



The NC Restaurant & Lodging Association Hospitality Education Foundation (NCFEF) is proud to announce the 7th Annual North Carolina ProStart Invitational, to be held in Charlotte, February 20-22, 2020. This year's event will take place at Johnson and Wales University, 801 W. Trade St., Charlotte, NC 28202

The North Carolina ProStart Invitational showcases the culinary and academic talents of high school ProStart students. The highlight of the event is students participating in one or both team competition formats: Culinary Competition and Management Competition. Winning teams from both the Culinary and Management Competitions will be awarded medals and scholarships to pursue post-secondary education. The first place team in both competitions will also continue on to the **National ProStart Invitational (May 8-10, 2020 in Washington, D.C.)** to represent North Carolina ProStart. In addition, the North Carolina ProStart Invitational features activities and opportunities that enable students to meet and network with post-secondary representatives and industry partners from around the state.

As we prepare for the 2020 event, we ask for your support in identifying the schools that will participate. In order to build the most comprehensive event plan and budget, please supply as much information as possible.

General Guidelines

- Schools may send up to two teams: one to compete in the Culinary Competition and one to compete in the Management Competition.
- Teams may have students that compete on teams in both competitions.
- Participating schools are not required to compete in both events.
- Teams must be current ProStart program students attending the same high school or career/technical center.
- Teams are comprised of at least two students with a maximum of four students per team, plus one optional team manager which may step in as the alternate if necessary. This means schools may bring up to 10 students if competing in both competitive events.
- Students may only compete at the North Carolina ProStart Invitational for 2 years, which may be non-consecutive.
- In order to participate in the 2020 North Carolina ProStart Invitational, your school must be a confirmed ProStart program (either full or premier) and have your school agreement on file with the NC Restaurant & Lodging Association Hospitality Education Foundation.
- Specific student registration forms and waivers will be distributed to all schools that file this "Intent to Participate" form.
- Schools that are awarded first place in both the management and culinary competitions will be required to attend the Team NC Nationals Boot Camp that will be held between the NC ProStart Invitational and the National ProStart Invitational in the spring. This additional practice will be determined at a later date.

Competition space will only be allocated for teams that commit to participating. Please note that schools are responsible for making their own travel arrangements and covering the costs of transportation and lodging for your teachers, chaperones, students and guests. To help with the preparation of your school's travel budget, there is hotel information included in this document.

The Intent to Participate Form must be signed by the school's ProStart Educator and Principal or CTE Director and returned to NCHEF by January 8, 2020.

**Intent to Participate Form
2020 North Carolina ProStart Invitational**

Due WEDNESDAY, January 8, 2020

Culinary Competition

Yes our school will participate

estimated number of students

estimated educator(s)/chaperon(s)/mentor(s)

No, our school will not be competing in the Culinary Competition

Management Competition

Yes our school will participate

estimated number of students

estimated educator(s)/chaperon(s)/mentor(s)

No, our school will not be competing in the Restaurant Management Competition

Additional Competition Requirements:

_____(teacher initial) I understand that should our team place first in the culinary or management competition, we will be required to attend the Team NC National Boot Camp sometime in late March. It will be our responsibility to make arrangements to attend.

_____(teacher initial) I understand that should our team place first in the culinary or management competition, we will be required to compete in the National ProStart Invitational **May 8-10, 2020 in Washington, D.C.** to represent NC. The NC Restaurant & Lodging Association through the North Carolina Hospitality Education Foundation will cover the cost of hotel accommodations, team registration, and travel expenses for the competing students and 1 educator to attend this competition.

Cancellation Policy: Official school registration will occur after this form has been filed. There is a registration fee per competing student, educator, chaperone, and/or mentor. After official registration is completed, if a team cannot compete, the team must submit a written cancellation to NCHEF **no later than January 31, 2020** to receive a refund. Teams that do not meet the cancellation deadline or subsequently withdraw after January 31 will not receive a refund and may not be invited to compete the following year.

School

Signature of School Principal or CTE Director

Name of School ProStart Educator

Phone Number

Please scan and email this form to Kara Hamilton, khamilton@ncrla.org by WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8, 2020.

North Carolina ProStart Invitational Registration Details

Registration form, student waivers and dish request forms will be distributed by **JANUARY 8** to all teams that file this Intent to Participate Form.

Guest attendance: The 2020 NC ProStart Invitational is free and open to the public. Guests may attend the competition events on FRIDAY, MARCH 8. There will be parking options available for those attending the competition. If a guest would like to attend the awards brunch and ceremony on SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22, they will need to purchase a ticket online prior to the event.

Hotels

All competitors and educators MUST attend the Mandatory Competition Orientation on Thursday, February 20 at 5pm in Hance Auditorium on the JWU campus. Teams will need to arrive between 3-5pm to check in materials at the Special Events center in the Academic Building on campus. Please plan your arrival accordingly. Traffic in Charlotte can be heavy. Teams that do not check in materials and attend the mandatory orientation on Thursday will be penalized with a deduction of points during their competitive event.

A room block has been made at the **DoubleTree by Hilton Charlotte**, 895 W. Trade St., Charlotte, NC 28202. This hotel is on the campus of JWU. You may call the hotel directly at 704-227-2815 ask for the "NC ProStart Invitational Room Block". You may also make your reservation online. The group page for making reservations for the competition is online.

Our special room rate is \$129.00 per night. The rate is for rooms with 2 double beds. Rate listed is exclusive of applicable state and local taxes. Special discount rate is available February 19-21, based on availability. Reservations should be made on or before 5:00 p.m., January 20, 2020 to take advantage of this special discounted rate.

Important Dates & Reminders

January 8, 2020	Intent to Participate Form due to khamilton@ncrla.org
January 8, 2020	Registration Information, Student Waivers and Dish Request Form distributed to all schools that file an Intent to Participate Form
January 22, 2020	Team Registration Payments due to NC HEF
January 31, 2020	Team cancellation deadline
January 20, 2020	Cut-Off Date to Receive Special Rate at Doubletree by Hilton Charlotte All student participation waivers, dish requests due to khamilton@ncrla.org No roster additions after this date/DROPS only
January 22, 2020	Management rough drafts proposals due via email to khamilton@ncrla.org
February 7, 2020	Lunch and Award Brunch Ceremony ticket purchases close online
February 20, 2020	Team Registration/Check In 3:00-5:00pm JWU Special Events Center Mandatory Team Orientation Meeting 5-5:30pm JWU Hance Auditorium
February 21, 2020	2020 NCPI Competition Day-JWU Wildcat Center
February 22, 2020	Vendors/Exhibits 7:30-10am Educational Session 8:30-9:30am Awards Breakfast Reception 9:30-10:15am Awards Ceremony 10:15am-11am
May 8-10, 2020	2020 National ProStart Invitational, Washington, D.C.
