

Speech: Individual Events



2024-25 STATE FINAL QUALIFIER INFORMATION



Illinois High School Association
2715 McGraw Drive / Bloomington, IL 61704
Tel 309.663.6377 / Fax 309.663.7479/ www.ihsa.org



Dear Competing Teams,

On behalf of the Illinois High School Association Board of Directors, the Speech Advisory Committee, and our member schools, it is my pleasure to congratulate you on qualifying for the 2025 IHSA Speech: Individual Events State Finals! No other state in the country conducts interscholastic competition for schools like we do here in Illinois and we are thrilled that you are able to be a part of the opportunity.

We extend a special welcome and congratulations to all the participants of this year's State Final. You should be commended for your efforts, hard work and dedication which enabled you and your school to achieve success. I also want to welcome and congratulate the coaches of all our competing schools who have trained and prepared students to reach this level of performance.

The IHSA believes that interscholastic competition enriches the educational experience. Here students and coaches have a chance to demonstrate the fruits of their hard work and commitment. Regardless of the outcome of events, we ask that you do your very best. As a participant you proudly represent your families, schools and communities in a very visible forum. The sense of community pride shown in the performances is a tangible display of appreciation for excellence demonstrated by our member schools. Thank you in advance for exhibiting top qualities of sportsmanship and embracing all that can be learned through education based activities. You have spent many long hours preparing for this championship and we wish you the very best and hope you enjoy every aspect of the State Final.

We want you to know that we appreciate all the work that you have put forth to be at the State Finals and it is our hope that you are able to thoroughly enjoy the tournament from start to finish. You will see located in this packet all the information necessary to make your trip to State as smooth as possible.

We wish you the very best and trust you will enjoy your time at the IHSA State Final. Feel free to call our office if you have any questions and thank you for your support of IHSA and for being a part of the IHSA State Final experience. Remember, The Future Plays Here!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Susan M. Knoblauch". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Susan M. Knoblauch
Assistant Executive Director
Illinois High School Association

Susie Knoblauch



2024-25 Individual Events State Final Tournament Qualifiers Information

- I. Qualifying School Information..... 3-5**
 - A. Venue
 - B. Contacts
 - C. State Final Housing
 - D. Parking
 - E. Access - Registration
 - F. Team Area
 - G. Coaches Area
 - H. State Final Merchandise
 - I. Vendors
 - J. Concessions
 - K. Awards
 - L. State Final DVD
 - M. Sportsmanship
 - N. Safety Information
 - O. Checklist

- II. Individual Events State Final Time Schedule.....6**

- III. Maps and Room Assignments**
 - A. Map of Peoria.....7
 - B. Peoria Civic Center Maps 8-11
 - C. Parking Map 12
 - D. Room Assignments..... 13
 - E. Directions 14
 - F. Peoria Area Maps..... 15

- IV. Awards Presentation Information..... 16**



2025 IHSA INDIVIDUAL EVENTS STATE FINAL

QUALIFYING SCHOOL INFORMATION

The Illinois High School Association (IHSA) serves member schools by providing leadership for equitable participation in interscholastic activities that enrich the educational experience. School administrators, coaches, officials, fans, Peoria Civic Center (PCC), and the IHSA share a very important responsibility to the student that are participating in the state final competition at the PCC to provide equipment, facilities and an environment that is as free of risk as possible. **To have the best experience possible, material in this document will assist in preparing participants and fans for a trip to the Speech: Individual Events State Final at the Peoria Civic Center. Please share pertinent information with participants, parents and fans.** The concern for the health and safety of students participating in the state tournament is primary. Security and IHSA personnel at the arena will monitor all fans and participants for their safety and security and react quickly and reasonably when the need arises.

COMPETITION DATES AND TIMES

State Finals: Fri.-Sat., Feb. 21-22, 2025
<https://www.ihsa.org/Sports-Activities/Speech>

Event Performance Order: The performance order for the Speech: Individual Events State Final will be posted on the IHSA website by 5:00 p.m. Monday, February 17, 2025.

VENUE

Peoria Civic Center
 201 S.W. Jefferson Ave., Peoria, IL 61602 309-673-8900 www.PeoriaCivicCenter.com
<https://www.google.com/maps/place/Peoria+Civic+Center/@40.691985,-89.5964476,17z/data=!3m1!4b1!4m5!3m4!1s0x880a590c53fd90dd:0xe064cefd11db9b76!8m2!3d40.691985!4d-89.5942589>

CONTACTS

- **Venue Manager:** Abby Williamson, Event Manager - Peoria Civic Center (Office) (309) 680-3528 awilliamson@asmpeoria.com
 Venue inquiries: (309) 673-8900
- **Emergency Calls:** Peoria Civic Center Guest Services – (309) 680-3500
- **Peoria Area Convention & Visitor's Bureau:** 1-800-747-0302
<http://www.peoria.org/AboutContactUs> www.peoria.com
- **Media:** Matt Troha, Assistant Executive Director, IHSA (309) 663-6377 mtroha@ihsa.org
- **Team/School Information:** Carol Carr, IHSA Administrative Assistant, IHSA 309-663-6377 ccarr@ihsa.org

HOTEL INFORMATION

State Final Housing: The link below includes a list of hotels blocked for schools participating in the IHSA Speech: Individual Events State Finals. A school representative must confirm housing by **midnight on February 16th, 2025** identifying themselves as an IHSA state qualifying school. Rooms will be released to the public following the deadline. Schools are responsible for all housing expenses. Schools are not required to use this housing.

