

The 70th William Lowell Putnam Mathematics Competition

The William Lowell Putnam Mathematics Competition is an annual college-level mathematics competition. Last year about 2500 students from over 400 colleges and universities participated in the contest.

Who may compete: The competition is open to any regularly enrolled undergraduate student who has not yet received a college degree. No individual may participate in the competition more than four times.

When and where: The 2009 exam will be given on **Saturday December 5, 2009 in Room 305 Carver**. The exam is given in two sessions, a morning session and an afternoon session. The morning session runs from **9:00am until 12:00 noon**, and the afternoon session from **2:00pm until 5:00pm**.

What is the test like? The Putnam Exam consists of twelve problems. Six of these problems are given during the morning session, and an second six during the afternoon session. Each problem is worth 10 points, for a total of 120 points possible. All necessary work to justify an answer and all necessary steps of a proof must be shown clearly to obtain full credit. Some partial credit may be given, but only for significant progress towards a solution. The top twenty-five contestants nationally will be awarded cash prizes from the Putnam Prize Fund.

Can I practice? Yes! Problems and some solutions from past exams are available on the web at

<http://www.unl.edu/amc/a-activities/a7-problems/putnamindex.shtml>

In addition, there will be weekly practice sessions, 4:00-5:30 every Thursday afternoon, starting October 1, in a room TBA.

OK, sign me up! Just fill-out the form below, tear it off, and return it to Elgin Johnston (396C Carver) by 12:00 noon, Thursday, October 8. For more information, call 4-0302 or e-mail ehjohnst@iastate.edu.

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Name: _____ Year in School: _____

Ames/Campus Address: _____

Home Address (for publicity purposes): _____

Phone: _____ E-mail _____