APPLIED COGNITIO OLYMPIAD BANGLADESH

ACOB Math Contest

Official Rulebook & Candidate Code of Conduct

FORMAT	DIVISIONS	CALCULATORS	PLATFORM
30 Q · 45 Min	Junior & Secondary	All Types Allowed	ACOB Online Portal

Preamble

Before You Begin

The ACOB Math Contest runs on an honor system. No proctor watches over your shoulder during the exam window — the trust is placed with you. Every question is designed to reward how you think, not what you can look up, so the value of your result depends entirely on the work being your own. The pages that follow set out exactly what is permitted, what is not, and what is expected of every candidate from login to submission.

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> SCOPE
>
> Every rule in this document applies equally to the Junior and Secondary divisions. Where a rule does not name a division, assume it applies to both.

Section 01

Allowed & Prohibited Equipment

Calculators of every kind are fair game — this contest tests reasoning, not arithmetic speed. What is not permitted is anything that reasons on your behalf.

✓ Permitted

CALCULATORS & HARDWARE

- Any calculator type — basic, scientific, or graphing
- One active digital device (PC, laptop, or tablet) to access the exam portal
- Scratch paper, pens, pencils, and geometry instruments

SUBMISSION GEAR

- A phone or scanner, used strictly to scan and upload scratch work after the exam
- Your official ACOB login credentials

× Prohibited

AI & EXTERNAL SOLVERS

- Generative AI tools, including ChatGPT, Claude, Gemini, Photomath, and WolframAlpha
- Copy-pasting question text into search engines or external solvers
- Browser math extensions or automated script helpers

COLLABORATION & EXTRA TABS

- Secondary browser tabs, windows, or apps such as Discord, WhatsApp, or Telegram
- Seeking help from peers, family members, or online forums

Section 02

Exam Structure & Integrity Guidelines

Thirty questions, forty-five minutes — about ninety seconds each. That pace is tight enough that leaning on an AI solver or a search tab costs more time than it saves; candidates who work independently will consistently finish ahead of those who don't.

30	45	~1.5
QUESTIONS	MINUTES	MIN / QUESTION

✓ Expected Behavior

- Confirm a stable internet connection and log in at least 10 minutes before start time
- Solve every question independently within the 45-minute window
- Keep scratch sheets organized in case verification is requested
- Take part in a brief post-exam oral spot-check, if randomly selected

× Disqualifying Violations

- Sharing your account credentials or exam link with a third party
- Submitting responses generated by an LLM or an external search engine
- Submitting solution steps that match another candidate's, step for step
- Failing to verify your own solution steps during a spot-check interview

Closing Note

Founded on the Gap Between Knowing and Understanding

ACOB began in 2025 with a question: what happens to a student's curiosity once they've learned to pass the test? A student can answer correctly without ever wondering why the answer is correct, and pass an exam without becoming curious about the subject itself. We watched that happen often enough to think it was worth building something in response — challenges, resources, and opportunities that ask students to question, reason, apply, and understand, rather than simply recall. It's a slower, harder standard to design for. We think it's the right one.

What We Hold To

Four things every Olympiad is designed around

01

Curiosity

We design toward the question a student asks after they already have the answer.

02

Reasoning

Olympiad problems are built to reward a visible chain of thought, not a guessed result.

03

Application

Knowledge is tested in contexts a student hasn't already memorised a solution for.

04

Rigor

Every challenge is reviewed for academic accuracy before it reaches a single student.