



## NEWS AND TIPS FOR THE 2024 SAN DIEGO 30<sup>TH</sup> NATIONAL LIFESMARTS CHAMPIONSHIP

### *National LifeSmarts Championship 2024: Edition 5* *Information for Coaches & Teams* **Focus: Reminders, Individual Assessments, and More!**

Dear Coaches and Team members,

We are so excited to see you San Diego, April 18 – 21, 2024 competing in the 30<sup>th</sup> National LifeSmarts Championship! Each week leading into Nationals, we will share special updates with you through this *San Diego Celebration Central* newsletter. Our hope is that this will assist you and your team in preparing for Nationals by providing helpful information, timely updates and reminders.



#### **IMPORTANT Update on LifeSmarts Merch – Store closes March 30<sup>th</sup>!**

As you know, for the first time **EVER**, we have LifeSmarts MERCH available this year. Our LEAP panel has worked incredibly hard to make this happen. However, sales are not what we had hoped, so I need to make you aware of changes:

1. The online store will close on **March 30**.
2. The vendor will **not** be setting up on-site for in-person sales, and will not be ordering extra apparel for on-site sales or mailing orders following the event.
3. If you want LifeSmarts merch, *you must place your order now*. Group and individual orders will be accepted.
4. Orders placed before the online store closes will be at the hotel waiting for you upon your arrival in San Diego.
5. Place your order here: <https://www.promoplace.com/lifesmarts/>

Thank you all for sharing this with your team members so that we can make this project successful! Let us know if you have any questions!



### LifeSmarts LEAP Panel “Leap into LifeSmarts” – Please share with your team members!

Encourage your team members to join our LifeSmarts LEAP panel for an informal Q & A session about the LifeSmarts National Championship and any other questions they have about LifeSmarts on Friday evening, April 5. The event will be held at 8pm Eastern; 7pm Central, 6pm Mountain, 5pm Pacific and 2pm HST. Teens can register here to get the link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/P6RNB7Y>. While registration is not required, they must have the Zoom link to join. Our LEAP panel looks forward to meeting lots of their peers who will be joining them in San Diego!



### Reminders:

Many items are DUE this week!

- ✓ March 28: [Anti-counterfeiting digital poster team entry due](#) – Optional for stipends; LIMIT OF 1 PER TEAM
- ✓ March 28: [Deadline for Identity Theft Essay Contest Application](#) – Optional for individuals. All student competitors attending the 2024 National LifeSmarts Championship are eligible to enter this essay contest. Five \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded to students will write essays of up to 500 words sharing their knowledge of identity theft and / or expressing creative solutions to the problem of identity theft. See the [State Champion Coach Memo](#) for additional details. The deadline for submissions is March 28, 2024. Essays should be submitted [here](#).
- ✓ March 28: **OTC Medicine Safety Scholarship Applications Due**  
Using LifeSmarts resources, students deliver community-based OTC medicine safety presentations, social media outreach, or educational materials, to peers, middle school students, or community members. Scholarship Applications Due: **March 28**,

**2024.** Information for teaching: <https://lifesmarts.org/otc/>. Five \$1,000 post-secondary scholarships will be awarded. individuals may use presentations made with team members, but each student's scholarship application must be unique. [Scholarship Application Link](#)



**March 29: Team Roll Call Reel due by at midnight EDT**

Thanks to everyone who has already submitted their Team Roll Call recording. Refer to the State Champion Coach Memo and the [Team Information Center](#) for details, hints and links to examples from 2023. Please use your Official team name. Just for your information, you will not receive a confirmation for submitting your reel as it goes directly to the program.



**Take note! Competition 1 OTC Medicine TikToks or Reels Due!**

TikToks or Reels for Competition 1 are **due by Sunday evening (March 31)** at midnight ET! Details are in the State Champion Coach Memo on pages 15-18.



[Final Event Agenda](#) is now posted. Check out our final agenda! This will all be available on our National LifeSmarts Championship app which will be released next week!



