

**Earn up to $1,700 by having your students participate in Big Questions Debates! The 2016-2017 topic is,** *Resolved: Science leaves no room for free will.*

**Minimum requirements**

At least 15 students should compete in 3 rounds. Elimination rounds are not required, and rounds do not need to be held in one day. Parents and volunteers are welcome to judge. Students and judges will fill out a brief survey after the event.

**Hold the event in whatever way works best for you! Some ideas:**

* Hold a scrimmage with your team members at an after-school practice.
* Invite science teachers to do debates in their classroom during the school day. Parents and faculty members can judge. Students can debate one round per week for a month.
* Add Big Questions as a consolation event at your upcoming tournament.

**Can the students all be from one school?** Yes! We encourage teams to do this internally.

**Money earned depends on the number of student competitors:**

*15-24 students: $700 25-34 students: $900 35-44 students: $1,300 45+ students: $1,700*

* Host several events to earn more money for your program!
* Fifty students will be invited to Nationals, where $20,000 in scholarships will be awarded.

**What free resources are available?**

* Sample cases ([affirmative](https://www.speechanddebate.org/big-questions-sample-affirmative-constructive/) and [negative](https://www.speechanddebate.org/big-questions-sample-negative-constructive/)) and over 50 pages of evidence ([affirmative](https://www.speechanddebate.org/big-questions-affirmative-evidence/) and [negative](https://www.speechanddebate.org/big-questions-negative-evidence/))
* Judge training [video](https://www.speechanddebate.org/judge-training/) and demonstration round [video](https://www.speechanddebate.org/big-questions-debate-demonstration/) on this topic
* A [format manual](https://www.speechanddebate.org/wp-content/uploads/Big-Questions-Format-Manual.pdf) and topic analyses tailored to [novices](https://www.speechanddebate.org/big-questions-novice-topic-analysis/), [intermediate](https://www.speechanddebate.org/big-questions-intermediate-topic-analysis/), and [varsity](https://www.speechanddebate.org/big-questions-advanced-topic-analysis/) debaters

**New to debate? Big Questions is for you!**

Our goal is to make Big Questions an easy, fun way to raise money for your program. We can set the schedule of who debates whom, contact schools in your area to compete, or develop any student/judge resources that would help!

**Interested? Here’s the process:**

1. [Apply](https://www.speechanddebate.org/big-questions-standard-application/). Don’t worry if details are tentative! We will send you $300 of your grant award upfront to help cover any costs. Try to apply at least 2 weeks before your event.
2. Host your event. We will help to make this as easy as possible.
3. Fill out the [reporting form](https://www.speechanddebate.org/big-questions-reporting-form/). Attach your results and any photos from your event!

**Questions?**

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