[Hotel Information](#)



PARKING

Teams/Fans: School vehicles can drop teams off at the Civic Center Marquee Lot. This entrance is located on the Southwest side of the Peoria Civic Center. Drop off will be at the main entrance by the Box Office. The Marquee parking lot is available for spectator/fan parking (fee \$10.00). This lot is located off Kumpf Boulevard. Entrance to the Individual Events State Final Tournament is located directly off the parking lot. Parking for buses will be in the Fulton Lot. The Fulton parking lot is also available for spectator/fan parking (fee \$10.00). There is also a parking map included.

*The parking lots are now cashless and require a credit/debit card for all transactions.

Accessible Parking: The Peoria Civic Center has 25 handicapped parking spaces available in its parking lots – 11 in the Marquee lot and 14 in the Fulton lot. We also have an easily accessible drop-off lane near the building.

<https://www.peoriaciviccenter.com/p/visit/ada-accessibility>

Service animals as defined by the American with Disabilities Act (ADA) are welcome.

ACCESS

Participant Access: Participants are allowed access only in designated areas. State Final Committee member will have full access with credentials. Tournament volunteers will guide teams through competition areas.

Registration: Upon arrival at the Peoria Civic Center teams may proceed to the Exhibit Hall D and coaches can proceed to registration. Registration is located outside of the Great Hall Ballroom located on the 4th level - Pre-function space area - coat check area (by room 401). Once inside the Peoria Civic Center Great Hall/Marquee Entrance, coaches can take the escalators to the top floor (4th level) for registration. Elevators are also available for accessibility. **Registration is available between 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. on Friday. Only coaches are permitted on the 400 level during registration. Participants can view rooms on the 400 level after 1:00 P.M. on Friday.**

SEATING

Teams: Seating will be available for schools in Exhibit Hall D.

Coaches: Seating for coaches throughout the tournament will be available adjacent to the student area in Exhibit Hall D.

Awards: Seating for awards will be in the 400 level Ballroom.

DESIGNATED AREAS

State Final Merchandise: Souvenir merchandise will be available in Exhibit Hall D. Minerva is the official provider of state final merchandise. <https://www.minervapromotions.com/stores/>

Vendors: Various vendors and college representatives will be in Exhibit Hall D.

Concessions: Throughout the competition, concessions will be available adjacent to the Verizon wireless café just outside of Exhibit Hall D (lower level) of the Peoria Civic Center.

The PCC does not allow outside food and beverages.

Awards: The Speech State Final Awards Performances will take place in the Grand Ballroom (400 Level) of the Peoria Civic Center on Saturday, February 22, 2025.

State Final DVD: The State Final Award Performances will be available for purchase. You can purchase DVDs at www.PrepFilms.com.

Maps: Enclosed are maps of the downtown Peoria area as well as the layout of the Individual Events State Final. There is also a parking map included.



SPORTSMANSHIP

IHSA Position on Sportsmanship: A participant/coach, or other team personnel must not commit unsporting acts. This includes, but is not limited to, acts or conduct such as: disrespectfully addressing the audience or a judge; gesturing in such a manner as to indicate resentment; using profane or inappropriate language, or gestures; baiting or taunting during any aspects of competition.

The NFHS and IHSA disapprove of any form of unsportsmanlike acts/taunting which is intended or designed to embarrass, ridicule or demean others under any circumstance.

The IHSA expects all school teams to uphold themselves to the highest level of sportsmanship always.

SAFETY INFORMATION

Security: To help insure the safest and most secure atmosphere for this IHSA State Final, event management at the PCC will diligently maintain all safety and security standards. This will require complete cooperation by all competing schools, judges, officials and spectators. Security will always have priority over convenience; therefore, if requested to cooperate with event personnel in any manner, please do so promptly.

The safety and security of our IHSA participants and Peoria Civic Center patrons is our top priority. To ensure a safe environment, please plan on arriving at all events with enough time to be safe and be aware of the PCC implemented policies to ensure an enjoyable event experience for all.

The PCC management reserves the right to prohibit any item from entering the premises. All patrons and their belongings are subject to search prior to entry and once inside the building. The PCC prohibits certain items into the facility including outside food and beverages including but not limited to coolers, glass bottles and containers, laser pointers, latex balloons, professional industry cameras, fireworks, airhorns, drones, pocket knives, weapons and other hazardous or potentially dangerous items. If bringing an item that is prohibited into the facility, patrons can throw it away or take it to their vehicle. The Peoria Civic Center will not hold any items.

If you have questions regarding items necessary to attend the PCC or manage a medical condition, please email CustomerService@PeoriaCivicCenter.com <https://www.peoriaciviccenter.com/p/visit/safety--security>

Alcohol and Illegal Substances Prohibited: The possession, distribution, sale, and or consumption of alcoholic beverages and illegal substances are prohibited on the property of any IHSA state series contest facility. State series hosts are required to make all state series contest sites, including the parking lots, fan accommodation areas, and other school or event venue property, alcohol and illegal substance free zones on the date or dates of any IHSA event being held at the site.

