

2024 Collegiate QSO Party Event Packet

<http://collegiateQSOparty.com>

#collegiateQSOparty

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Introduction to the Collegiate QSO Party

This packet is a complete guide to the Collegiate QSO Party. Inside, you'll find rules, suggested bands, sample script exchanges, logging requirements, and other helpful information for the event.

What is the Collegiate QSO Party?

The Collegiate QSO Party is an operating event focused on amateur radio clubs at colleges and universities around the world. Each Fall, the Collegiate QSO Party provides an opportunity for clubs to demonstrate amateur radio to new members, engage with alumni, and promote activity throughout college and university communities.

Who is this event for?

This event is open to all radio amateurs. Points can be earned by individuals, clubs, and collegiate stations. The Collegiate QSO Party encourages alumni to connect with their alma mater and students to network with other schools. New hams are welcome and stations are encouraged to be accommodating to new radio amateurs.

What is a "collegiate station"?

For the purposes of this event, a collegiate is defined as students, faculty, staff, or alumni operating under the callsign assigned to the club registered at the college, university or other post-secondary academic institute. Collegiate clubs may operate on campus in the club station or set up in a public area (with permission) or off campus. Alumni/Faculty/Staff without an active student club who wish to "activate" their school may do so with the permission of the trustee of the collegiate club callsign and compete in this category.

Current students at schools without a participating amateur radio club may compete under their own callsign. Points will apply as a club station.

Questions or Suggestions?

This packet should answer most questions. However, if we overlooked something or left out some details, feel free to email andy@gatorradio.org or tony@kd8rtt.com with any questions or suggestions you may have.

Rules

Operating Dates and Times

The event will take place on Saturday, October 5th, 2024 at 0000 UTC to Sunday, October 6th, 2024 at 2359 UTC.

Logs are due by October 31st, 2024.

Number of Transmitters and Remote Operation

Each station is limited to one (1) transmitter at a time limited to 150 watts. Additional (unlimited) receivers may be used to aid in spotting stations. Relay stations and repeaters are not allowed for this event. *Only simplex contacts between two stations may count. The only exception is the allowed satellite contacts.*

Remote operation is not allowed, except for a collegiate station operating remote to their primary operating station.

Station Registration

Stations are encouraged to register before the event at <http://collegiateQSOParty.com>. Stations will identify their class to aid in scoring. Only registered college/university stations will count for multiplier.

College/University stations will need to register no later than the day before the event starts (2359 UTC on Thursday, October 3th). Any College/University station that does not register will be counted as Individual station. Registered stations will be displayed on the website.

Operating Bands

Points may be scored on any amateur radio band, except 12, 17, 30, and 60 meters. Points are scored for each band worked.

QSO Exchange

When a contact is made, each operator must exchange the following information:

- Call sign
- U.S. State, Canadian Province, or DX
- Signal Report

Point Breakdown

Points are earned for each QSO per mode, per band. Points can be earned for contacting ANY station. Multipliers are summed and then multiplied with the total QSO points. The below formula captures how scores are calculated:

$$(\Sigma Phone + \Sigma CW \times 2) \times (\Sigma QTH + \Sigma College \times 3) + Bonus$$

QSO Point Values and Multipliers

QSO Points

- Phone: 1
- CW/Digital (PSK, FT8, JT65, etc.): 2

Multipliers

- QTH - Each unique U.S. State, Canadian Province, DX entity (determined by call sign prefix): +1
- College/University Club: +3

Operating Classes

Stations may enter in one of the following two (2) classes:

- Collegiate Station
- Individual Station

Bonus Points

Media: Max 100 points for active use of social and traditional media leading up to and during the operating event (livestream of event, public Facebook or Twitter posts, article in school or alumni newspaper, etc.). Social media posts must be spaced at least 2 hours apart.

- 10 points per post/media hit, max 30 points per day
- Media must mention Collegiate QSO Party and/or Collegiate Amateur Radio
- Screenshot of each post/media hit required for point verification

Satellite Contacts: Max 50 points, 10 points per QSO

Public Operating (College/University only): 100 points for operating a self-contained portable station in a public space on campus for at least 4 hours.

- Must have a sign and engage members of the community
- Simply sitting on a bench with a HT does not count
- Remote station operation does count
- Must submit photo(s) and operating times

Administrator Participation (College/University only): 100 points for getting a college/university administrator to attend and learn about amateur radio.

- Submit photo with administrator and club

Social Media

Social media is a major aspect of any modern collegiate amateur radio club. In order to connect with fellow clubs, track those participating in the event, and spread the word about your club we encourage you to reach out on social media. Below are a few helpful guidelines.

- Connect with those in the amateur radio space using #hamradio and #collegiateQSOparty on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, TikTok, and Instagram
- Join amateur radio social media sites, such as QRZ (<http://qrz.com>)
- Join the ARRL Collegiate Amateur Radio Program Facebook group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/ARRLCARI/>

Spotting

Spotting of collegiate stations – both by others and self spotting - is highly encouraged! QSO Party Hub has graciously created a spotting page specifically for the Collegiate QSO Party that can be accessed from the main website or <http://qsopartyhub.com/collqp-spots.php>.

