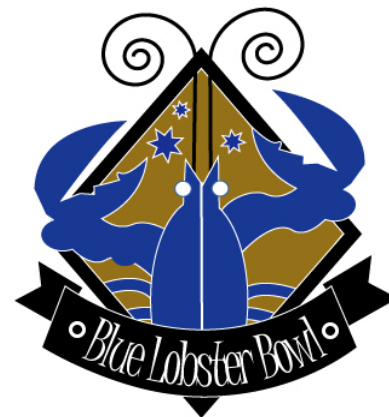


Blue Lobster Bowl 2020

[The Blue Lobster Bowl](#) is an annual academic competition run by the MIT Sea Grant College Program that encourages high school students to learn about the ocean. Each year, students from high schools throughout Massachusetts* travel to MIT to test their knowledge and to compete. Teams of high school students are quizzed on their knowledge of ocean science subjects including chemistry, biology, engineering, history, ecology, climate change, and weather, as part of a fun, national quiz bowl program.



The winning 2020 Blue Lobster Bowl high school team will represent Massachusetts in the National Finals Competition April 16-19 in Long Beach/Gulfport, MS, with all travel and accommodation expenses paid.

*In 2020, the Blue Lobster Bowl will include approximately four "A" teams from Connecticut and/or Rhode Island since the Quahog Bowl is not taking place.

Preparations are underway for the Blue Lobster Bowl at MIT on **Saturday, February 29, 2020**, with Sunday 3/1/20 as the snow postponement competition day.

The Blue Lobster Bowl competition (which includes lunch, snacks, swag, and prizes) costs \$50 registration fee for each competing team. *Financial need waivers are available by application for A and B teams.*

To apply to participate in this year's bowl, please BOTH complete a separate Team Intent Form for each one of your school's A, B, and/or C teams AND complete an online Team Intent Registration for each team. One form and one [online registration](http://www.pmd.org/s/BLB20TeamIntent.htm) (<http://www.pmd.org/s/BLB20TeamIntent.htm>) per team must be **RECEIVED by December 4, 2019**. Full registration fee payment (or application for a financial need waiver) must also be received by 12/4/19. Please make checks payable to "MIT Sea Grant" and send payment and all forms to Diane Alicea, MIT Sea Grant, 77 Massachusetts Ave., Rm. NW98-151, Cambridge, MA 02139. [Only overnight deliveries should be sent to Diane Alicea, MIT Sea Grant, 12 Emily Street, Cambridge, MA 02139-4507.]

Up to 24 student teams can compete in the Blue Lobster Bowl each year. If we have more teams than we can accommodate, we will accept one team (the "A Team") from every school that has applied. If sufficient space remains, we will then accept all secondary teams ("B Teams"), and then tertiary teams ("C Teams"). *If we cannot accommodate all of the teams in a class (A, B, or C), we will determine competing schools from that class by the earliest date intent forms were received.*

Team coaches will be notified of their respective teams' statuses (competing or waitlisted to compete in case there are cancellations) via email by December 13, 2019.

Complete online registration (using Eventbrite like 2019), as well as postmarked, original, completed student and coach consent/releases and medical forms (PDFs that coaches will receive by 12/13/19), by coaches will be required by January 31, 2020. You may register up to seven students per team, but there can be no cross-team duplication/registration. All registered students should plan to attend the competition, but only the same 4-5 may compete in every round. The full team (up to seven students and a coach) will receive lunch and swag and may compete in the **McDowell Science Challenge, an MIT-specific problem-solving challenge** (90 minutes; for teams not competing in the single-elimination tournament) with its own winner, trophy, and prize.

We encourage waitlisted teams to register online and postmark their hardcopy medical and consent/release forms also by 1/31/20, and to plan to attend in case there are last-minute cancellations like 2015-2019, when all waitlisted teams competed.

Teams that fail to register fully online by 1/31/20, or that submit incomplete and/or inaccurate student and coach consent and medical forms late (postmarked after 1/31/20), will not be allowed to compete in 2020. **NO DEADLINE EXTENSIONS** can be granted, and so we strongly encourage coaches to collect, carefully check for completeness, enter all of this data carefully, and submit these forms early.

