

**WARD COUNTY SPELLING BEE**  
**Grades 5-6-7-8**

SPONSORED BY  
North Dakota Newspaper Association,  
North Dakota Council of Educational Leaders  
North Dakota Association of County Superintendents

The Ward County Spelling Bee will be held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of Student Union at Minot State University. Seating is available for parents and interested persons.

**The rules and procedures for the conduct of the Spelling Bee in Ward County are as follows:**

1. **CONTEST:** The Spelling Bee is open to the winner of local competition of each 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th grade plus runner-up in each of the 7th and 8th grades. Thus, there is a maximum of six eligible students from each school, if your school operates all grades 5 through 8.

2. **ELIGIBILITY:**

A. A student who has won in a previous county spelling competition is eligible to compete again.

B. A student must not have passed beyond the eighth grade.

C. A student must not have reached his/her 16th birthday.

3. **CONDUCT OF THE COUNTY FINALS:**

A. There are two classifications:  
Schools in the city of Minot  
Schools outside of Minot.

B. All students will compete in a written test of 50 words.

C. The highest **twenty** written scores in the combined city and county schools will be eligible to compete in the oral contest. All spellers tied for twentieth position can advance to the oral competition.

D. Oral spelling competition - **SPELLDOWN FORMAT**

1. In oral spelling there will be one pronouncing master and three judges.
2. The oral competition shall be conducted in rounds. Each contestant remaining in the Bee at the start of a round shall spell one word in the round, except as provided in Rule 5 below.
3. Upon missing the spelling of a word, a contestant immediately drops out of the contest, except as provided in rules 4 and 5 below. The next word on the pronouncer's list is given to the next contestant.
4. If none of the contestants remaining in the Bee at the start of a round spells a word correctly during the round, all shall remain in the competition.
5. If only one of the contestants remaining in the Bee at the start of a round spells a word correctly during that round, the contestant shall be given an opportunity to spell the next word on the list. If the contestant succeeds in correctly spelling the new word, the contestant shall be declared the champion. Otherwise, all the contestants remaining in the Bee at the start of the round shall remain in the competition. A new round will begin, with all of the contestants spelling in their original order. We will have one champion and one runner-up. Both students will represent Ward County in Bismarck at the state competition.

E. Students and accompanying adults are on their own for lunch and may eat at the Student Union Cafeteria.

Please return the entry form as soon as your local contest is finished but no later than the second Friday in January.

Please encourage students to dot i's and form a's and o's correctly.

**AWARDS:** Trophies will be given to the Champion and the runner up. Each written round grade winner and runner-up in the city and county divisions will receive a trophy. Participation Certificates will be given to all participants.

The champion and runner up will advance to the State competition in Bismarck.