



September 24, 2018

Dear School Spelling Bee Coordinator,

The Virginian-Pilot is proud to once again bring to your students the opportunity to participate in the Scripps National Spelling Bee program. In addition to improving students' spelling skills and increasing their vocabularies, spelling bee participation provides valuable experience in developing poise — a necessary skill for success in public speaking, performing arts and athletics.

The Virginian-Pilot Spelling Bee will take place **February 16, 2019**. The champion of The Virginian-Pilot Spelling Bee will represent our area in the 2019 Scripps National Spelling Bee in Washington, DC. Prizes for our area's top speller will include an expenses-paid trip to the national competition.

In order for your 6th, 7th and 8th grade students to participate in The Virginian-Pilot Spelling Bee program, your school must **first enroll with the Scripps National Spelling Bee at spellingbee.com by October 15 deadline to take advantage of the early registration discount**. This will also serve as your registration with The Virginian-Pilot Spelling Bee. Once your school has completed a school spelling bee and determined a champion, you'll be working with us directly.

When you enroll at spellingbee.com and pay the materials and early enrollment fee of \$160 to Scripps, you will receive exclusive online access to the following to assist you in holding your school bee:

- Grade-specific word lists and study sheets for grades 1–8
- Study materials for your school spelling champion
- The *2019 Classroom Pronouncer Guide*
- The *2019 School Pronouncer Guide*
- From Encyclopedia Britannica, a free one-year subscription to Britannica Online for Kids that you may award to one student at your school (a \$74.95 value)
- Award certificates
- Key information about your local spelling bee program

We look forward to providing this wonderful opportunity to your students.

Sincerely,

Charmel Shock Peters
The Virginian-Pilot
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