

World Health & Disparities

Health Science Event

Eligible Divisions: Secondary & Postsecondary / Collegiate	Round 1: 50 Q test in 60 minutes	Digital Upload: NO
Solo Event: 1 competitor		



New for 2025-2026

Total number of test questions and test timing have been reduced. NIMHD resource link has been updated. *KFF Independent Source for Health Policy Research* has been added as a resource. Editorial updates have been made.

Event Summary

World Health and Disparities allows members to gain knowledge and skills regarding world health and disparities. This competitive event consists of a written test. In the event of a tie, the essay will be judged to break the tie. The event aims to increase competence in understanding world health and identifying and overcoming health disparities.

Dress Code

Proper business attire or official HOSA uniform. Bonus points will be awarded for [proper dress](#).

Competitor Must Provide:

- [Photo ID](#)
- Two #2 lead pencils (not mechanical) with eraser

HOSA Conference Staff will provide equipment and supplies as listed in [Appendix I](#).

General Rules

1. Competitors must be familiar with and adhere to the [General Rules and Regulations](#).

Official References

2. The references below are used in the development of the test questions. Content is posted as of September 1, 2025:
 - a. [Barr, Donald A. *Health Disparities in the US*. Johns Hopkins University Press, Latest edition.](#)
 - b. [Our World in Data website](#)
 - c. National Institute of Minority Health & Disparities: <https://www.nimhd.nih.gov/>
 - d. World Health Organization (2023). Health Equity: https://www.who.int/health-topics/health-equity#tab=tab_1
 - e. Selected featured topics of the *KFF Independent Source for Health Policy Research* website, including Health Policy 101, Employer Health Benefits Survey, Health System Tracker, and State Health Facts: <https://www.kff.org/policy-research/> (see test plan).

Written Test

3. [Test Instructions](#): The written test will consist of 50 multiple-choice items in a maximum of 60 minutes.
4. One essay question will be administered with the original test.
5. **Time Remaining Announcements**: There will be NO verbal announcements for time remaining during ILC testing. All ILC testing will be completed in the Testing Center and competitors are responsible for monitoring their own time.

6. Test Plan

The test plan for the World Health and Disparities Test is:

- What is Health - 20%
- Health Disparities & Diversity - 40%
- Disparities in Treatment & Medical Decisions - 20%
- Reducing Health Disparities - 20%

7. Sample Test Questions

1. What medical condition has been impacted by a phone-based intervention program with the Navajo patients?
<https://www.nimhd.nih.gov/news-events/research-spotlight/home-based-phone-intervention-improved-uptake-recommended-medical>
A. Diabetes
B. Parkinsons
C. Heart Failure
D. ALS
2. According to 2016-2017 OECD data, which of the following countries has the lowest infant mortality rate? (Barr pp 3)
A. United States
B. Japan
C. Switzerland
D. Canada
3. According to the WHO, how many years could be added to a person's life expectancy if primary care interventions were increased in low and middle-income countries?
https://www.who.int/health-topics/health-equity#tab=tab_1
A. 2.4 years
B. 2.7 years
C. 3.4 years
D. 3.7 years

Final Scoring

8. In the event of a tie, the essay will be judged to break the tie.

Future Opportunities:

Graduating from high school or completing your postsecondary/collegiate program does not mean your HOSA journey has to end. As a HOSA member, you are eligible to become a HOSA Lifetime Alumni Member - a free and valuable opportunity to remain connected, give back, and help to shape the future of the organization. Learn more and sign up at hosa.org/alumni.