Information/Guest Services: The Information/Guest Services desk is located on the first floor of the Great Hall by the Marquees entrance and Box Office. In addition, there are staff located throughout the building that are more than happy to assist with any questions or needs.

Lost and Found: Neither tournament management, Peoria Civic Center, nor the IHSA will assume responsibility for any losses/damages while on the premises.

During an event, items that are lost or found will be given to the Guest Services desk on the first level of the Great Hall. At the end of the event, unclaimed lost and found items are sent to the PCC security office (open 24 hours). If you have lost an item at the PCC, call at 309-680-3682.

CHECKLIST

IHSA State Final Checklist

1. Confirm your housing by Feb. 16th, 2025

[Hotel Information](#)

Questions:

Contact

Susie Knoblauch, IHSA Assistant Executive Director
309-663-6377 sknoblauch@ihsa.org

Carol Carr, IHSA Administrative Assistant
309-663-6377 ccarr@ihsa.org



Individual Events State Final Time Schedule

Friday

12:00 – 1:00 pm Registration

12:45 *Radio Prep. for Round I, Sec. A*

1:00 *Extemp Prep. for Round 1, Sec. A*

1:30 Preliminary Round I, Sec. A (All Events)

1:30 Performance in the Round Prelim A

2:15 *Radio Prep. for Round I, Sec. B*

2:30 *Extemp Prep. for Round 1, Sec. B*

3:00 Preliminary Round I, Sec. B (All Events)

3:45 *Radio Prep. for Round I, Sec. C*

4:00 *Extemp Prep. for Round 1, Sec. C*

4:30 Preliminary Round I, Sec. C (All Events)

Saturday

7:15 *Radio Prep. for Round II, Sec. A*

7:30 *Extemp Prep. for Round II, Sec. A*

8:00 Preliminary Round II, Section A (All Events)

8:00 Performance in the Round Prelim B

8:45 *Radio Prep. for Round II, Sec. B*

9:00 *Extemp Prep. for Round II, Sec. B*

9:30 Preliminary Round II, Section B (All Events)

10:15 *Radio Prep. for Round II, Sec. C*

10:30 *Extemp Prep. for Round II, Sec. C*

11:00 Preliminary Round II, Sec. C (All Events)

1:15 *Radio Prep. for Finals*

1:30 *Extemp Prep. for Finals*

2:00 Final Round: All Events

2:00 Performance in the Round – Final Round

4:00 AWARDS ASSEMBLY

** The performance order for the Individual Events State Final will be posted on the IHSA website by 5:00 p.m. Monday, February 17, 2025.



TOURNAMENT LOCATIONS

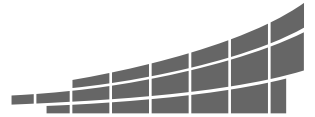
Registration.....	Second Level of the Great Hall
Information/Tournament Center.....	4th Floor Lobby Area (Coat Check)
Tabulation/State Committee.....	Room 402
Volunteers/Timers & Room Chairs.....	Room 400
Coaches Hospitality.....	Exhibit Hall D
Team Holding Area.....	Exhibit Hall D
Concessions/Vendors.....	Exhibit Hall D
Hired Judges.....	Lexus Club
Awards.....	Ballroom 400

