



## **NATIONAL SCIENCE CHALLENGES (NSC) 2023** **STATE LEVEL - GUIDELINES AND REGULATIONS**

### **1.0 BACKGROUND**

The National Science Challenge (NSC) is an annual national science competition conducted by The Academy of Sciences Malaysia (ASM) since 1999, to increase the interest of students throughout Malaysia to explore the fields of Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics (STEM).

This competition is open to secondary school students aged 13 to 16 years old and has grown to become one of the premier science competitions in Malaysia that provides high-level challenges in various STEM subjects. In addition, NSC also provides opportunities for students to seek direct guidance from young scientists from the Young Scientists Network-ASM (YSN-ASM) and gain knowledge that may not be obtainable in school curriculum.

### **2.0 OBJECTIVE**

The overarching objectives of NSC are:

- To develop and nurture a set of thinking, reasoning, researching, collaborating and creative skills amongst school students through engagement in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM).
- To instil interest in pursuing careers within STEM related fields that are of importance to the nation.
- To provide opportunities for students to showcase their scientific knowledge and skills.

### **3.0 NSC 2023 THEME**

**“Ensuring Nation’s Food Security through Science, Technology and Innovation (STI)”**

#### 4.0 COMPETITION FORMAT

Competition Level	Date	Description
Registration	1 April – 31 May 2023	Online registration through <a href="http://www.nsc.my">www.nsc.my</a>
Preliminary	12 – 20 June 2023	Online individual quiz in <a href="http://www.nsc.my">www.nsc.my</a> according to the zone distribution. Quiz will be conducted in bilingual (English and Malay).
State Level	3 – 27 July 2023	The top 80 teams with the highest scores from the preliminary level will compete at this stage.
Semi-Final	4 – 23 August 2023	The top 20 teams from the state level will compete at this level.
Grand Final	13 September 2023	The top 5 teams will compete to win the YAB Prime Minister Trophy.

#### 5.0 STATE LEVEL

A briefing on the guidelines will be conducted for all participants via Zoom platform on 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2023 (Details provided in email to relevant mentor teachers). This level will consist of two components:

- A. Video competition (70%)
- B. Interview session (30%)

##### A. VIDEO COMPETITION

- i. All teams are required to prepare a 5 minutes and 10 seconds video based on this year's NSC 2023 theme.
- ii. The video must include:
  - a. **How each subject (Biology, Physics, Mathematics and Chemistry) is related to the theme**
  - b. **How the 4 science subjects are integrated**
  - c. **Summary**
- iii. All team members must be present in the video at least once. Key or informative figures such as flow chart, table or any related graphics may be included.
- iv. Video submissions must comply with the rules and regulations provided below to be qualified.

## **Rules & Regulations**

1. Create an original video clip either in **English or Malay Language (a maximum of 5 minutes running not including 10 second of the title screen)** relevant to the theme.
2. All entries should begin with a 10-second full-screen “title screen” that includes the following information:
  - a. Team ID
  - b. School name
  - c. School city, State
  - d. Title of video
3. Videos must be uploaded as one single file in the highest quality as follows:
  - a. **Submitted in an editable digital format**
  - b. **Minimum 1280 x 720 (HD) size**
  - c. **Format: mv/mov/avi/m4/mp4**
4. Prepare a short descriptive text of a maximum of **1000 characters in English/Malay**, to be uploaded along with the video on YouTube.
5. Sound effects and music may be used, as long as the participant has the right to use and disseminate it.
6. You must have full copyrights to the submitted material, including sound effects and music if used. Competition submissions must not include any endorsements of products or services or any obscene, violent, racist, or defamatory content. Incomplete entries or entries that do not comply with the formal specifications will be automatically disqualified.
7. Submissions may also not be accepted into the competition if the video spot in the entry features an identifiable individual who has not given their consent to appear or if the image features advertising or trademarks, which would otherwise require permission to use.
8. Written consent on the materials included in the submitted video, merely by the examples, images, illustrations, sound recordings, text, trademarks, trade names, products, logos, technical drawings or graphical charts or tables must be declared in the consent form.
9. No professional assistance is allowed. Adults may assist with production but are limited to verbal guidance only. Adults are allowed to be actors or cameramen but not content contributors.
10. Decisions will be made based on the **Judging Rubric** by three (3) independent judges. The judges’ decision is final.
11. Total mark for the video competition is **70%**. Bonus marks (5%) will be given to the top 5 most liked YouTube video.

