

TEAM SIZE & GRADE LEVELS

<https://www.soinc.org/start-team/team-size-grade-levels>

- Division B (Grades 6-9)
- Division C (Grades 9-12)

Students on the team must be from the membership school; and a school is considered to be a separate school if it has a separate administrator. Recruiting from neighboring schools, districts, counties or states is not permitted. If you are home-educated or attend a virtual school, please see team qualification requirements under the national [Home and Virtual School Policy](#). Any student can compete at only one Division level (either Division B or C, not both) at a single school.

DIVISION C TEAM MEMBERSHIP RULES

A team may have up to fifteen (15) members. A maximum of seven (7) 12th grade students is permitted on a Division C team.

DIVISION B TEAM MEMBERSHIP RULES

A team may have up to fifteen (15) members. A maximum of five (5) 9th grade students is permitted on a Division B team. Because middle schools that do not have grades 7, 8 or 9 are at a slight disadvantage, they may invite any combination of up to five (5) of their last year's 6th, 7th or 8th grade students to be part of the team. Possible examples/scenarios:

- A school with grades X-9 can only have 5 students from grade 9 (in their current enrollment)
- A school with grades X-8 can only bring back 5 students from grade 9 (from the previous year's enrollment of 8th grade students)
- A school with grades X-7 can only bring back 5 students from grade 8 or 9 (who had been previously enrolled in that school as a 7th grade student)
- A school with grades X-6 can only bring back 5 students from grades 7, 8 or 9 (who had been previously enrolled in that school as a 6th grader)

STUDENTS BELOW GRADE LEVEL DESIGNATIONS

Science Olympiad encourages students to participate in the Division that matches current Science Olympiad grade level designations. However, to support the inclusion of students who wish to participate in Science Olympiad, schools with grade levels lower than those stated in a Division are permitted to invite members below the grade level designations. (A K-8 school could enlist a Division B team of all 5th graders)

Participation is limited to age-appropriate events (as determined by a coach, principal or tournament director) and prohibited where safety is a concern (such as the use of chemicals).