

Montana Economics Challenge

April 9, 2010

Fifteenth Annual Montana Economics Challenge

The Helena Branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis and the Montana Council on Economic Education (MCEE) are pleased to announce the Fifteenth Annual Montana Economics Challenge.

The Federal Reserve Bank invites Montana high school teachers of social studies, government, economics, business, and enrichment programs to assemble teams of students to compete in a challenging array of tests covering economic concepts, issues and reasoning.

The purpose of the Economics Challenge is to increase students' exposure to and interest in economics in an entertaining atmosphere. The Economics Challenge began in 1988 as a product of the Minnesota Council on Economic Education. The Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis became involved in 1992 when it sponsored a playoff round for the winning schools from the state's various regional centers for economic education. The Helena Branch participated for the first time in 1996 when, along with the MCEE, it held the first Economics Challenge in Montana.

Teams are comprised of their coach and four students, who compete individually and as a team. Essentially, each participant takes a 15-question, multiple choice test in each of the following three areas: Microeconomics, Macroeconomics and International Trade and Economics. To determine team scores, the top three individuals' scores in each category are combined. The top two teams after the first three rounds will compete against each other in a buzzer round on Current Events to determine the final winner. Awards for top scores are given to individuals and to teams. Please keep in mind that each school may have more than one team and that it's not necessary for a school to offer a general economics class to compete in the Challenge.

The Federal Reserve Bank will cover costs associated with the Montana Challenge, including refreshments, breakfast, the luncheon, awards, and test facilitation. The Montana Bankers Association will cover lodging expenses on Thursday, April 8th for teams who wish to travel to Helena the day before the Challenge and the MCEE will cover costs for a substitute teacher on the 9th. A change in 2010 is that there will not be a regional competition but instead a semi-final round which will be a proctored exam taken at the state champion's school. The Council for Economic Education will contribute financial support for travel expenses related to the National Competition in New York City where the top 6 teams are invited to compete for the national championship title on May 23-24, 2010.

We hope that you consider this opportunity for your students and look forward to seeing you in Helena on Friday, April 9th.

**Register by
March 22, 2010
size is limited**

2009 Results

1st place in the David Ricardo division was taken by the "JAGUARS" from Park High School.

2nd place in the David Ricardo division was the "FREE MARKET-ERS" from Glasgow High School.

1st place in the Adam Smith division was taken by the "TIGERS" from Park High School.

2nd place in the Adam Smith division was the "GUNS & BUTTER" team from Hot Springs High School.

A team from Park High School advanced to regionals and placed 7th in the competition.

A total of 16 teams competed in 2009 representing 10 schools from across the state.

Nationals

The national competition will be held in New York City on **May 23-24, 2010.**

April 9, 2010

Where: Best Western Great Northern Hotel
835 Great Northern Blvd
Helena, MT 59601

Who: Teams of four members & their coach. The total number of teams will be limited to 20.

Why: Provide students interested in economics an opportunity to gain more knowledge and showcase their skills in a fun and competitive manner.

Sponsored by:

- Council for Economic Education
- Montana Bankers Association
- Montana Council on Economic Education
- Helena Branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis

Register by March 22, 2010

Phone: 1-800-823-4333, ext. 73864

Email: Helena.MTChallenge@mpls.frb.org

Resources Available for Study:

- Virtual Economics CD ROM are available through the Montana Council for Economic Education. Please use contact information below if you would like to receive a copy.
- Sixteen MCEE Economic Learning Modules are available. If you would like to receive a copy, please contact the MCEE. They can be found on the web at www.econedmontana.org. You can contact the MCEE office at 406-994-5618 or email mcee@montana.edu. You can also write to the following address:

MCEE
Department of Ag Econ/Econ
Rm 409 Linfield Hall MSU
Bozeman, MT 59717

- The MCEE can also provide a list of resources available for checkout on a temporary basis.
- Lessons available through the Council for Economic Education
www.econedlink.org/
- Council for Economic Education's list of economic education weblinks
www.councilforeconed.org
- Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis web page
www.minneapolisfed.org/community_education/teacher/
- Federal Reserve System's interactive site
www.FederalReserveEducation.org
- Last year's Challenge exam. Available by contacting Rhonda Krieger with the Helena Branch at 1-800-823-4333, extension 3864 or email Helena.MTChallenge@mpls.frb.org

**Please join us in our
effort to expand
economic literacy in
Montana!**