



2018 Texas ProStart Invitational

As the philanthropic foundation of the Texas Restaurant Association, the Texas Restaurant Association Education Foundation (TRAEF) is committed to providing educational opportunities for restaurant careers in Texas. The TRAEF believes strongly that our industry's potential is unlimited.

Texas ProStart is a career-building program for high school students who are interested in culinary arts and restaurant management. Over two challenging and rewarding years, ProStart students experience classroom study, mentored work experiences, and regional, state and national competitions. With national and local support from industry members, educators, the National Restaurant Association Educational Foundation (NRAEF) and state restaurant association partners, ProStart® reaches nearly 140,000 students in more than 1,800 high schools across 50 states, the Territory of Guam and at Department of Defense Education Activity schools in Europe and the Pacific.



Teams of students representing their regional ProStart programs compete in the Texas state competitions. Two regional competitions are held in two different areas of Texas. In each regional up to 23 culinary and 14 management teams compete. The top 6 teams from the culinary & management category from each regional competition qualify to compete in the Texas State ProStart Invitational. First place winning teams in the culinary and management competitions move on to compete at the National ProStart Invitational.

TEXAS ProStart Invitational

Two Regional Competitions: Up to 23 culinary teams and 14 management teams compete at each regional invitational.*

DFW Area Regional: Friday & Saturday, January 19—20 | Collin County College—Frisco, TX

Houston Area Regional: Friday & Saturday, February 9—10 | Conrad N. Hilton College, University of Houston

State Final Competition: The top 6 teams culinary and management teams from each regional advance to the state final, where they compete for the opportunity to advance to Nationals!*

State Final: Friday & Saturday, March 23—24 | St. Philip's College—San Antonio, TX

*Competitions are open to the public. Admission is \$15.

Management Teams

- Develop and present an original restaurant concept
- Apply critical thinking skills to everyday challenges

Culinary Teams

- Prepare a 3-course meal in just 60 minutes with 2 butane burners and limited supplies
- Judged on knife skills, teamwork, safety/sanitation, tasting, and menu development (recipes and costing)

Judged by industry professionals & representatives from post-secondary institutions.

In 2017, \$1.4 million in scholarships were awarded to winning teams.

National ProStart Invitational (NPSI) - April 27—29 | Providence, RI

NPSI showcases ProStart student talent from across the country. In 2016 over 400 students from 46 states participated in the invitational.

For more information contact Yvonne Loya-Saenz, TRAEF Director of Education at yloya@tramail.org.