



2025  
SUMMER STUDY  
GUIDEBOOK



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# GENERAL INFORMATION

## **National Bible Bee Statement of Faith**

While participants and family members participating in any National Bible Bee (NBB) program are not required to agree with every doctrinal point contained in the NBB Statement of Faith, they must agree as part of registration not to dispute, challenge or debate the Statement of Faith.

## **National Bible Bee History**

The Shelby Kennedy Foundation is the parent organization of NBB. Shelby Kennedy always said she wanted her life to be like a pebble that hits a pond creating a ripple effect. We are all given the opportunity to make an impact on others. She wanted her love for God and His Word to impact those around her. Though Shelby went home to be with the Lord after an intense struggle with cancer, the Word that she loved endures forever. It is the Foundation's hope that God's Word will dwell richly in the hearts of young people of this generation and transform the generations to come. The vision for NBB is "to know God's Word and make Him known".

## **Contacting National Bible Bee**

**Mailing Address:** National Bible Bee  
115 N Loop 1604 E. Ste 1206  
San Antonio, TX 78232

**Phone:** 210-489-7311  
**Website:** biblebee.org  
**Contact Email:** info@biblebee.org

## HOST GUIDE MAP



**INVITE** your community to participate in the National Bible Bee Summer Study.

**INVEST** in your community by hosting local gatherings that encourage and engage participants through the 8-week Summer Study.



**INSPIRE** your community by hosting a NBB Proclaim! Day

### IMPORTANT DATES

Early Participant  
Registration: **April 1 – April 14**

Participant Registration: April  
**28 – May 15**

Late Participant Registration:  
May **16 – 31**

Summer Study:  
June **9 – August 15**

Proclaim! Day:  
August **8 – 15**

Qualifying Test:  
August **15 – 18**





# SUMMER STUDY HOST

## What is the Host's Role?

All hosts seek to fulfill three primary roles:

**INVITE** their community to participate in the National Bible Bee Summer Study. National Bible Bee is a tool to encourage and inspire young people “to know God’s Word and make Him known”. Hosts can promote it by recruiting participants in their contacts, in their church, and in their community.

**INVEST** in their community by hosting gatherings that encourage and engage participants as they study and memorize God’s Word. Each participant will walk through the Discovery Journal, an 8-week Bible study focused on a specific portion of Scripture, and be given memory passages that they will memorize throughout the summer. A hard copy of the Discovery Journal is included with Participant Registration.

**INSPIRE** their community by hosting a NBB Proclaim! Day. This event provides an opportunity for all participants who have memorized God’s Word to make Him known through the public recitation of their Scripture passages. This event also involves a competition element that is the initial step toward qualifying for the National Bible Bee Competition. After the NBB Proclaim! Day, the qualification process continues as participants across the country will be given an opportunity to take the online NBBC Qualifying Test, and the top 120 scores from each age division will qualify for the National Bible Bee Competition.

# HOST RESOURCES

## **Personal Support**

A group of seasoned hosts (Host Support Team) are ready, able and eager to answer any questions about your responsibilities as a host and the hosting program as a whole. They work tirelessly throughout the year to help you in this endeavor. Additionally, the staff at NBB are available and willing to help.

## **Host Dashboard**

This web page will include promotional materials, memory passage cards, and guidebooks to aid the host in facilitating their group. The host will also find information regarding the registered participants in their group.

## **Host Tool Kit**

Each registered host will be sent a package which will include the following items:

Host T-shirt, Summer Study Guidebook, full-page poster, and half-page promotional flyers.

## **Training Videos and Webinar**

Training videos covering the broad details of being a host can be found on your dashboard. The webinar is led by the Host Support Team who will walk new hosts through the details. New hosts will receive an email invitation to the webinar. Hosts are required to attend and/or watch the training videos and webinar for their host group to become active on the site.

## **NBBC Rulebook**

A PDF version of the National Bible Bee Competition Rulebook will be provided through the dashboard.



