

REQUIREMENTS AND GUIDELINES FOR PARTICIPATION

1. **Louder Than a Bomb 2015 will take place between April 18th and May 2nd.** Once we receive everyone's registration information, we will disseminate the tournament bout sheet and send it to you so that you can see exactly when and where your team will compete. Please clear your schedules and make sure either you or another adult chaperone can be in attendance with your students for these events. A schedule of all of the other festivities that will be taking place will also be sent to you later.
2. **REGISTRATION DEADLINE: WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1ST, 2015.** Please complete your team's online registration no later than 6:00pm on April 1st. We will need you and your students' names, phone numbers, e-mail addresses, t-shirt sizes, and team name.

Payment of the registration fee must be received no later than Wednesday, April 1st, 2015. The registration fee is \$200 per school team, covering your team's competition entry fee, all-access passes (which will get you into all of the LTAB events), and shirts. An invoice is included below.

Your registration fee may be paid one of two ways:

- **By a check.** Please make out your check to "Split This Rock" with "LTAB-DMV Festival" on the memo, and please mail or deliver this check to us at 1112 16th St, NW, Suite 600, Washington, DC 20036.
- **By a credit card.** You can use [paypal.com](https://www.paypal.com) and direct the registration funds to info@splitthisrock.org.

If you need to pay with cash, please contact one of the organizers to make arrangements.

3. Registration and check-in for the festival happens at "Crossing the Street" at 11:00 am on Saturday, April 18th. Please do not be late.
4. The faculty sponsor or coach must attend all events in which his/her team is participating.
5. Each team should prepare at least 8 original poems for competition, including group pieces. Assuming your team advances from preliminaries to semi-finals, your team may not repeat any of the poems that were used in their preliminary bout, with the exception of one group piece. If your team advances to finals, your team is free to use any of the pieces performed in previous bouts.
6. There will be more than 20 teams competing this year, and a handful of teams participating but not competing. Please lead by example and help your students mix and mingle and meet new people. This is a community-building initiative and we appreciate you making it possible.
7. Earning the most points and winning the slam are not the purposes of the LTAB-DMV. The purpose is to share in the art of performance poetry, bond with new people, and honor the stories, feelings, and talent of the poets participating. Remember: **"The points are not the point! The point is the poetry!"** We just play the slam game to get people to listen. Please help us de-emphasize the competition aspect and uplift the importance of the content and expression of our students' poems, not the numbers random judges assign them.