



Eligibility Guide

- All schools that wish to participate in The Virginian-Pilot Spelling Bee must be officially enrolled with Scripps National Spelling Bee.
- Only one school bee champion is designated by each school to advance to The Virginian-Pilot Spelling Bee.
- Only middle schools and private schools from the following cities and counties can participate in The Virginian-Pilot Spelling Bee:
 - ❖ *North Carolina (Camden, Chowan, Currituck, Gates, Hertford, Northampton, Pasquotank, Perquimans)*
 - ❖ *Virginia (Accomack, Chesapeake, Franklin, Isle of Wight, Norfolk, Northampton, Portsmouth, Southampton, Suffolk, Virginia Beach)*
- Home-schooled students compete in the KEYS Home School Association Spelling Bee. The winner of this Bee will be the designated champion to advance to The Virginian-Pilot Spelling Bee.
- School bee champions must be in the 6th, 7th or 8th grade and must not have reached their 15th birthday on or before September 1, 2009.
- Designated school bee champion must sign and submit the following in order to participate in The Virginian-Pilot Spelling Bee:
 - ❖ *media release form and permission form from The Virginian-Pilot*
 - ❖ *performance release form from WHRO*
- Any contestant who has won a Scripps National Spelling Bee is ineligible for further competition in the Scripps National Spelling Bee and its preliminary bees, including The Virginian-Pilot Spelling Bee.