### **Online Host Community**

This community, led by the Host Support Team, is a place to receive support from other hosts around the nation. It serves as a great resource for finding ideas for promoting participation in host groups, for planning gatherings and for hosting an NBB Proclaim! Day.

## HOST ROLES

### **Hosts INVITE their Community to Participate**

Upon completing the prerequisites, registered hosts will be listed in the host directory on the NBB website. Once they are added to the directory, participants can sign up for their host group during participant registration. National Bible Bee will provide hosts with promotional fliers as they seek to spread the word among their contacts, in their church and other local churches, and throughout their community. In their community, they could reach out to a Bible club in a local school, a Christian School or a homeschool group. Or, ask their local Christian radio station to make a free public announcement. Hosts can also recruit one family and start small.

### **Hosts INVEST in their Community**

Hosts provide answers to participant's questions, encouragement throughout the Summer Study and keep them informed of any gatherings that the host group might have. Gatherings are a great way to encourage and inspire all participants in their host groups.

## What are Gatherings?

A gathering is when hosts get together with the participants of their host group. It is a great time to prepare your participants for the NBB Proclaim! Day and for the NBBC qualifying test, but most importantly it is a time to encourage your participants in the study of God's Word. There is great variety in what a host can do at a gathering such as: study games, review drills, pizza or ice cream socials, worship and prayer time. Many hosts allow time for fellowship and friendships. The goal is for participants to leave encouraged and inspired to continue even stronger in their study of God's Word.

## How to Determine the Frequency of Gatherings

The frequency of gatherings is determined by the host. National Bible Bee requires that each host plan at least three gatherings. Here are two suggested options to help hosts.

### Option One:

**1st Gathering:** Meet and greet with the group. Demonstrate excitement for the Summer Study and memorizing God's word. The host should provide the plans and schedule for the summer and answer questions.

**2nd Gathering:** Do some fun games or activities to review the study and passages. Be sure to have the participants practice reciting Scripture to each other, parents or the group.

**3rd Gathering (NBB Proclaim! Day):** Enjoy the NBB Proclaim! Day competition. Offer participants or their families to share what they learned through the Summer Study. Celebrate completing the Discovery Journal and memorizing all the passages. End with a party and reward store!

**Option Two:** Hosts can plan gatherings to meet the needs of the group, providing more than three meetings during the Summer Study. Use a variety of formats and games/activities for the gatherings.

### How to Prepare for Gatherings

**Plan** the details for the gatherings

- Form a small team to help carry out the responsibilities. They could be within the host family, other National Bible Bee families or church volunteers.
- Decide where the gatherings will be held. Options can range from the host's home, church, a local school, a park or community center.
- Determine how frequent the group should meet and when those meetings will take place.
- Decide on whether or not to reward participants. Certificates are available on the Host Dashboard.

**Promote** the gatherings to the participants and their families. Be sure to clearly communicate the date, time and location of each meeting, and encourage what people should bring to the meeting.

## Hosts **INSPIRE** their Community to Proclaim

NBB Proclaim! Day is the culmination of the Summer Study. It is planned by hosts or parents and provides an opportunity for registered participants to gather for a competition that proclaims God's Word and to celebrate the completion the Summer Study. Because of the variety among host groups and participants outside of host groups, each Proclaim! Day will look a little different. See more on page 14.

# SUMMER STUDY

## Overview

Using the Discovery Journal, the Summer Study takes the participants on a journey through the Scriptures asking questions designed to help the participants learn tools to effectively study the Bible for themselves.

At the end of the Summer Study is NBB Proclaim! Day. This event provides an opportunity for all participants who have memorized God's Word to make Him known through the public recitation of their Scripture passages. NBB Proclaim! Day is also the initial step toward qualifying for the National Bible Bee Competition (NBBC).