COMPETITION ROOM ASSIGNMENTS

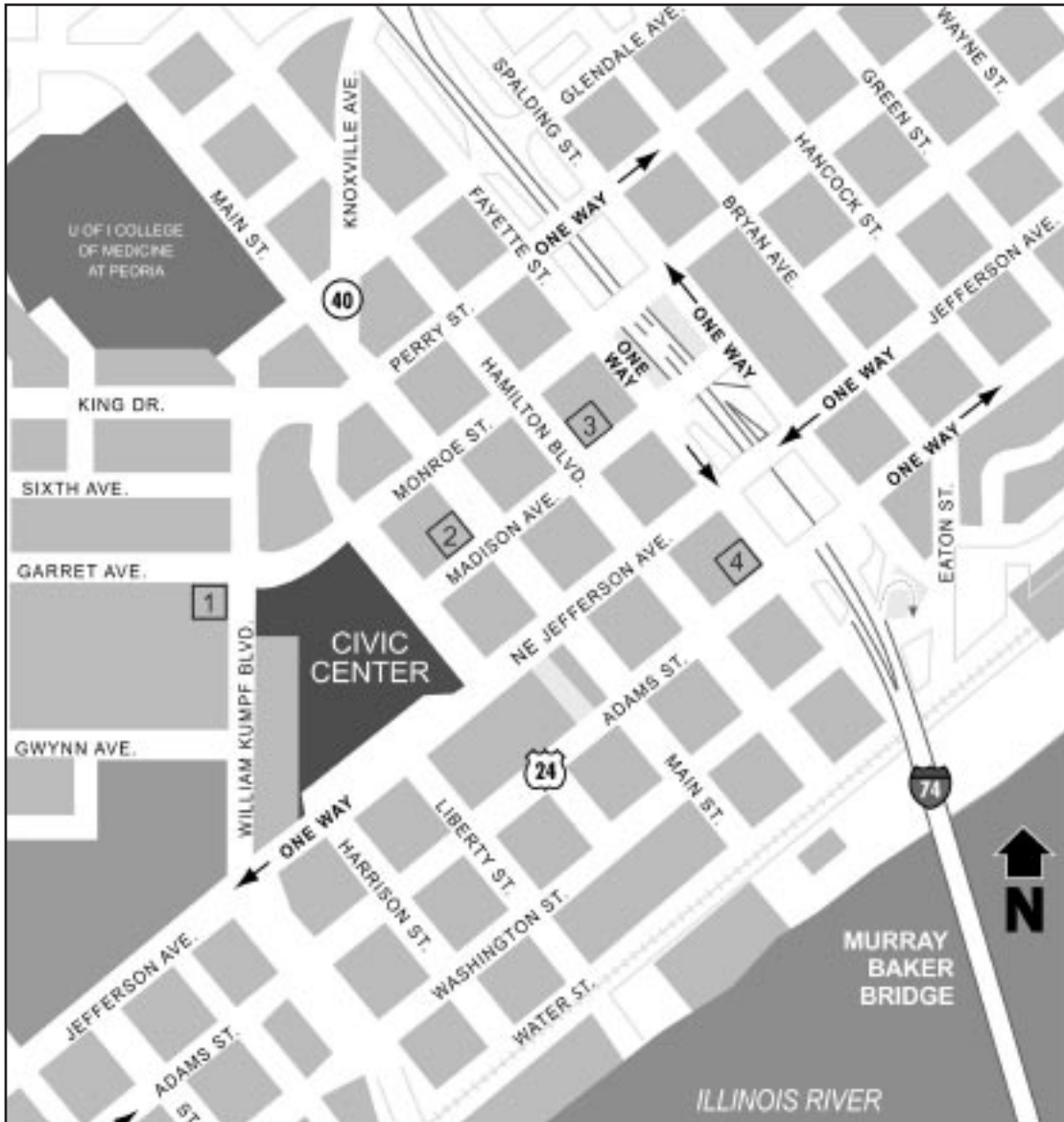
PRELIMINARY ROUNDS AND FINAL ROUND
(FINAL ROUND FOR ALL EVENTS WILL BE HELD AT 2:00 P.M.)

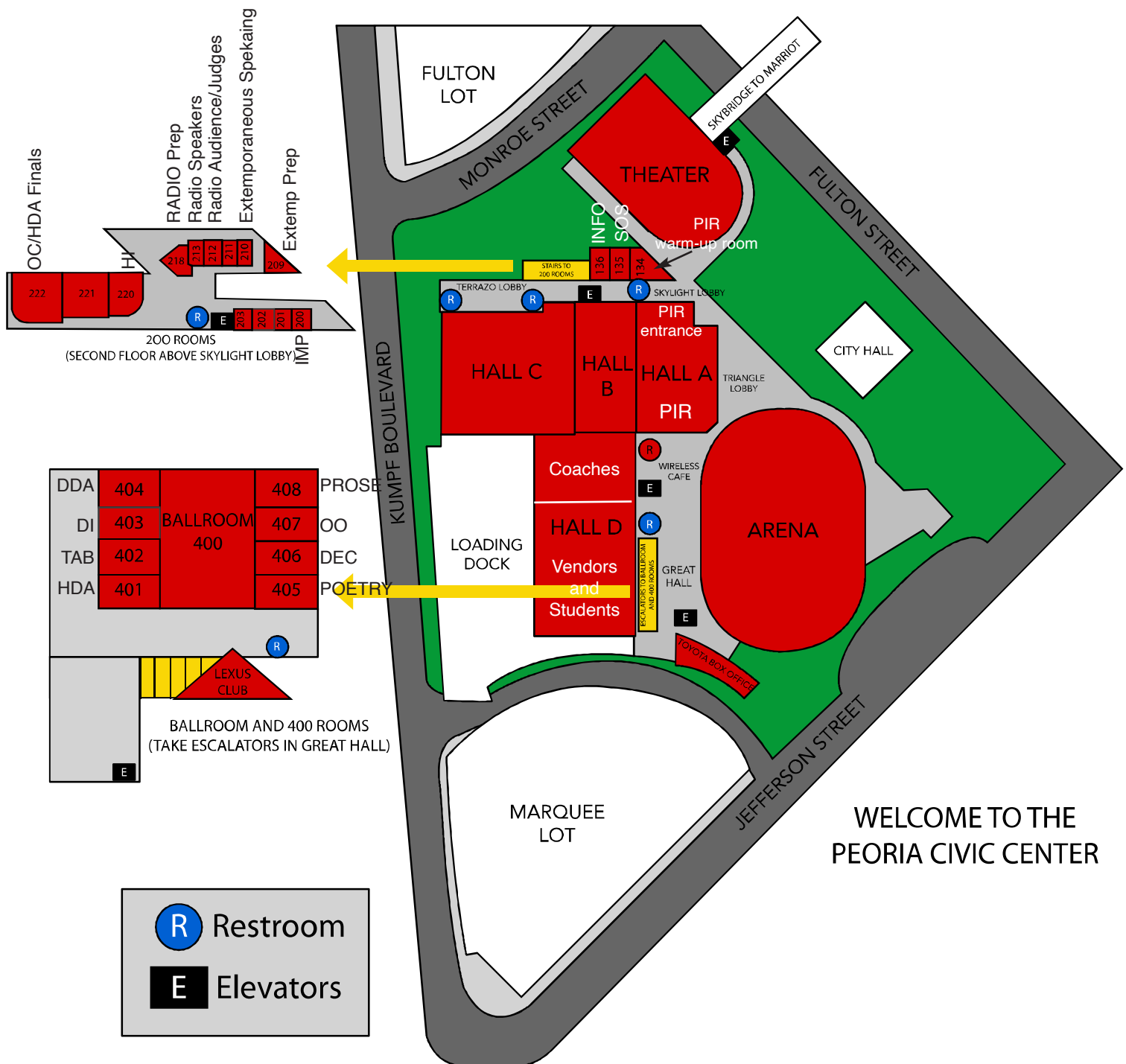
Dramatic Duet Acting.....	Room 404
Dramatic Interpretation.....	Room 403
Extemporaneous Speaking.....	Room 210
Extemporaneous Speaking Prep.....	Room 209
Humorous Duet Acting.....	Room 401
Humorous Interpretation.....	Room 220
Impromptu Speaking.....	Room 200
Informative Speaking.....	Room 136
Oratorical Declamation.....	Room 406
Original Oratory.....	Room 407
Original Comedy.....	Room 222
Poetry Reading.....	Room 405
Prose Reading.....	Room 408
Radio Speaking-Audience/Judges.....	Room 212
Radio Speaking-Speaker.....	Room 213
Radio Speaking Prep.....	Room 218
Special Occasion Speaking.....	Room 135

