



Road to (M3 Challenge) Success

Use math modeling to solve problems and win!
M3Challenge.siam.org/resources

JANUARY (or earlier!)

- Is there an M3 Challenge poster hanging in your classroom? If not, request one by emailing m3challenge@siam.org.
- Register your team—look for team selection advice on the “Tips and Guidance” page.
- Request and begin learning your software program(s). Give MATLAB a try!
- Begin reading the freely downloadable handbook, *Math Modeling: Getting Started and Getting Solutions*.
- Work on practice problems and look for scheduled live text chat sessions.
- Watch the “What is Math Modeling?” video series.
- Pester your teacher to watch the “Teaching Math Modeling” video series.
- Review all available resources on the site to find your best learning tools.
- Work through the five levels of sample problems in order.
- Read the winning solutions from the most recent Challenge posted under the “Archives” tab.
- After perusing solutions, read that year’s judge’s commentary.

FEBRUARY

- Re-read the full Official Rules and Guidelines under the “Participate” tab. This will help keep some of the most important things to consider over Challenge weekend fresh in your mind. Many students make easily-avoided mistakes due to not reading the rules.
- The Tips and Guidance page has advice from various perspectives, most of which pertains to Challenge weekend.
- Plan your work time for Challenge weekend—what is a good time-frame to work within for your team? Plan for snacks, needed devices and programs, etc.
- Winter weather keeping you indoors? Binge watch the M3 video playlist!
- Check for new practice problem(s) to engage with!
- Complete the parental consent—before Challenge weekend!

MARCH

- Check your inbox for your M3 Challenge survey—your responses are extremely helpful in improving the competition.
- Coaches, affirm authenticity via log-in to team page.
- Await first round results—they are sent via email late in March.

APRIL

- Follow the final event on social media: #M3Challenge.
- Read the winning solutions from the current Challenge and review your submission to think about areas for improvement.
- Comments from judges on individual papers are transmitted. These help in the educational value of your experience and guide both students and teachers in future modeling endeavors.

What are you waiting for? Get started today!



~~Shortcut~~ ~~Road~~ to (M3 Challenge) Success

If you've waited until the last minute to prepare —
IT'S NOT TOO LATE!

Here are some easy things you can still do to get ready to
successfully model the Challenge problem—*in just a few hours*

UNDER THE "RESOURCES" TAB:

- Watch the "What is Math Modeling?" video series **SEVEN VIDEOS @ 3 MINUTES EACH = 21 MINUTES**
- Watch the "Teaching Math Modeling" video series **THREE VIDEOS @ 9 MINUTES EACH = 27 MINUTES**
- Review the Tips and Guidance page, particularly the advice from various perspectives, most of which pertains to Challenge weekend **ABOUT 10 MINUTES**
- Review *Math Modeling: Getting started and Getting Solutions* handbook and its associated flashcards for the modeling process (freely downloadable online) **60+ MINUTES**

UNDER THE "ARCHIVES" TAB:

- Read winning solutions from the most recent (or any) Challenge **SEVERAL @ 20 MINUTES EACH**
- Read the judge perspective after perusing solutions **SEVERAL @ 20 MINUTES EACH**

UNDER THE "PARTICIPATE" TAB:

- Read the Official Rules and Guidelines. Keep the most important things fresh in your mind and don't make avoidable mistakes **ABOUT 10 MINUTES**

GENERAL STUFF:

- Plan your work time for Challenge weekend—what is a good time-frame for your team? Plan for snacks, needed devices and programs, etc. **(TEAM GROUP CHAT, ANYONE?)**
- Complete the parental consent—before Challenge weekend! **1 MINUTE**

TOTAL = LESS THAN 3 HOURS!

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