Also at the conclusion of the Summer Study, participants may take the NBBC Qualifying Test. This test will let the participant see how they ranked nationally with other participants who participated in the Summer Study.

If the participant scores within the top 120 of their age division and scores 50% at NBB Proclaim! Day, they will be invited to be a contestant at the National Bible Bee Competition.

## Age Divisions

Beginner: 5 - 6 yrs

Primary: 7 - 10 yrs

Junior: 11 - 14 yrs

Senior 15 - 18 yrs

The participant's division is determined by **the age the contestant will be on November 13 of the current competition year**. Beginner division is not eligible for competition.

### **NBB Official Bible Versions**

- English Standard Version (ESV)
- King James Version (KJV)
- New American Standard Bible (NASB20)
- New International Version (NIV)
- New King James Version (NKJV)

### **Register Under a Host Group**

During registration, participants had the option to sign up for a host group. Being a part of a host group gives participants the opportunity to connect with others in their community who are doing the Summer Study and to participate in their group's Proclaim! Day. Hosts offer encouragement, answer questions and plan the NBB Proclaim! Day. At NBB Proclaim! Day, participants will have the opportunity to proclaim God's Word and be recognized for all their hard work during the Summer Study.

Participants can see who their host is by logging into their dashboard. Host information is located at the top of the main page. Participants who want to change, join, or leave a host group after registration is closed can email [info@biblebee.org](mailto:info@biblebee.org).

Being part of a host group is not required to participate in the Summer Study nor to qualify for the National Bible Bee Competition.

# SUMMER STUDY RESOURCES

## **Discovery Journal**

This resource is an eight week study that prepares and encourages participants to memorize and study Scripture. The Discovery Journal is published in 4 editions - Beginner, Primary, Junior and Senior, and is not specific to the Bible version. Digital resources will be taken down once the year is over and inaccessible regardless of prior purchases. Each registered participant will receive a physical copy of the Discovery Journal.

## **NBB Memory Passage Cards**

The National Bible Bee Memory Passage Cards (from the Summer Study and NBBC) are the only approved contest material for memory passage recitation and should be used for recitation throughout the NBB. For those that wish to qualify for the NBBC, memorizing all passages is required (see calendar for release dates). Memory Passage Cards will be available to print from the family dashboard. Digital resources will be taken down once the year is over and inaccessible regardless of prior purchases.

## **NBB Social Community**

The National Bible Bee Social Community is a private social media platform for registered parents and participants (Juniors and Seniors) to encourage and engage with one another during the Summer Study.

# NBB PROCLAIM! DAY

## **Guidelines/Rules:**

The competition will include multiple choice questions and oral recitations. The questions and answers will be provided on the dashboard in July. Please do not share this information with your participants ahead of time as it is contest material.

In order to qualify for the National Bible Bee Competition, participants must score a minimum of 50% (6,000 points) on the NBB Proclaim! Day recitations and questions. The point system is as follows:

2 Recitation Passages = 2,000 points each = 4,000 total  
8 Multiple Choice Questions = 1,000 points each = 8,000 points total

After Proclaim! Day, participants should input their score (total points received) into the dashboard.

Questions and judging materials will be provided in July in time for NBB Proclaim! Day to be held in August (refer to calendar).

**Recitation Portion:** Although the desire is to publicly proclaim God's Word, the host/parent can administer this portion however they deem best for their participants.

- Host/parent chooses one of the passages out of the Navigate portion of the Summer Study memory passages.



- Participant chooses one of the passages to recite from the Explore portion of the Summer Study memory passages.
- Score sheets will be provided on the dashboard in July.
- Guidelines for scoring can be found on the dashboard.
- At least one judge will need to be familiar with the scoring guidelines in order to score the recitation portion (Host/Parent may act as the judge).

**Questions Portion:** This is a separate document found on the dashboard in July.

- Eight multiple choice questions will be pulled from the Discovery Journal and will vary between divisions.
- These questions can be administered in a variety of ways. Hosts/parents can allow for participants to answer privately or publicly, written or verbally.

