

GUIDELINES FOR NATIONAL TALENT HUNT



Board of Studies

The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India

National Talent Hunt:

National Talent Hunt will be a National level Elocution contest and will be a live event, covered by National Newspapers and Media. Four winners from each Region level will contest at the National Level. The National Talent Hunt will be organized in the month of July along with the Students Conference so as to make it most beneficial for the students.

In the Final Contest of the National Talent Hunt, three celebrities will be the jury members and would select the best 3 National talents who have reached this level after contesting with more than 1000 peer students to be the National winner. The 1st three winners of National Hunt would be awarded the cash prizes of Rs. 31,000/-, Rs.21,000/- and Rs. 11,000/- respectively and 1st two winners will participate in SAFA Elocution Contest.

Objective:

The Institute since its inception has been imparting education to students pursuing Chartered Accountancy course through distance education mode across the country in a consistent manner. It has been felt that since the Chartered Accountancy course is imparted in distant mode, the students have good technical knowledge, however, special efforts and vision need to put in for improving their communication and presentation skills. With a view to motivate and groom CA students, it is decided to convert Elocution Contest as “National Talent Hunt” programme.

The Board of Studies at present is organizing Elocution and Quiz Contests at Branch level, Regional Level and at National level every year. To hone the speaking and presentation skills of CA Students, it is decided that to begin with, Elocution contest be organized in a different manner while Quiz Contest be conducted as per the practice.

Structure of the Contest:

The search of talented students for National Talent Hunt will be in 3 stages starting from the branches of ICAI. At first level, it will be organized at the Branches and the shortlisted students would be invited to contest at Regional level to be held at all 5 Regions and finally the 1st 20 winners (4 winners from each Region) of Regional level will contest in the National Talent Hunt. The talent of these 20 winners will be well appreciated by giving nationwide publicity such as publishing their photographs in National Newspaper/magazine making them our media partner. These final contestants would also be invited 4-5 days prior to the event and be groomed in various aspects so that they can perform and showcase their talent well during the final Contest.

The first round of National Talent i.e at Branch level should start immediately after the completion of Intermediate (IPC) May attempt so that this stage is completed by May end of every year. The second round

i.e at Regional level, the 1st winner of Branch level would contest and all the 5 Regions contests should be completed by 10th June of every year. The Final contest would take place in the month of July, every year. In the Final level, there would be three rounds. In first round, 10 contestants will be eliminated and 5 contestants will be eliminated in second round and in the third and final round 5 winners will be declared.

Students' Eligibility:

Students registered for Final Course and are undergoing articleship and students registered for Intermediate (Integrated Professional Competence) Course are eligible to participate in the National Talent Hunt. Thus, students who have completed articleship are not eligible to participate. However, a Contestant who has won the Contest at the Branch Level and later passes the Final examination/ completed articleship shall be eligible to participate in the Regional level and in Final level of National Talent Hunt.

Draft Guidelines for National Talent Hunt

Announcement of Event:

Event will be announced 20 days prior to the date of the event. Branches and Regional Councils should take appropriate steps to organize the contest with maximum possible participation by bringing the details of this competition to the attention of the students and encourage them to participate in the same.

Medium of Elocution contest:

The medium would be English. However, if any participant wants to speak in Hinglish, the option may be given.

Topics:

A list of topics/subjects for the Contest will be provided by the Board of Studies for Branch Level and Regional Level Contests. Each contestant has to submit the topic on which he / she will be speaking, out of the list of topics, at least half an hour before the commencement of the contest.

Duration to each contestant:

Each contestant will be given twelve minutes time – a warning bell will ring at the end of the tenth minute, signaling the contestant to conclude the discussion in another two minutes.

Prizes and certificates:

Will be awarded to the first, second and third position holders in the concluding ceremony. The certificates will be signed by the Chairman and Secretary for Branch Level Contests and by the Chairman, Regional Council and the Convenor / Chairman, Regional Monitoring Committee for the Regional Level Contests.