Coaches of teams that must cancel their participation should do so as soon as possible, and no later than January 6, 2020. If a coach cancels his/her team's participation by 1/6/20, the team's registration fee will be refunded in full. No refund will be made if a team cancels after 1/6/20, does not complete the required online registration and provide all hardcopy forms postmarked by 1/31/20, or fails to attend the full 2/29/20 competition, since it will eliminate other schools' teams' opportunities to compete with them.

Coaches should direct their questions to 2020 Blue Lobster Bowl Regional Co-Coordinator Lori Tsuruda at Ltsuruda@gmail.com or office landline (*82)1-781-963-0373.

TEAM INTENT FORM for Blue Lobster Bowl 2020

By 12/4/19, MIT Sea Grant must receive this form with \$50 registration fee or Financial Need Waiver AND Coach must also complete online Intent Registration.

High School Name: _____

Complete High School Address: _____

Principal's First & Last Names _____

Principal's Email Address _____

TEAM **A** **B** **C** (*circle only one letter*)

Registration Fee: *Pick One* \$50 check enclosed Financial Need Waiver Application enclosed

Each team must have a single, unique, designated coach. This coach must be a teacher or official from the team's school, a school designee, or an employee or official with an education or science program that is sponsoring a team. Coaches must be age 18 or older. No high school students can serve as coaches.

Coach's First and Last Names: _____

Email Address(es): _____

Work Phone Number: _____

Cell Phone Number: _____

Firm Commitment for 3/1/20 Snow Postponement Competition Day? Yes No Unsure

Number of Years Coaching Experience: _____

Optional: Assistant Coach's Names & Email: _____

Team Lunch Preference: *Pick One* Pizza (*like 2019*) Sandwiches/Subs (*like prior years*)

As this team's coach, I agree to

_____ *initials* Comply with the official [2019-2020 competition rules](#).

_____ *initials* Serve as the point of contact between my students and BLB/NOSB staff.

_____ *initials* Collect all student data and forms, keep their contents confidential, and send in these original hardcopies, postmarked 1/31/20 or earlier.

_____ *initials* Personally enter all required student data online by 1/31/20.

_____ *initials* IF this team (at least four students and one coach) cannot compete on 2/29/20, cancel by emailing Ltsuruda@gmail.com by 1/6/20.

_____ *initials* Expressly prohibit my team's students and their families from attending other regional bowls February 1-28, 2020.

_____ *initials* Check in and designate my team's 4-5 competitors at 9:30am on 2/29/20.

_____ *initials* Participate in the entire 2/29/20 competition with my team, 9:30am-6pm.

Coach's Signature _____ Date _____

Principal's Signature _____ Date _____

FINANCIAL NEED WAIVER APPLICATION

MIT Sea Grant must receive this completed form from each team seeking \$50 registration fee waiver by 12/4/19 for Blue Lobster Bowl 2020.

High School Name: _____

Complete High School Address: _____

_____ % students in poverty/enrolled in federal free and reduced lunch programs

_____ Year for which above percentage was calculated/reported

_____ Optional: Other reason(s) for requesting waiver of \$50 team registration fee:

TEAM **A** **B** (*circle one team for which you are requesting registration fee waiver*)

Coach First and Last Names: _____

If my school receive a registration fee waiver, I agree that

_____ *initials* IF this team cannot compete on 2/29/20, the coach (*listed above*) will cancel this team's participation by emailing *Ltsuruda@gmail.com* by 1/31/20.

_____ *initials* IF the coach cancel's this team's participation AFTER 1/31/20 and/or my school does not field a **viable team** (*one pre-registered coach and at least 4 pre-registered students*) **that participates in the entire competition on 2/29/20**, my school will pay a \$50 penalty fee to MIT Sea Grant.

Principal's Signature _____ Date _____

Principal's First & Last Names _____

Principal's Email Address _____