### **How to Prepare for the NBB Proclaim! Day**

Before the NBB Proclaim! Day:

- Select a date within the dates given on the official NBB Calendar.
- Select a location for the NBB Proclaim! Day.
- Communicate the date and location of the NBB Proclaim! Day as soon as possible to their host group so that families can reserve the day.

- Invite the local community to come to NBB Proclaim! Day. Encourage all the participants to invite others as well. The heart of NBB Proclaim! Day is to “make Him known”.
- Download Certificates of Participation through the Host Dashboard.

During the NBB Proclaim! Day:

- Offer each participant the opportunity to recite one or more of their Summer Study Memory Passages.
- Each participant completes an 8 question test based off the Discovery Journal. This test is provided on the dashboard.
- Recognize and/or reward all participants in the Summer Study and the NBB Proclaim! Day.

# NBBC QUALIFYING TEST

Once the participants finish the NBB Summer Study, they have the opportunity to take the NBBC Qualifying Test (see calendar for dates). This test quizzes participants on what they have learned throughout the summer and ranks them with other participants across the nation. In order to qualify for the National Bible Bee Competition (NBBC), participants must take this test and rank in the top 120 in their age division. This test is taken online through ClassMarker (not available for Beginner Division).

National Bible Bee places a high value on integrity. One way that NBB encourages integrity locally is to require the presence of a proctor during the administration of the NBBC Qualifying Test for each participant. Hosts may proctor for participants, but other adults may also fulfill this proctoring role.

Although hosting duties are complete with the conclusion of NBB Proclaim! Day, some of your participants may qualify for the NBBC. For information on this event, see the NBBC Rulebook.

Participants do not need to belong to a host group to take the NBBC Qualifying Test.

### **How to Prepare for the NBBB Qualifying Test**

- The participant should complete the Discovery Journal (both NAVIGATE and EXPLORE).
- The participant should memorize the Summer Study Memory Passages and study them in their context.
- The participant should study and memorize any original language words in the Discovery Journal. They do not need to know Strong's Number.
- The participant should study the cross references in context (outside their use in the Discovery Journal) from the provided cross-reference list (available in June).

### **NBBB Qualifying Test Cancellation Policy**

If the test cannot be taken by participants; because of a condition(s) affecting the general public in the local area, alternate accommodations may be made at the sole discretion of NBB.

- If the test cannot be taken on the scheduled dates:
  1. A postponement date within 4 days may be arranged by NBB. All regular test rules and procedures must be followed.
  2. Participant families agree that no communications of any type (written, oral or electronic) regarding the testing content will be or have been made with anyone associated with NBB, including, but not limited to, other participants, participant families, hosts, volunteers, proctors, etc., or relatives of the same.
- Since there is increased opportunity for individuals in these situations to receive input about the content of the test, participants ranking in the top-scoring 120 in their division nationwide may or may not qualify for the NBBB at the discretion of NBB.

**NBBC Qualifying Test Ranking Release**

Rankings will be released on the dashboard within the dates given for the current calendar year.

# NBBC QUALIFYING TEST RULES AND PROCEDURES

**General Information**

- It is recommended that participants take the test during business hours, in case technical assistance is needed from NBB.
- Participants will NOT be able to login before or after the date and time window specified by NBB.
- If multiple testers are using the same computer, take turns and start early to give enough time for all participant test takers to test before test window closes.
- There are no written test alternatives to the test.
- There are no appeals available. Emailing or contacting NBB will not be considered an appeal. However, please feel free to email [info@biblebee.org](mailto:info@biblebee.org) with questions or concerns.
- Each participant will take a test based on their respective division.