Performance in the Round Warm Up and Prep Room...	Room 134
Performance in the Round.....	Exhibit Hall A

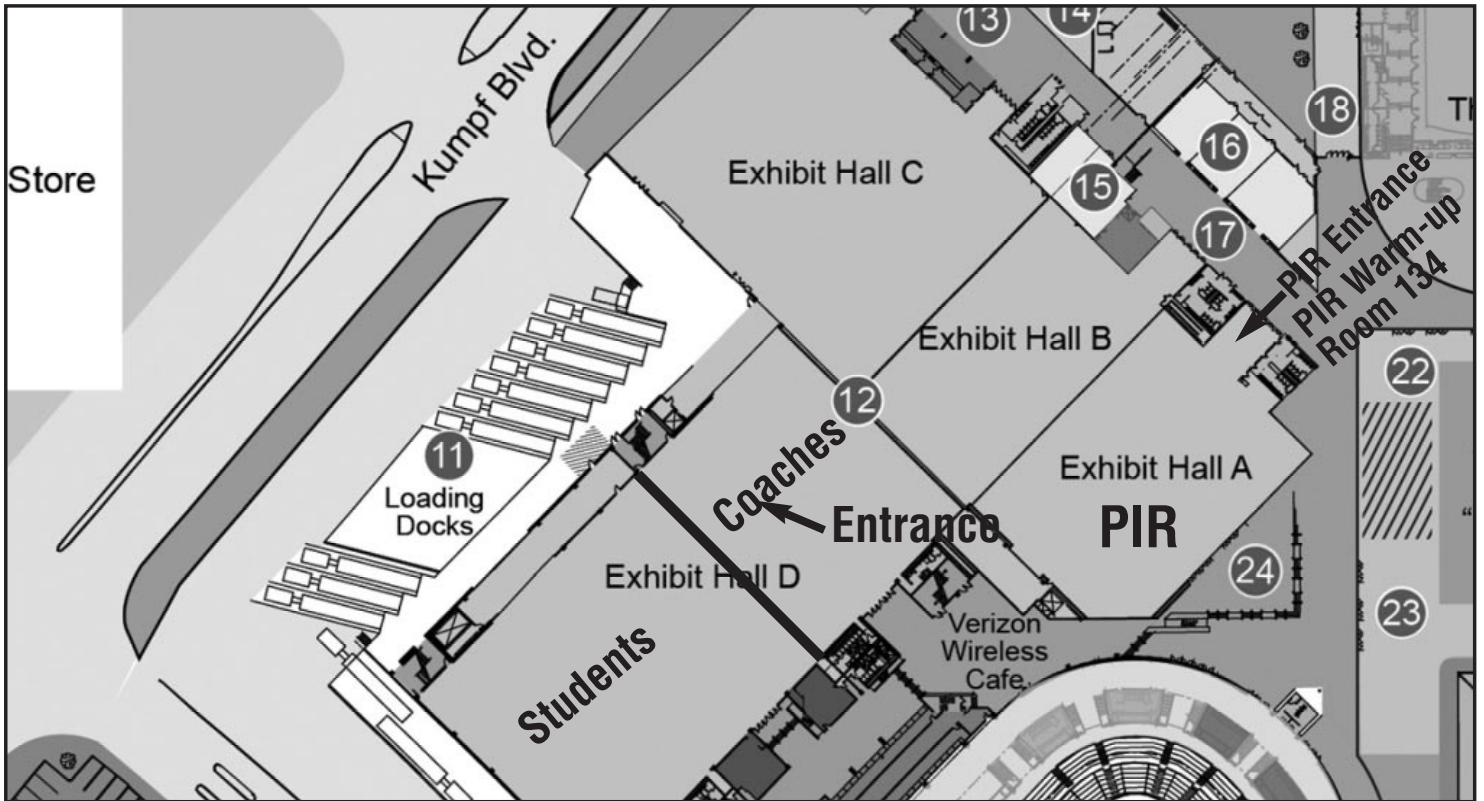


PEORIA AREA MAPS





TOURNAMENT AREAS

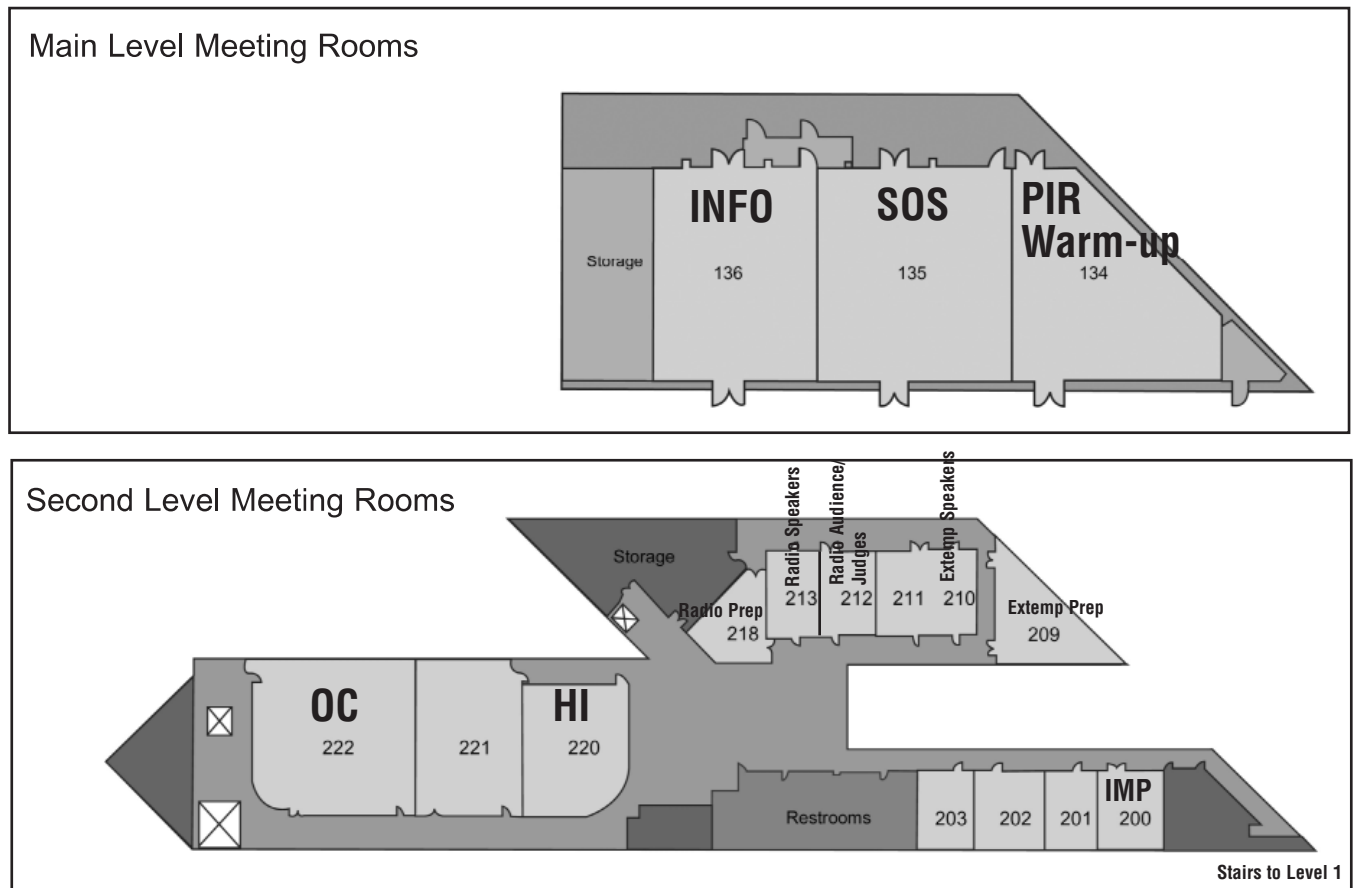


COMPETITION ROOMS

IHSA SPEECH • INDIVIDUAL EVENTS STATE FINALS



The Peoria Civic Center features 17,000 sq. ft. of meeting space in addition to the Ballroom. These 16 rooms are located on the first and second levels and vary in size with seating from 10 - 1,000 people with access available via stairs and elevators.