Duration of the event:

If the number of contestants is more and cannot be completed in one day, the Contest could be held for two days also. However, the maximum grant shall remain the same. If the Elocution and Quiz Contests are held on the same date, the reimbursement would be restricted as if one event has been organized.

Criteria for evaluation of performance:

Evaluation will be based on the coverage of the subject matter, language command, capacity to engage the audience etc.

The following criteria may be taken into account while evaluating the performance of the participants:

1. Lucidity of language	10 marks
2. Style of delivery	10 marks
3. Capacity to engage the attention of the audience	10 marks
4. Precision of expression	10 marks
5. Depth of coverage of the subject matter including reference to latest developments in the concerned area	50 marks
6. Adherence to time limit	<u>10 marks</u>
Total	100 marks

A three-member panel of judges will evaluate the performance of the contestants. Decision of the judges will be final.

Judge (at levels of the competition) should not be a person whose articulated assistant/relative or the articulated assistant/relative of his/her partner is a participant in the Contest. It may be ensured that one of the Judges should be familiar with Hindi, as Contestants are allowed to speak in Hindi, if anyone so wishes.

Reimbursement of Grant:

The grant for organizing Elocution Contests shall be released on the basis of claim duly signed by Chairman of the Branch/Chairman of the Branch of the Students' Association in the prescribed format together with audited Statement of Income and Expenditure. However, the supporting vouchers/Bills shall be retained in the Branch and are not required to be sent along with the claim for release of Grant.

A. BRANCH LEVEL:

Admissible Grant: Rs. 25,000 / Actual deficit, whichever is less.

Number of winners:

From Branches, the number of contestants selected for Regional Level Contest would depend upon the membership strength (as on April 1st every year) of the Branch and is as below:

Branches having less than 750 members 1 winner

Branches having more than 750 members 2 winners

For this purpose, the Regional Offices in Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata, Kanpur and Delhi will also be treated as Branches and two winners will be selected.

B. REGIONAL LEVEL:

Admissible Grant: Rs. 25,000 / Actual deficit, whichever is less plus the reimbursement of expenses to the contestants as specified in the guidelines.

Number of winners:

The winners of the first round competition will participate in a Regional level competition which will be held in each Regional Office and the Four winners of each region will face the Final round of National Talent.

Reimbursement of Expenses incurred by the contestants for participating in Regional Level:

All participants of Elocution Contest at the Regional Level will be reimbursed to and fro first class or 2 Tier AC railway fare by the shortest route (including service tax paid) or airfare by any airline, whichever is less. There would be no restriction for travel by Rajdhani and Shatabadi trains.

They would also be paid an allowance @ Rs. 1,500/- per day for boarding, lodging and conveyance, up to a maximum of five days to meet the daily and incidental expenses subject to actual number of days spent from the commencement of the journey till the end of the journey, including travel time.

Accommodation: Students have to make their own arrangements for their stay at the place of the Contest as well as at the place where the Final Contest will be held. Wherever possible, the Regional Office may arrange reasonable accommodation for the participants at economical rates.

C. NATIONAL LEVEL:

Admissible Grant: Actual deficit.

Number of winners:

The four winners of the Regional level from each region will contest for the Final round of National Talent and three winners will be declared as National Talent.

Topics:

At National Level, the topics will be circulated well in advance by the Board of Studies to all winners of the Regional Level Contest and they will be required to exercise their preference for one topic. However, the final allotment of topics will be done by the Board of Studies in such a manner that none of the winner of a particular Region shall speak on the same topic.

Reimbursement of Expenses incurred by the contestants for participating in National Level:

All participants of Elocution Contest at the National Level will be reimbursed to and fro first class or 2 Tier AC railway fare by the shortest route (including service tax paid) or airfare by any airline, whichever is less. There would be no restriction for travel by Rajdhani and Shatabadi trains.

They would also be paid an allowance @ Rs. 1,500/- per day for boarding, lodging and conveyance to meet the daily and incidental expenses for the actual number of days spent for the event and maximum 3 days for the journey subject to actual days spent from the commencement of the journey till the end of the journey, including travel time.