## Test Security

- Only the **test taker(s)** and **proctor** may be in the room during the test. **No one else should be in the testing area.**
- If testing in a public library, only the proctor should be in close proximity. Please make necessary arrangements.
- No PDFs, Bibles, any study materials or websites other than ClassMarker.com may be used during the test.
- During testing window: content, questions and answers of test are confidential and may not be shared or discussed.
- Questions **cannot** be read aloud to the student.

## Computer and Internet Requirements

- The test can be taken on a computer, tablet or smartphone with a solid internet connection and ability to access ClassMarker.
- To avoid the battery dying on computer/tablet/ smartphone, it is recommended to be plugged into a power source.
- If technical issues arise, **immediately** contact NBB at [info@biblebee.org](mailto:info@biblebee.org).

## Specific Details

- The test will not allow participants to pause and leave the computer.
- The test has a built-in timer. There is no need to have a separate timer.
- Participants will be able to skip questions and return to them later. They may have a sheet of paper and pen to write down test question #'s to return to later. Please do not write down questions or answers.

- Each wrong answer and each question left unanswered will be counted as 0 points.
- The time limit for the test will vary per age division.

### Accidentally Exited the Test:

- The testing site automatically documents (time-stamps) the participant's exit, and provides NBB with a report.
- Participants have 20 minutes to re-enter the test, or be locked out. Please re-enter as fast as possible, as the time limit continues to count down. Every minute that elapses while logged off will continue to count down the timer.
- The time lost during the participant's exit will not be regained.
- Participant must use the same password to re-enter.
- Previous answers will have been saved and participants may continue where they left off.

Division	Numbers of Questions	Points per Question	Possible Total Points	Time Limit
Primary	100	4	400	60 min
Junior	100	4	400	50 min
Senior	100	4	400	40 min

### Proctor Requirement

The National Bible Bee (NBB), places high value on integrity. One way that NBB encourages integrity locally is to require the presence of a proctor during the administration of the NBBC Qualifying Test for each participant. A parent may be a proctor for their child/children or they may secure an eligible proctor.

## Special Testing Accommodations

NBB has the discretion to amend oral and/or written contest requirements on a case-by-case basis for participants with diagnosed medical conditions involving sight, hearing, speech or movement.

Accommodations for any participant with medical documentation:

If a participant qualifies for NBBC and will require special accommodations at NBBC, the parent/guardian must email [info@biblebee.org](mailto:info@biblebee.org) requesting special accommodations. Accommodations are provided at discretion of NBB.

1. Explain the type of accommodation (large print texts, allowing sign language interpretation, etc.)
2. Must provide NBB with a letter within the current calendar year from a medical professional validating the need for special accommodation at time of NBBC Qualifying Test.

**NOTE: In order to compete at the NBBC, the contestant MUST be able to read the test on their own.**

## How to Access the NBBC Qualifying Test

- Sign in to the family dashboard
- Next to the participant name will be the following:
  1. NBB ID (write this number down - needed during test)
  2. Link to the test - Once the participant clicks on the link, they will be directed to a ClassMarker page where they will be prompted to enter their NBB ID



## How the NBBC Qualifying Test is Set Up

PRE-TEST QUESTIONS (Test has NOT started)

**For Participant** (can get help from Proctor):

- Participant First Name
- Participant Last Name
- Parent Email Address
- Did the participant score 50% or higher on NBB Proclaim! Day recitations and questions. This required for the participant to be eligible to qualify for NBBC. (Please type “Yes” or “No”)
- The participant has read and understands the NBBC Qualifying Test Rules and Procedures. (Please type “Yes” or “No”)

**For Proctor:** by providing this information, the proctor is stating they have read the NBBC Qualifying Test Rules and Procedures and the Proctor Agreement and hereby agree (Proctor must be the one to type this):

- Proctor Last Name, First Name, Phone Number (no dashes) (Example: Smith, John, 123456789)
- Special accommodation given without medical documentation DISQUALIFIES participants from competition. This includes reading questions to the participant, giving definitions, etc. Please see NBBC Rulebook for more information.

