SCANTRON®
ASSESSMENT SOLUTIONS

SMART STARTS HERE

Scripps National Spelling Bee

Improves national competition testing process with Scantron

The Scripps National Spelling Bee preliminaries test winnows the field of the nation's best spellers at their national competition. By using Scantron scanners, forms, and software, they transformed a lengthy process into an exciting qualifying round for spellers, their families, and the media.

Challenge

Each year, thousands of spellers compete in final local bees around the country to determine the nation's best spellers. The winners of the local bees are qualified to travel to Washington D.C. and compete at the national level. The preliminaries test winnows the field down to no more than 50 spellers who will compete in the competition finals.

Before using a Scantron solution, the event organizers used a computer-based system onsite that served them well for several years, but was not easily scalable given the anticipated growth of their program.

"We chose the computer-based solution to test the spellers in smaller groups because we couldn't get all of the spellers in the room at once because of space limitations at the event hotel at the time," says Laurie Morris, Editorial Specialist for the Scripps National Spelling Bee.

Once they switched to a larger venue where they could test all the spellers at once, they examined the costs of the computer-based model, the space available, and the time it took to administer the computer-based test. They wanted a cost-effective solution where they could test all the spellers at once, quickly provide results, and turn the preliminaries test into more of an exciting, live event.

Enter Scantron scanners, forms, and software.

Solution Snapshot

Moved from online back to paper

Improved administration time from 4 hours to 40 minutes

285 spellers qualified in 2016

Scalable system as program grows

Fully automated, time-saving process

"Scantron's solution is easily scalable. The number of spellers changes every year. As we add more spellers, we know we'll be able to use Scantron and maintain our speed."

Laurie Morris, Editorial Specialist
Scripps National Spelling Bee

"We went from about 4 hours down to 40 minutes...that turned it into more of an event."

Laurie Morris, Editorial Specialist
Scripps National Spelling Bee

Implementation

The Scripps National Spelling Bee's solution includes two high-speed desktop Optical Mark Read (OMR) and imaging scanners, custom forms, and Scantron's scoring software, Remark OMR Classic®.

"Being able to administer the test to all the spellers at once really freed us up," states Morris. "We went from about 4 hours down to 40 minutes."

There were other benefits. Because all the spellers can test at the same time, they can hear the Bee's pronouncer—the person who reads the words to be spelled—live instead of via recordings.

"Their families and the media could also be in the room, and that turned it into more of an event," Morris says. "That was really great."

The Bee is pleased with the new experience. "The custom forms team was very responsive," notes Morris.

The Scripps National Spelling Bee's Scantron solution allowed them to easily communicate results to spellers. "The grading tools let us deliver really quick feedback," says Morris. "We like that the software stores an image of the speller's form so we can attach that image to emails but still keep the original."

Scantron is proud to help this exciting academic competition run more efficiently using our scanners, forms, and software.

GET THE RESULTS YOU NEED TO MAKE INFORMED BUSINESS DECISIONS TODAY!

For a free consultation to meet your organization's goals, call **800.722.6876** or visit us at **www.scantron.com** to learn more.

About Us

Scantron® provides technology to help you collect data you can use. Our solutions and services deliver the quality you expect from decades of experience. Whether you need to work on paper, online, or anywhere in between, Scantron can meet you where you are and help you get to where you want to be.

@ScantronTest   Scantron Assessment Solutions   06.2018