TO: HIGH SCHOOL CHEMISTRY TEACHERS
FROM: ACS HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATION COMMITTEE
RE: 2021 SCHOLARSHIP EXAMINATION

The Chicago Section of the American Chemical Society is sponsoring the 2021 Scholarship Examination. High school students in the Chicago area who are presently enrolled in the first year of high school level chemistry are eligible. A.P. Chemistry is not considered a first year high school chemistry course. We are asking teachers to register current students to take the exam (we do ask for student email addresses). However, due to covid-19, the exam will only be offered online. Furthermore, we are requiring teachers (or their proxies) to serve as proctors. The mechanism for proctoring will be discussed in a later mailing.

The online exam will be composed of both multiple choice and problem-solving questions, and will last 90 minutes. It will consist of questions and problems representative of a challenging first year high school chemistry course. A calculator may be used during the exam. Instances of dishonesty will warrant immediate disqualification from the exam competition plus referral to the appropriate high school principal. All exams will be graded as soon as possible. Details for the online procedures will be available when finalized, but will probably entail connection via Zoom in addition to the online platform for the exam.

Additional test materials can be found at: http://chicagoacs.org/content.php?page=Scholarships

To register student(s) for the Scholarship Exam:

1. Go to http://chicagoacs.org/content.php?page=Scholarships, click on the nominations form link, and enter the requested information.

2. Obtain a copy of the most recent official transcript (stamped by school registrar) and official schedule (showing the nominating chemistry teacher’s name) for each student. We recognize that schools may not be able to supply these in a timely fashion, so we will accept screenshots or pdfs of student copies in order to sit for the exam and can be sent by email to chicagoacs@ameritech.net. Official transcripts and schedules are required to win any scholarship.

3. Mail official transcript(s) and official schedule(s) to:

   2021 Scholarship Exam
   Chicago Section ACS
   1400 Renaissance Drive, Suite 312
   Park Ridge, IL 60068
   847-391-9091

   All forms must be received at the ACS office by Friday, May 7, 2021.
   We suggest sending forms by delivery confirmation.
RULES FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE SCHOLARSHIP EXAM

1. A teacher may nominate only two students who are currently enrolled in his/her course during the current school year.

2. Obtain a copy of the most recent official transcript (stamped by school registrar) and official schedule (showing the nominating chemistry teacher’s name) for each student. We recognize that schools may not be able to supply these in a timely fashion, so we will accept screenshots or pdfs of student copies in order to sit for the exam. Official transcripts and schedules are required to win any scholarship.

3. The nominations must be received no later than Friday, May 7, 2021. Emails will be sent to registered students with information as it becomes available.

4. Each student must have a valid high school ID at check-in/registration. No exceptions will be made. Yearbooks, birth certificates, etc. are NOT valid forms of identification.

5. The decisions of the ACS Scholarship Committee in interpreting these rules and in selecting winners are final. The top five students will earn monetary awards as indicated at https://chicagoacs.org/Scholarships. In addition, the Marshall S. Smoler Award will be given to the highest placing Chicago Public High School student (given by his sister, Rachel Smoler), the Bernard E. Schaar Award, from the Chicago Chemists’ Club, is given to the highest-scoring student from the City of Chicago, and the Marie Ann Lishka Memorial Scholarship Award will be given to the highest scoring female high school student.

6. The listed prizes will be awarded in the form of payment of tuition and fees at a college or University of the winner’s choice provided that (a) he/she is accepted at the school; (b) the school meets the requirements for professional training in chemistry as outlined by the American Chemical Society; (c) the winner enrolls in at least one course in chemistry during his or her freshman year. Any prize money in excess of tuition, fees, and books for the first year of study may be used for living expenses.

7. Each teacher of a nominee(s) of the top five awards will receive a one-year membership in AACT (or extension of current membership). If more than one teacher’s name is on the nomination card, both teachers will be awarded AACT memberships.

8. All winners and their teachers are invited as guests and are expected to attend the Education Night meeting of the Chicago Section ACS for presentation of the awards/tuition certificates.

Please copy this letter and/or pass it on to your colleagues who may not have received this mailing.
For more information, call the Chicago Section, ACS office at (847) 391-9091.

Sincerely,
Russ Kohnken and Sherri Rukes
Chicago ACS High School Education Committee Co-chairs