CLICK “START TEST”: Read Instructions (Test has NOT started)

CLICK “CONTINUE”: Read Final Instructions (Test has NOT started)

CLICK “START TEST”: (Test HAS started)

TEST QUESTIONS: 100, time limit varies (see below)

CLICK “FINISH TEST”

CLICK “CONFIRM FINISH”: If time expires before the test is completed, all answers will be saved and recorded.

Division	Numbers of Questions	Points per Question	Possible Total Points	Time Limit
Primary	100	4	400	60 min
Junior	100	4	400	50 min
Senior	100	4	400	40 min

# NBBC QUALIFYING TEST PROCTOR AGREEMENT

The National Bible Bee requires the presence of a proctor during the administration of the NBBC Qualifying Test for each participant. Please read the following requirements and responsibilities carefully.

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## **Eligibility Requirements**

- Be at least 18 years of age
- Oversee no more than 10 students at one time (lab facilities only)
- Be a host, parent/guardian, church leader (deacon, pastor, elder or teacher), or an adult authorized by parent/guardian

## **Responsibilities**

The proctor agrees to be present within the designated participant household or computer lab for the duration of the test. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Being present in the testing room for the duration of the test(s) taken in a home or lab, and supervising the participants as they take the test
- Overseeing the pre-test registration of participants
- Following the NBBC Qualifying Test Rules and Procedures
- Ensuring that, if a household contains more than one participant, participants who have completed the test do not have access to participants who have not completed the test

- Acting as the liaison between the participant family and NBB on test day, including contacting NBB with any technical or other questions that arise
- Maintaining the security of the test at all times

Proctors may NOT provide any assistance (this includes pronouncing words and giving definitions) during the test. This disqualifies the participant from qualifying for the National Bible Bee Competition.

### **Day of the Test**

During the test:

- Assist participant with the pre-test questions if necessary.
- Before the participant can start the test, proctor will need to provide their First and Last Name, phone number, and date of birth.
- By providing the above information, the proctor agrees to uphold:
  1. The NBBC Qualifying Test Proctor Agreement
  2. The NBBC Qualifying Test Rules and Procedures (pages 19-23)

# NATIONAL BIBLE BEE COMPETITION

The National Bible Bee Competition (NBBC) is a continuation of the memorization and study of God's Word. Participants who qualify to become contestants at the NBBC are given an additional study passage and approximately 500-900 additional memory verses. **NBB will NOT provide** an additional resource for the study passage. Contestants should take tools learned from the Summer Study and apply it in their own study.

## **How to Qualify as an NBBC Contestant**

- Must be registered in Summer Study
- Participants must score a minimum of 50% on the NBB Proclaim! Day recitations and questions
- Score in the top 120 of the participant's division on the NBBC Qualifying Test or be the next alternate qualifier if a qualifier elects not to compete
- Register as a contestant for NBBC
- Verify age and U.S. citizenship (Contestant's U.S. birth certificate or U.S. passport). Contestants must be U.S. citizens to advance to the Semi-Final Rounds
- Complete the contestant enrollment and registration process
- All contestants must abide by the rules found in the NBBC Rulebook

## **Age Division Rule for First Place Winners**

First place winners of the National Bible Bee Competition (NBBC) are unable to compete in the same age division that they won and are required to participate in the next age division, irrespective of their age.

# DISQUALIFICATION

NBB may disqualify, prior to or at any point during the Summer Study (or subsequent NBBC), any participants not in compliance with the eligibility requirements or other Participants and parents/legal guardians are expected to treat each other, volunteers, hosts and NBB staff with honor and courtesy. Appropriate communication between these parties is a standing expectation.

Cheating at any level of NBB will be grounds for disqualification. If a participant is suspected of or is observed to be cheating during the NBBC Qualifying Test and/or at any point during the competition, NBB staff will investigate the incident and have discretion to make a determination and disqualify the contestant if warranted.





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