### **Method of Submission**

1. The submission date for the video is on **20<sup>th</sup> July 2023, by 11.59pm.**
2. Kindly create a Google Drive folder (include both video and description in **one (1) folder**) and share the link to [nsc@akademisains.gov.my](mailto:nsc@akademisains.gov.my).
3. 5% of the percentage of the overall mark will be deducted for any late submissions.

### **B. INTERVIEW SESSION**

- i. After all the videos are evaluated, interview sessions with all 80 teams will be conducted by the judges via the Zoom meeting application.
- ii. Each team will be assessed based on their understanding of the respective video content, basic STEM knowledge, and opinions on STI issues.
- iii. The interview session will be held online from 25<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> July 2023 according to the distribution shown in the table below (time slot and interview date for each team will be informed later through the dedicated Telegram Channel).

<b>Date</b>	<b>25 July 2023, Tuesday</b>	<b>26 July 2023, Wednesday</b>	<b>27 July 2023, Thursday</b>
<b>State</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Johor</li><li>• Perak</li><li>• Pahang</li><li>• Terengganu</li><li>• W.P. Kuala Lumpur</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sabah</li><li>• Sarawak</li><li>• Kedah</li><li>• Kelantan</li><li>• Pulau Pinang</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Perlis</li><li>• Melaka</li><li>• Selangor</li><li>• Negeri Sembilan</li><li>• W.P. Putrajaya</li><li>• W.P. Labuan</li></ul>

- iv. The interview session will take approximately 10 minutes (**5 minutes for video playing, 5 minutes for interview session**).
- v. The interview session shall begin with an introduction by the team members. The team is not required to present from the video submitted. The judges will be asking questions straight away and participants will take turns to answer.
- vi. Decisions will be made based on the **Judging Rubric** by three (3) independent judges in which they will choose the top 20 teams that will compete in the Semi-Final. The judges' decision is final.
- vii. Total marks for the interview session is **30%**.
- viii. During the interview session, the judges will select one member from the group to be shortlisted for the Best STEM Communicator Award.
- ix. All participants will be given a certificate of participation. The certificate can be downloaded at the Mentor Profile on [www.nsc.my](http://www.nsc.my) after the State Level.

### C. JUDGING CRITERIA

- i. For the video competition, the judges will look for a **creative, engaging, and inspiring** submission.
- ii. The video submission will be judged based on:
  - a. Relevance of your entry to the competition topic
  - b. Creativity expressed
  - c. Accuracy of information and scientific content
  - d. Technical ability
  - e. Persuasiveness of the entry
  - f. Effectiveness in reaching to the target audience (general public)
  - g. Originality and entertainment value
  - h. Overall quality of video
  - i. STEM communication
- iii. For the interview session, the team will be judged based on:
  - a. Response (Accuracy and Coherency)
  - b. Professionalism
  - c. Teamwork

### 6.0 CONTACT DETAILS

Should you require further information or clarification on this matter, please do not hesitate to contact us at our official email ([nsc@akademisains.gov.my](mailto:nsc@akademisains.gov.my)) or by calling the following ASM Officers:

- i. Ms Nurul Hamizah Md Yusof (Tel: 03-6203 0633 ext 143)
- ii. Ms Adlin Sofea Alauddin (Tel: 03-6203 0633 ext 131)

Please also follow our official social media pages below and website ([www.nsc.my](http://www.nsc.my)) for more updates.

Facebook : National Science Challenge Malaysia  
Twitter : @nsc\_my  
Instagram : @nsc\_malaysia  
YouTube : @Akademisainsmalaysia

*Note: Instructions and guidelines for each level are subject to change. Any changes will be notified to all participants and mentor teachers via official email, Telegram channel and NSC social media. Please visit the website [www.nsc.my](http://www.nsc.my) for more information.*

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