

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT OLYMPIAD ON LANGUAGE TEACHING AND INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION “EDUCULTURAL LINKS”

Terms and Conditions

1. General terms

1.1. The present regulation determines the procedure for the International Student Olympiad on Language Teaching and Intercultural Communication “EduCultural Links” (hereinafter referred to as the Olympiad), its organizational and methodological support, and the procedure for determining prize-winners.

1.2. The organizers of the Olympiad are the Institute of Modern Languages and International Studies, the International Relations Office of the North-Eastern Federal University (NEFU), and partnering educational and research institutions.

1.3. The main goals and objectives of the Olympiad are:

- developing professional and transprofessional competencies and stimulation of youth’s engagement in the areas of foreign language proficiency, language teaching, intercultural communication and international cooperation;

- expanding network cooperation with Russian and foreign partners in order to improve the quality of training for foreign language teachers and intercultural communication experts;

- expanding access of talented youth from the Russian Federation and foreign countries to higher education programs: bachelor's and master's degrees at organizing universities and partners of the Olympiad using scholarship/grant training opportunities for foreign citizens, as well as various formats of academic mobility (exchange programs, short-term educational programs, summer and winter schools, practical training, etc.).

1.4. Bachelor and specialist level students majoring in International Relations, Regional Studies, Teacher Education, Asian Studies, Foreign Languages, Media Communications, Linguistics, Philology and other equivalent/related areas can participate in the Olympiad.

1.5. The Olympiad is held in one stage.

1.6. The Olympiad is held in an online format.

1.7. NEFU representative offices in foreign countries (Russian language centers) together with partner universities provide information and organizational support and provide appropriate technical equipment and a stable Internet connection on site for holding the Olympiad.

1.8. The working languages of the Olympiad are Russian and English for participants who are learning English as a foreign language, and Russian and Chinese for participants who are learning Chinese as a foreign language.

1.9. The regulations for participation in the Olympiad and the assessment criteria are established by the organizing committee of the Olympiad and are published no later than one week before the start of the Olympiad competitions on the Olympiad website www.s-vfu.ru/ECLinks.

2. The procedure for organizing and holding the Olympiad

2.1. Organizing Committee, Methodology Committee and Jury are created in order to provide organizational and methodological support for the Olympiad.

2.2. Organizing Committee:

- determines the direction and format of the Olympiad;
- determines the conditions and rules of participation in the Olympiad;
- ensures the organization of the Olympiad;
- prepares media publicity materials;
- together with the Jury, approves the list of prize-winners of the Olympiad;
- awards the prize-winners with diplomas and medals;
- approves the decision of the appeal commission;
- carries out other functions in accordance with Terms and Regulations.

2.3 Methodology Committee:

- determines the duration of the Olympiad competitions;
- determines the assessment criteria;
- develops the Olympiad assignments, including demo versions;
- submits the Olympiad organization proposals to the Organizing Committee;
- evaluates applications submitted by the Olympiad participants and decides on whether the submitted application complies with the Terms and Regulations of the Olympiad;
- carries out other functions in accordance with Terms and Regulations.

2.4. Jury:

- assesses answers submitted by the participants;
- together with the Organizing Committee, approves the list of prize-winners;
- submits the Olympiad organization proposals to the Organizing Committee;

- carries out other functions in accordance with Terms and Regulations.

2.5. Appeal Commission:

- considers appeals from the participants;
- makes proposals to the Organizing Committee following the consideration of appeals;
- submits the Olympiad organization proposals to the Organizing Committee;

2.6. To provide a uniform information space for participants and organizers of the Olympiad, the Olympiad Internet page is to be created at: www.s-vfu.ru/ECLinks

3. Registration procedure

3.1 Bachelor and specialist level students majoring in the fields specified in Clause 1.4 of the Regulations are allowed to participate in the Olympiad.

3.2. Participation in the Olympiad is voluntary and free of charge.

3.3. To participate in the Olympiad, one must submit an individual application in accordance with the procedure established by the Regulations, using the electronic registration form specified in the information leaflet of the Olympiad.

3.4. Online registration is carried out from 10.10.2023 to 20.11.2023 using an electronic registration form, a link to which is posted on the Olympiad webpage www.s-vfu.ru/ECLinks. The registration period may be extended by decision of the Chair of the Organizing Committee; the decision is recorded in the corresponding minutes of the Organizing Committee Meeting.

3.5. Filling out the registration form is a mandatory condition for participation in the Olympiad.

4. Participation procedure

4.1. Russian and foreign undergraduate students are allowed to participate in the Olympiad.

4.2. Participation in the Olympiad is voluntary and free of charge.

4.3. The Olympiad is held in an online format.

4.4. The Olympiad takes place from November 27, 2023 to December 3, 2023.

4.5. The Olympiad questions may include cases on teaching strategies and techniques, intercultural communication, culture capsules and culture assimilators, cultural realia, and cultural text analysis.

- 4.6. The Olympiad is held in accordance with the schedule published on the Olympiad webpage. The start time of the Olympiad is indicated in Moscow time (GMT+3).
- 4.7. To participate in the Olympiad, one must submit an individual application in accordance with the procedure established by the Regulations, using the electronic registration form specified in the information leaflet of the Olympiad.
- 4.8. By submitting the application, participants of the Olympiad agree to and accept the Terms and Conditions.
- 4.9. By submitting the application, participants of the Olympiad agree to the processing of personal data.
- 4.10. The assessment criteria are published no later than one week before the start of the Olympiad on webpage www.s-vfu.ru/ECLinks.
- 4.11. The prize-winners are determined based on the participants' total score.
- 4.12. Participants cannot appeal the assessment criteria and methodology.
- 4.13. Prize-winners are awarded diplomas of the 1st, 2nd and 3rd degrees.
- 4.14. Participants are notified of the participation procedure, dates of the Olympiad, online participation rules, information about the prize-winners via the Olympiad webpage www.s-vfu.ru/ECLinks.

5. Evaluation procedure

- 5.1. The answers of the Olympiad participants are evaluated by the Jury.
- 5.2. Members of the jury have the right to use a plagiarism checker tool while assessing the answers submitted by the Olympiad participants. If plagiarism is detected, the submitted answer is disqualified.
- 5.3. The participants' scores are published on the Olympiad webpage www.s-vfu.ru/ECLinks no later than December 16, 2023.

6. Determining and awarding prize-winners

- 6.1. The prize-winners of the Olympiad are determined at a joint meeting of the Organizing Committee and the Jury. The organizing committee formalizes the decision and no later than December 16, 2023, publishes the list of prize-winners on the Olympiad webpage.

6.2. The prize-winners are awarded diplomas of the 1st, 2nd and 3rd degrees. The Olympiad participants receive certificates of participation via email.

6.3. The diplomas are awarded in December 2023 in a remote (online) format.

6.4. The organizing universities and partners of the Olympiad have the right to provide prizes to the winners of the Olympiad, such as opportunities to take part in scholarship/grant programs (Master's, PhD), online courses, and academic mobility (internships, short-term programs, summer and winter schools, etc.). Specific proposals from partner universities are discussed and approved before the Olympiad.