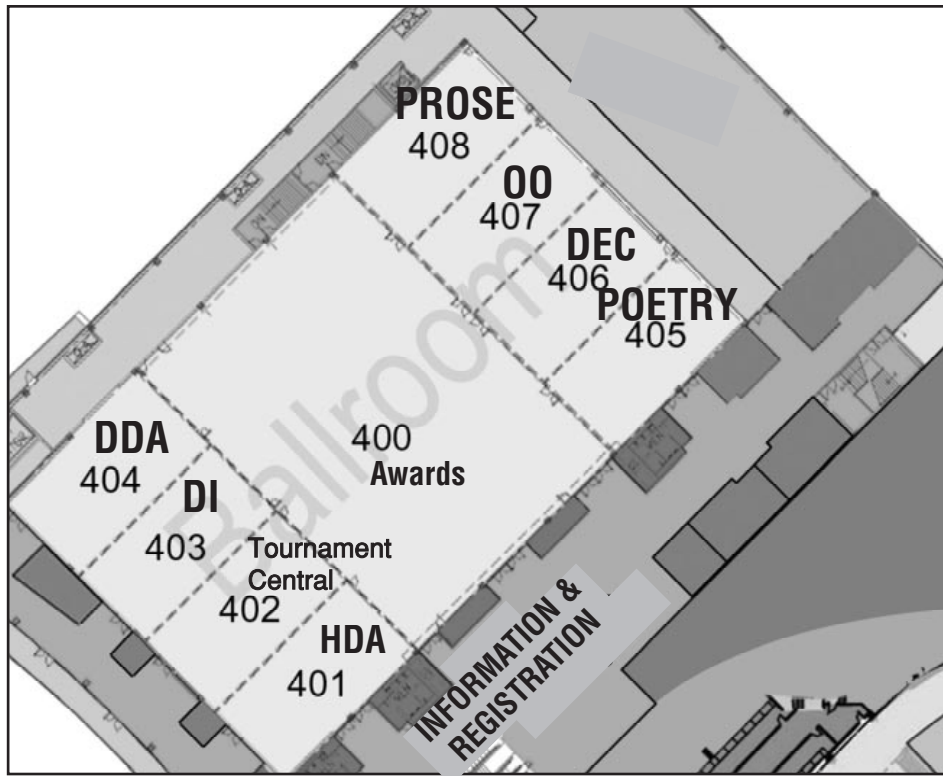


REGISTRATION/COMPETITION ROOMS

IHSA SPEECH • INDIVIDUAL EVENTS STATE FINALS



The Ballroom is located on the 4th level of the Peoria Civic Center. This high finish room will seat up to 1,600 for a banquet or break into nine separate meeting rooms. The ceiling height varies from 23' to 25' and is easily accessible by stairs, escalators and elevators. The pre-function space features a coat check, green room, and an outdoor balcony offering a panoramic view of downtown Peoria.



IF YOU ARE COMING FROM:

Chicago (From the North)

Take I-55 South to I-74 West. Take Exit 94B in East Peoria. This fly-over ramp will connect you with the Bob Michel Bridge. Go across the bridge into Peoria and continue straight ahead through three stoplights. At the fourth stoplight, turn right onto Monroe Street. Then turn right onto Fulton Street. Turn right at the first stoplight onto Jefferson Avenue. **The drop off lane will be located on the right side of the road.**

Indiana/Bloomington (From the East)

Take I-74 West to Exit 94B in East Peoria. This fly-over ramp will connect you with the Bob Michel Bridge. Go across the bridge into Peoria and continue straight ahead through three stoplights. At the fourth stoplight, turn right onto Monroe Street. Then turn right onto Fulton Street. Turn right at the first stoplight onto Jefferson Avenue. **The drop off lane will be located on the right side of the road.**

St. Louis (From the South)

Take I-55 North to 155 North in Lincoln to I-74 West. Take I-74 West to Exit 94B in East Peoria. This fly-over ramp will connect you with the Bob Michel Bridge. Go across the bridge into Peoria and continue straight ahead through three stoplights. At the fourth stoplight, turn right onto Monroe Street. Then turn right onto Fulton Street. Turn right at the first stoplight onto Jefferson Avenue. **The drop off lane will be located on the right side of the road.**

Iowa/Galesburg (From the West)

