

**De Anza CIS will be hosting the Pacific Northwest Regional ([PacNW](#)) for the International Collegiate Programming Contest ([ICPC](#)) on our campus on Saturday, February 24th.**

### **Why is this such a big deal?**

This is a prestigious annual event that is hosted across multiple sites simultaneously and the PacNW region will have 4 other sites besides NorCal (De Anza) - Oregon, Washington, British Columbia and Hawaii. There will be other regionals concurrently as well across other states. Our site will be the largest in all of PacNW and will bring the brightest programmers from most Bay Area and Sacramento Region colleges to compete against each other - Stanford, UCB, UCD, UCSC, SJSU, SacState, Chico State, CSU Monterrey to name a few. There will be two divisions in the Contest - Division 1 and 2. Winners of the Division 1 get to advance to the North America Championship to be held later in the Spring quarter. Division 2 is a practice division or stepping stone for Division 1 the following year.

### **Why is De Anza hosting this event?**

For the past 8 years, De Anza's Competitive Programming Club (CPC) has been participating in this contest against the 4-year Colleges. Our teams have been consistently earning a top 5 spot in Division 2 and our winners participated in Division 1 as members of their transfer schools. However, we did field good teams in Division 1 in 2021 and again in 2023 and the 2023 team advanced to the North America Championship round in Orlando to compete against the top 50 schools. We were the only 2-year school EVER invited and our team did quite well - <https://nac.icpc.global/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/NAC23-scoreboard.pdf>. Plus we competed against some of our own prior students who had transferred and showed them that their legacy at De Anza CPC is alive. Hosting this contest at De Anza allows us to increase its visibility among all our, as well as Foothill, students and hopefully motivate more you to consider participating during your study here.

### **Why is this of interest to you?**

Think you are a good programmer or want to exponentially improve at programming? Sign up with the Competitive Programming Club ([deanzacpc@gmail.com](mailto:deanzacpc@gmail.com)) to participate in their practice sessions to find out. Then step up to compete against the best students in the entire Pacific Northwest to test your mettle as the contest will pose 13 challenging programming exercises to solve in 5 hours and that too with only limited hardcopy reference material. You will be required to solve them in teams of 3 programmers, so it will help improve your collaboration skills. Additionally, you will gain bragging rights which will help you in your transfer application as well as provide valuable experience towards solving the kinds of problems Bay Area companies ask during their interview process for programming internships and entry level jobs. Finally, we also hope your instructors may offer some form of extra credit to participate in the contest.

De Anza is allowed to sign up with 10 teams, i.e. 30 students, across both divisions as the host site. Foothill will be allowed another 6 of their own. However, if there is high interest in participating from both campuses, we can lobby for more spots. Participating in the practice sessions of the CPC is important to determine who all will participate and in which division as that club will send me the final list of participants to enroll. So sign up by sending an email to [deanzacpc@gmail.com](mailto:deanzacpc@gmail.com) to get more information.

**What else can you do besides contesting?**

Over 200 people are expected to come to De Anza campus on Saturday, Feb 24<sup>th</sup> to participate in the contest. The 2023 site (CSU Chico) had nearly 40 teams contesting across the two divisions and we are hoping for even more given the centrality of our campus in the Bay Area and easy freeway access. So we will need a lot of student volunteers to help with various activities before and on the day of the event. This will also be an opportunity for the volunteers to experience the event and determine for themselves if they would contest in the future. Also, we hope your instructors may offer some form of extra credit to volunteer. Link to the signup sheet will be circulated in the coming weeks.