2 Community Resource People.
3. Participating classes are encouraged to participate in basic forensic science lessons:
 - a. Crime Scene Management and Documentation
 - b. Evidence Collection, Preservation, and Chain of Custody
 - c. Fingerprinting
 - d. Bloodstain Pattern Analysis
 - e. Investigative Interviewing Techniques
 - f. Reconstruction of past events based on evidence collection
4. Recommendations for forensic science curriculum preparation:
 - a. Instructors are encouraged to attend a CSI/Forensic Science training hosted by the Arizona Bar Foundation.

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- b. Instructors are encouraged to collaborate with a school resource officer, school probation officer, and/or science teacher.

Questions or interpretations of these guidelines are within the discretion of the Arizona Bar Foundation Law-Related Education Committee and Board of Directors (the “Foundation”), whose decisions are final.