Suggested Operating Frequencies

Finding other participating the in Collegiate QSO Party is part of the fun. To aid in your search we have provided a few Phone and CW suggested frequencies below. For digital modes such as FT8 or PSK31, we suggest operating at the standard frequencies and just make sure your exchanges include “CollegiateQP” or “CQP” to identify yourself for the QSO Party.

Suggested HF Phone Frequencies:

- 1.855-1.865 MHz
- 3.850-3.880 MHz
- 7.225-7.255 MHz
- 14.250-14.280 MHz
- 21.300-21.330 MHz
- 28.440-28.460 MHz

Suggested HF CW Frequencies:

- 1.810 MHz
- 3.540 MHz
- 7.035 MHz
- 14.040 MHz
- 21.050 MHz
- 28.050 MHz

For VHF and UHF frequencies, we would encourage you to advertise your operation on local nets and email lists and include a simplex frequency and planned time of operation that you choose.

Sample Script

These scripts are helpful for new folks who wish to work the QSO party. Please remember to substitute in your callsign, RST, and QTH.

Calling CQ

Calling CQ is important to get heard. Remember that it takes time for folks to turn the dial, so calling CQ a few times or making it into a bit of a sentence can help you get heard.

“CQ CQ CQ, W4DFU, the Gator Amateur Radio Club at the University of Florida, calling CQ CQ CQ for the Collegiate QSO Party CQ CQ CQ.”

“CQ Collegiate QSO Party, CQ Collegiate QSO Party, CQ Collegiate QSO Party. This is the Rose Tech Radio Club, W9NAA, at Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology. CQ Collegiate QSO Party, CQ Collegiate QSO Party, CQ Collegiate QSO Party.”

Exchange

“Whiskey Three Uniform Sierra Romeo, this is Whiskey Eight Echo Delta Uniform at Case Western Reserve University. You are 59 into Oscar Hotel, QSL?”

“Whiskey Eight Echo Delta Uniform, this is Whiskey Three Uniform Sierra Romeo at the University of Scranton. QSL. You are 57 into Papa Alpha!”

“Whiskey Three Uniform Sierra Romeo, this is Whiskey Eight Echo Delta Uniform. QSL! 73s and good luck.”

“Whiskey Eight Echo Delta Uniform, this is Whiskey Three Uniform Sierra Romeo. QSL! 73s thanks for the QSO. This is Whiskey Three Uniform Sierra Romeo, QRZ.”

Logging

Cabrillo Specification

Like many other contests, logs must be submitted using a custom Cabrillo specification. Please see the specification below.

Collegiate QSO Party Cabrillo Specification

Version 1.0

Required Header Fields

CONTEST: CQP

AFFILIATION1:

AFFILIATION2:

AFFILIATION3:

CATEGORY-STATION:

CALLSIGN:

where AFFILIATION is:

College/university you attended or club name you are operating under. Up to three affiliations may be included if you attended more than one school.

where CATEGORY-STATION is:

"SCHOOL-CLUB" for college/university station

"SINGLE-OP" for individual/non-collegiate club

Other valid Cabrillo fields (e.g., NAME, ADDRESS, EMAIL, SOAPBOX, LOCATION, CLAIMED-SCORE, etc.) may also be included. See

<http://www.kkn.net/~trey/cabrillo/>

QSO Format

```
-----info sent-----info rcvd-----
QSO: freq mo date      time call      rst call      snt exch
QSO: ***** ** yyyy-mm-dd nnnn ***** aaa ***** aaa aa
QSO: 14000 PH 2018-09-15 1801 KK4LWR      57  KD8RTT      59  KS
QSO: 7000  CW 2018-09-15 1802 KK4LWR      599 W4DFU      59  FL
QSO: 14200 PH 2022-09-22 1229 KK4LWR      59  N7DUX      59  DX
000000000111111111122222222223333333333444444444555555555566666666667777
1234567890123456789012345678901234567890123456789012345678901234567890123
mo:  "PH" for all voice QSO's.
     "CW" for all CW/digital mode QSO's.
rst: readability, signal strength, tone
exch: "QTH" (state, province, or DX)
```

Sample Log Document

Below is a sample log that you can use to paper log and then convert into Cabrillo for submission. You can copy this format into Excel if you do not have logging software.

[illegible]

Log Submission

Logs are due by October 31st. Only electronic logs are accepted. The log submission instructions are located at <http://collegiateQSOparty.com>. Click on “Log Submission” link and you will be provided the next steps.

For Bonus Points, be prepared to submit supporting documentation of:

- a. Media Use (Collegiate Clubs Only)
- b. Public Operating (Collegiate Clubs Only)
- c. School Administrator Participation (Collegiate Clubs Only)
- d. Satellite Contacts
 - i. List QSOs from log