**Individual Assessments open April 1 – 12.**

**Please remember!** These must be taken on the time and date you provided on your registration form. If you need to change that, let [Cheryl](#) know.

**Very important:** *Teams will be randomly selected for monitoring via Zoom and will be notified on the date they plan to take the tests. Please make sure your testing area will allow us to join you and your team via zoom and that we would be able to see all team members.*

Students must not minimize their screen or open another program, page or app while testing. This can cause the test to time out and report a score. All the details for proctoring are included in the [State Champion Coaches Memo](#) on pages 16-17. As a reminder, no one (coaches, assistant coaches, other students, parents, etc.) may assist the team or individual students in completing any portion of the assessments including providing answers, suggesting answers, or giving opinions on correct answers. Should it be determined that assistance was provided to the individual students or team, the individual scores and team score will be adjusted accordingly, and any awards earned may not be given. Please email us during normal business hours if you have any questions or need assistance.



**Weather**

Spring weather in San Diego varies. We expect it to be pleasant and beautiful! The average high/low temperatures in April are:

- Average high: 69° F
- Average low: 56° F

For accurate weather before and during the trip, visit [Weather.com](https://www.weather.com).



### Fun things to see and do!

See the [San Diego Parrots](#)

[Legoland](#) - Group Discount Tickets (Must have group of 15 so make connections with other teams who want to visit and share transportation.

[Fun places to eat with teens](#)

**Touring:** Check out our event [microsite from San Diego Tourism](#)

Additional information has been shared in the Facebook [LifeSmarts Coaches Group](#).



### IMPORTANT: Please register your Assistant Coaches at LifeSmarts.org

*If you registered an assistant coach for your team during registration for the National LifeSmarts Championship, please make sure that this person is also registered as an assistant coach online. This is for liability purposes. Once this person is registered as an assistant coach, also list them on your team page as an assistant coach. To do this, login, click on manage users, then teams. Choose the team you want to add the Co-Coach to, and add their name in the appropriate slot. Be sure to click update to save at the bottom. Let us know if you have any problems with this.*



### Dates and Deadlines:

- March 28: [Anti-counterfeiting digital poster team entry due](#) – 1 per team - Optional for stipends
- March 28: [Deadline for Identity Theft Essay Contest Application](#) – Optional for individual
- March 28: [Deadline for OTC Medicine Safety Scholarship Application](#)– Optional for individual entries
- March 29: Deadline for [Team Roll Call Recording](#) entries
- March 30: LifeSmarts Merch Store closes. GET YOURS TODAY!
- March 31: Competition 1 – [Educational TikTok or Instagram Reels](#) Due by midnight EDT. Details in Coach memo.
- April 5: Recorded Coach and Captain orientation shared
- April 5: [Stipend form](#) due (includes OTC Medicine Safety Team Award presentations for travel stipends and Anti-Counterfeiting Digital Poster Contest which was due previously. See page 14 of [Coach Memo](#))
- April 5: [LifeSparks Team Achievement Award](#) Due
- April 1 – 12: Competition 2 – Online Individual Topic Assessments - see coach memo for details; *Teams will be randomly selected for monitoring via Zoom.*

- April 15: Deadline for [Student of the Year](#) nominations – **Must be completed online prior to the event!**
- April 15: Deadline for [Coach of the Year](#) nominations– **Must be completed online prior to the event!**
- April 18-21: National LifeSmarts Championship – San Deigo, CA



### Resources

- More information is available in the [National LifeSmarts Championship 2024 Team Information Center](#)
- Be sure to review the [State Champion Coach Memo](#)
- If you have any questions, please email us: [Lisa Hertzberg](#) or [Cheryl Varnadoe](#).



**Next week:** App Launch, SISTER TEAMS, T-shirt contest, Meme Contest, Instagram Contest and more!

Until next week,  
The LifeSmarts Team

*P.S. Be sure to have your students follow us on Instagram and Facebook for competition topics and question leaks! Students will also want to follow us on TikTok.*

*Here are your fifth and sixth Championship Clues!*