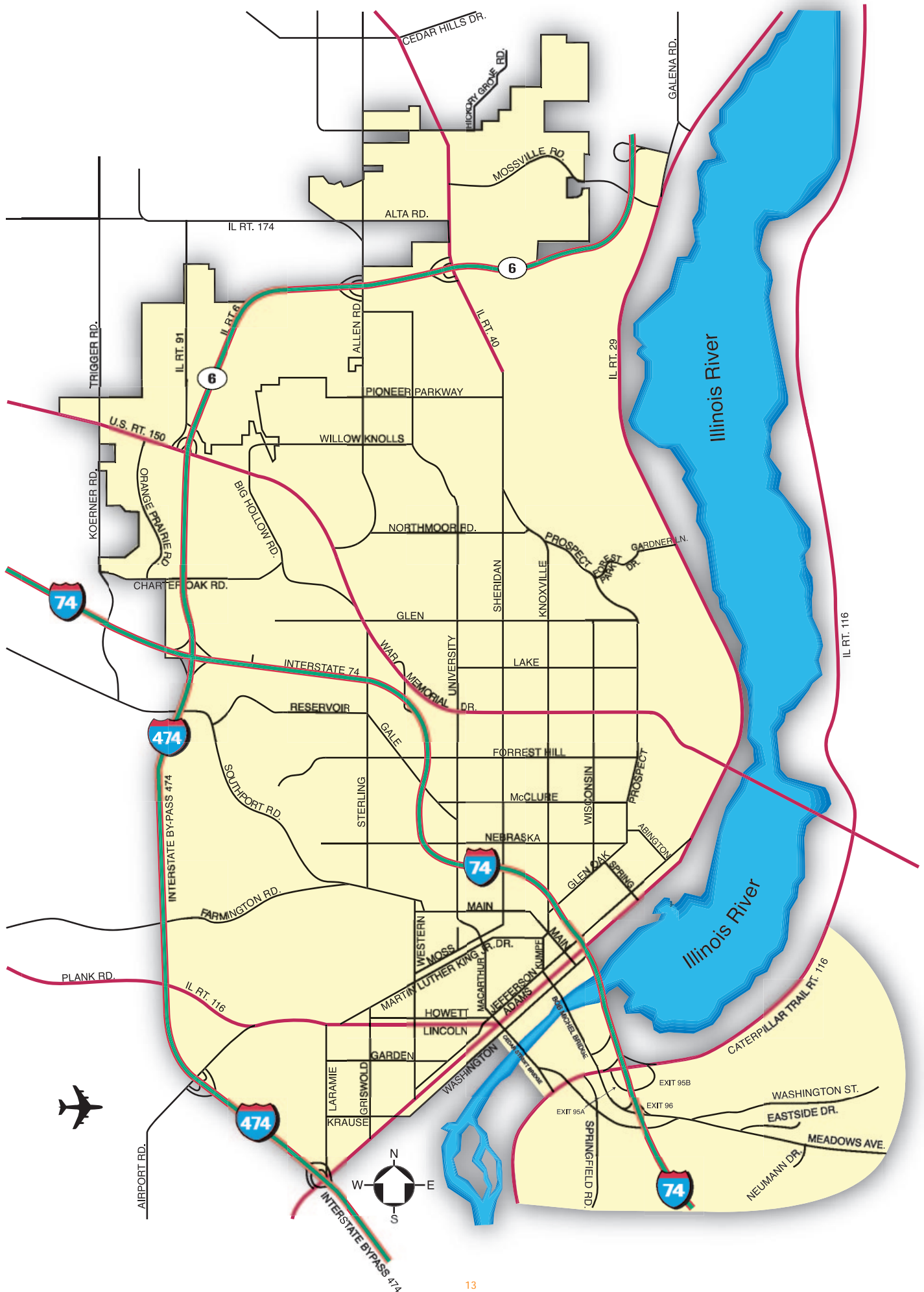
Take I-74 East to the Downtown Peoria Glen Oak exit (Exit 92B). Go straight through the first stoplight, then turn right as road curves and becomes Glendale Ave. Continue straight ahead through two stoplights as Glendale becomes Kumpf. Turn left onto Monroe Street. Then turn right onto Fulton Street. Turn right at the first stoplight onto Jefferson Avenue. **The drop off lane will be located on the right side of the road.**

West to East

Take 24 East to Adams St. At Kumpf St. make a left. The Peoria Civic Center is the 2nd stoplight on the right-hand side.

East to West

Take 29 West or 24 West to Adams St. to Jefferson St. Pass I-74 overpass. The Peoria Civic Center is five stoplights down on your right.



State Finals Awards Presentation – Individual Events

Following the completion of the final rounds, all schools/fans/spectators should proceed to the 4th floor Ballroom of the Peoria Civic Center for the State Final Awards Performances. The awards performances are free to the public and will proceed as follows:

1. Doors open
2. Opening comments – IHSA
Welcomes, acknowledgements and introductions
3. ICTA recognition for nominated retiring coaches - ICTA
4. Individual Awards – Master of Ceremonies
 - a. Performance in the Round 3rd-1st place schools are announced. Medals and plaques are presented. The first-place team performs
 - b. The finalist in all 14 individual events will be asked to come to the on-deck staging area by event
 - c. 6-1st individual event place winners will be announced. When the school, student name and placement are announced, the student should step forward to receive their IHSA medallion. The student(s) can then exit the stage where photo opportunities are available. The state champion will briefly exit the stage to be hooked to a wireless microphone for the state championship performance
 - d. Each event will follow the same procedure. Students may return to their original seats after the event state champion performs
5. Team Awards – Master of Ceremonies
 - a. 3rd-1st place schools are announced
 - b. If present, the school administration: superintendent, principal, activities director, etc. should proceed to the stage with the team and coaching staff
 - c. The head coach will be offered the opportunity to award students medals
6. If present, IHSA Board of Director(s) representative(s) will drape the individual event students/teams with their medals/plaques/trophies on stage. If no IHSA Board Members are present, IHSA administration will designate award presenters (state final managers, state final committee, etc.)
7. Opportunity for team pictures

The IHSA State Final Awards Ceremony and Performance will be streamed online on the NFHS Network / IHSATV.

Schools are reminded to practice the best of sportsmanship and follow all the guidelines for audience etiquette during the state final awards performances.

Team exit packets will be available at the registration area after awards.