

CALICO Contest Guide Summary Spring '24

Overview

The California Informatics Competition (CALICO) is a semiannual online high school programming contest hosted by UC Berkeley students. Our goal is to help students grow their problem-solving skills and promote understanding of algorithms!

Important Links

Website: calico.cs.berkeley.edu/

Register: calico.cs.berkeley.edu/register

Discord: calico.cs.berkeley.edu/discord

Eligibility and Prizes

Anyone can compete! But only pre-college teams can win top prizes; raffle prizes open to everyone. See guide for more prize info.

Contest Rules

- **Open internet**
- You may use resources/tools publicly published prior to the start of contest
- You may use your own pre-written code
- **Communication with others outside of your team is strictly prohibited**
- Do not submit malicious code
- We reserve the right to disqualify teams

Contest Format and Scoring

3 hours to solve **6-12 problems**. Problems have one or more *test sets*. **All tests within a test set must pass to score**. Scoring is [ICPC style](#) with some exceptions:

- Test sets are weighted (100 points total)
- Failed submissions only give 10 penalty
- Bonuses accumulate time **for each part**

Supported Languages

Only standard libraries are supported.

- C (C18)
- C++ (C++14) (pending C++17)
- Java (Java 11)
- Python3 (Python 3.11)

Program Restrictions

Unless otherwise specified by the problem:

- File must be \leq 100KB
- Program must compile in \leq 30 seconds
- Program must use \leq 256MB memory
- Program must run within \leq 1 second

There are **language time limit modifiers**:

- C/C++: 1x
- Java: 2x
- Python3: 4x

Problem Ranks

- Rank 1 : for those new to coding
- Rank 2 : for those with general programming and CS experience
- Rank 3 : for those with algorithms and competitive coding experience
- Rank 4 : for those with mastery that goes truly above and beyond

Most problems will be rank 2 or rank 3.

Problem Types

- Problems may have multiple answers
- Problems may be [interactive](#)

Clarification Requests

- May be submitted during the contest
- We do our best to answer all requests
- We reserve the right to ignore requests