

**U.S. Department of Energy
National Energy Technology Laboratory
Office of Public Affairs
PO Box 10940
Pittsburgh, PA 15236-0940**

NETL NEWS

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 17, 2016**

**MEDIA CONTACT
Shelley Martin
Shelley.Martin@netl.doe.gov
304-285-0228**

NETL SPONSORS 25TH SOUTHWESTERN PENNSYLVANIA SCIENCE BOWL COMPETITION

Pittsburgh, Pa. — For the 25th consecutive year, the National Energy Technology Laboratory (NETL) will sponsor the Southwestern Pennsylvania (SWPA) Science Bowl for high schools and middle schools. The preliminary rounds of this year's Silver Anniversary Science Bowl competition for high schools will be held on Saturday, February 20. The middle school preliminaries will be held on Saturday, February 27. Both competitions will take place at the Community College of Allegheny County's (CCAC) South Campus in West Mifflin, Pa. Final rounds for both high school and middle school will take place on March 9 at NETL's site in South Park, Pa.

The Science Bowl is an academic competition that tests the science and math knowledge of high school and middle school students. It is a fun and exciting way for teens to develop and apply their teamwork, problem-solving and academic skills while fostering a spirit of healthy competition. The competitions encourage student interest in science and mathematics and showcase possible future careers that rely on those skills.

Science Bowl teams are composed of four student players plus one alternate (optional) and a teacher who serves as the team's advisor and coach. During the preliminary rounds, teams will compete in a series of fast-paced head-to-head matches where they will buzz in to answer challenging multiple choice and short answer science and math questions. When the preliminary competition is complete, four high school teams and four middle school teams will advance to the finals where they will vie for the opportunity to represent the region at the national competition. The high school and middle school teams that capture the regional championships will each receive an all-expense paid trip to the Department of Energy's National Science Bowl in Washington, D.C. There they will once again put their math and science skills to the test, competing with regional

champions from the 70 regional competitions held across the United States, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands to determine the national champion.

For additional information on the Southwestern Pennsylvania Science Bowl competitions, visit our website at www.swpasciencebowl.com, follow us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/SWPAScienceBowl>, or contact Lilas Soukup at lilas.soukup@netl.doe.gov.

NETL is a U.S. Department of Energy national laboratory that produces technological solutions to America's energy challenges. For more than 100 years, the laboratory has focused on developing tools and processes to provide clean, reliable, and affordable energy to the American people. Three NETL research sites—Albany, Ore., Morgantown, W.Va., and Pittsburgh, Pa.—conduct a broad range of energy and environmental research and development activities that support DOE's mission to advance the national, economic, and energy security of the United States.

- NETL -